



## Your weekly guide to careers information, advice and news from Parklands High School

Welcome to another packed edition of Career News. As always, there are lots of great events and opportunities for pupils and parents/carers.

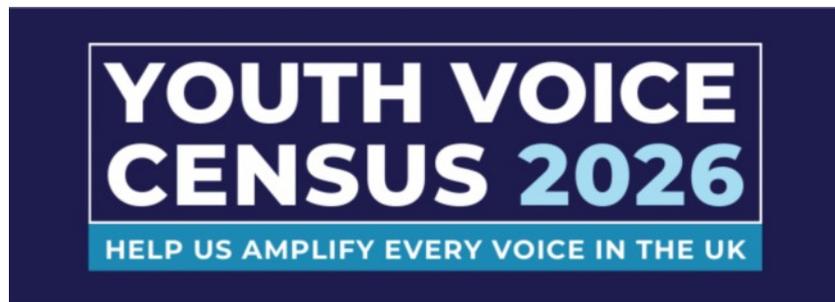


- The Youth Voice Census for 2026 is now available. This is for young people to talk about the issues that affect them - and to help make changes.
- Lots of virtual work experience opportunities from various companies. Check out the latest from Talent XP - they have modules you can complete in your own time with some major companies (Channel 4, Specsavers, Sysco and many more).
- With spring just around the corner, InvestIN have a promotion on for their summer schools. The discount offer expires on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April, so don't wait too long!
- PNE FC are offering a series of sports tasters at Preston North End over the Easter break: Sport and Football, Personal Training and Netball. Scan the QR code or follow the links to book your place.
- Project Route is looking for young people to join their virtual Youth Advisory Group to help shape careers in the transport industry. It offers young people a unique chance to develop new skills, build confidence and collaborate with industry professionals while contributing their ideas to a real-world project.
- Industrial Cadet Individual Challenger Experiences are back with some fantastic new projects. As well as gaining new skills and having fun, you will also receive an Industrial Cadets Challenger certificate.
- The Brilliant Club are inviting pupils to submit essays for publication in The Scholar. Entrants will receive feedback from their tutor before submitting their essays and celebrating their achievements with a visit to a university campus.
- Some great apprenticeship vacancies from Training 2000 - check out their website for more details.

*Have a great weekend!*



30<sup>th</sup> March - 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2026



## The UK's Biggest Youth Voice Survey Is Back!

The Youth Voice Census survey is now open for 2026. This is your chance to help young people across the UK share their experiences of life, education and work.

Make sure their voices are heard by those who can create real change.

[Share the Survey ►](#)

### Find Out More

Now in its 9th year, the Youth Voice Census gives you a unique opportunity to hear directly from young people, and understand the challenges shaping their lives.

In 2025, **over 8,000 young people** completed the survey, providing essential insight for hundreds of policymakers, employers, and educators.

### ? FAQs?

**Q:** Who can take part in the survey?

**A:** Anyone aged 11-30 and living in the UK can complete the survey.

**Q:** How long does the survey take?

**A:** It can take between 10-45 minutes, depending on the depth of answers.

**Q:** What questions are asked?

**A:** Only relevant questions will be shown and all answers are anonymous. We ask about education and training experiences, careers and work opportunities, local services, wellbeing, and barriers.

### How You Can Get Involved

The more voices and experiences we hear, the bigger the impact for us all!

It's really easy to make a difference. Sharing the survey only takes a minute, but it helps shape the future for young people across the UK.

### Here are 3 things you could do today:

- 1 Share the survey on social media - use the hashtag #YouthVoiceCensus
- 2 Send the survey link to learners, colleagues, or friends.
- 3 Talk about it! Every conversation and short chat helps spread awareness.





# WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Whether you're working, starting an apprenticeship, in education, or figuring things out - **your voice matters!**



Complete the anonymous survey, and your answers will be used to help inform real-world change to make your experiences better.

**2026**

**Aged 11-30?  
We want to hear *your* story**

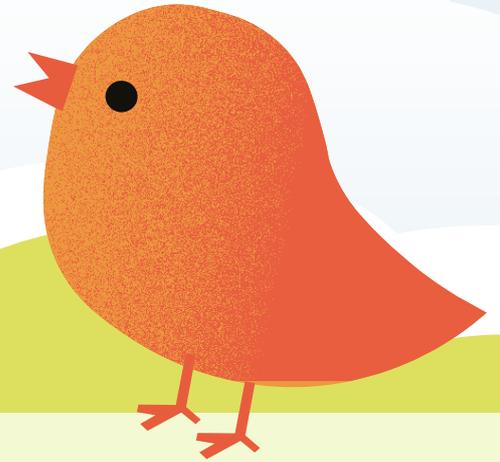
[WWW.YOUTHEMPLOYMENT.ORG.UK](http://WWW.YOUTHEMPLOYMENT.ORG.UK)



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
COMPLETE THE YOUTH VOICE  
CENSUS 2026**

# SPRING PROMOTION 2026

Get **£300 off** all InvestIN Summer Schools with code: **SPRING300**



With summer just around the corner, save big in 2026 with our Spring Promotion. You have until midnight on Monday 6th April to save £300 on any of our work experience programmes in London this summer using the code **SPRING300** at checkout.



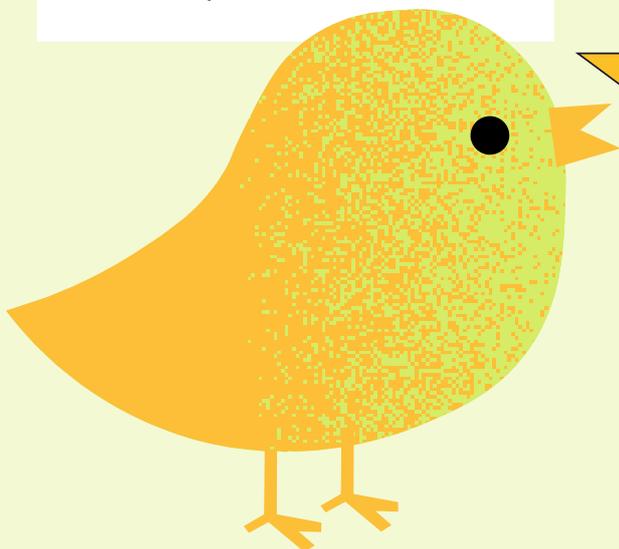
Strengthen your applications with an industry reference letter and a Level 3 Award in Work Experience & Career Planning, worth 8 UCAS points



Work and connect with industry professionals in diverse sectors



Explore real workplaces and take part in immersive career simulations



**GET £300 OFF ALL SUMMER EXPERIENCES WITH CODE: SPRING300, OFFER EXPIRES MIDNIGHT MONDAY 6TH APRIL**

**CLAIM DISCOUNT**





## Online Enrichment Course

### Level 2 Certified Learning Course in TEFL (120 Hours)

As students begin thinking about how to make the most of their time before summer, we wanted to share an opportunity that can strengthen their CVs, personal statements, and future career prospects.

Our Level 2 Certified Learning Course in TEFL (120 Hours) is a flexible, fully online certification course that students can complete alongside their current studies - and finish in time for summer.

#### FIND OUT MORE

#### When can students complete the course?

Students can start immediately and complete the course by summer, making it a perfect addition to their current studies and gap year or university plans.

#### Is the course flexible?

Yes! Our TEFL course is fully online and self-paced. Students can study anytime, anywhere, and fit it around exams, coursework, and other commitments.

#### How long do students have to complete the course?

Students have 6 months to complete the course, so plenty of time to fit it in around other commitments. We do find that it takes most students 2-3 to complete the course.

#### Do students need prior teaching experience?

No prior experience is required. The course is suitable for beginners and those considering teaching, working abroad, or travel opportunities.

#### How does it help with university applications or careers?

A TEFL certification strengthens UCAS personal statements, enhances employability, and opens doors to paid work, volunteering, or international teaching opportunities.

#### Is the course accredited?

Yes, it is fully accredited by Training Qualifications UK (TQUK), a national awarding body regulated by Ofqual. Students receive a credible, high-quality certificate.

#### What does the course include?

The course features interactive modules, videos, quizzes, and practical lesson planning exercises - everything students need to build real-world teaching confidence.

#### What certificate do students receive?

On completion, students receive a UK-TEFL e-certificate, valid for teaching English abroad, online, or in the UK. They have the opportunity to purchase a TQUK Accredited Certificate if they wish.

#### Are there any discounts for students?

Yes! We offer the course at a discounted student rate of £90 (RRP £225), making this certification both valuable and accessible.

#### How do I enrol?

Students can self-enrol using our self-enrolment link, where they will have automatic access to their course after they checkout.

#### LEARN MORE & BOOK



NatWest  
Thrive

# Fighting fraud and outsmarting scammers

Money safety

Fraudsters and scammers will do anything to get their hands on what's yours. Catch scammers in the act by spotting the signs and learning how to keep yourself safe.

## Watch out for these types of social media scam:

These things can look real but can be fake.

### Fake tickets

Only buy tickets from a legitimate ticketing website, not random sellers online.



### Counterfeit goods

Scammers copy clothes and trainers, pretending to sell the real thing at an amazing price, but the item doesn't actually exist.



### Fake job ads

Watch out for fake job ads. If a job sounds sketchy, promises high pay, and asks you to send money to get started, don't do it.



### Money muling

A money mule is someone who lets a criminal use their bank account to move money on their behalf. This is often disguised as a legitimate job advert — so if a "job" asks you to move money through your account, don't do it.



### Let's talk about it

If you're unsure, ask for help from a trusted adult or visit [Childnet.com](https://www.childnet.com)



### Explore more

NatWest Thrive resources for your classroom

## Top tips for staying safe:

### Pause, Protect.



**Think** – Why are you being asked for your info?



**Feel** – Does everything feel ok, or does anything look or feel a little bit off?



**If you send money** – do you think you'll definitely get the item?



**Talk** to a friend or adult and get a second opinion

Tomorrow begins today



## A New Course!



We're incredibly excited to let you know that our **BRAND NEW** course, all about Cyber Security careers, is now **LIVE!**

Tailored for 13-17-year-olds, this **free course** equips students with essential knowledge on the cyber security industry and how students can build a career in the sector.

This 35-minute course explores different jobs in cyber security and how students can get started today.

Click the below button to sign up.

[\*\*Sign Up Here\*\*](#)

### **Benefits for Students:**

- An Exploration of Different Jobs in Cyber Security
- Meeting Role Models in Cyber
- Creating a Career Roadmap
- Understanding Their Future Steps



## GCSE Options Resource

We're excited to share with you a FREE resource to support your students as they work towards choosing their GCSE options.

This easy-to-access guide shows how GCSE subjects connect to:

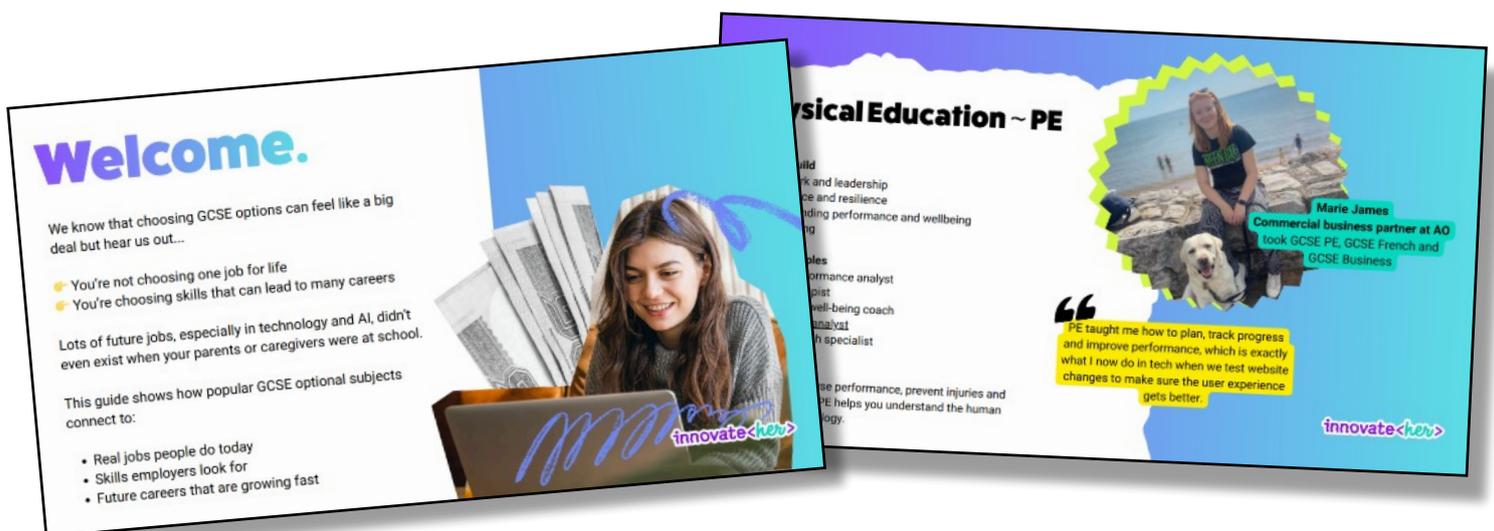
- Real jobs people do today
- Skills employers look for
- Future careers that are growing fast

Covering subjects from languages to computer science, there are insights to support all students. Including supporting comments from real people who chose a certain subject and where they are now, in order to give students examples of potential career and subject routes.

All you need to do is click one of the buttons below to view it, or click the button to download the guide

[VIEW GUIDE](#)

[DOWNLOAD GUIDE](#)



# April Open Event

Thur 16 Apr 2026  
4.30pm - 7.30pm

This is your last chance to look round Blackburn College this academic year. So if you are in Year 11 and still not quite sure which college is right for you, go and have a look - check out the vast array of courses and the awesome facilities. They offer A levels, T levels, BTECs and apprenticeships, so there's something for everyone. You can even complete a degree at the University Centre - perfect if you are worried about the rising costs of university accommodation.

Year 10 - this is an ideal opportunity to make a start on checking out colleges before you have to make a choice next year.



Do you enjoy learning about plants and photosynthesis?

You could be a/an...

## Farmer



Isla sows seeds, and grows and harvests crops for food production.

**Career route** Apprenticeship, college or university course, on the job training

**Salary range** £24,000- £50,000

Top essential skill



## Agronomist



John advises farmers on soil health and disease prevention, to improve crop production and quality.

**Career route** Apprenticeship, degree or college course

**Salary range** £22,500- £60,000

Top essential skill



## Horticultural therapist



Amrita uses gardening to improve her patients' health and wellbeing.

**Career route** Apprenticeship, degree or college course

**Salary range** £17,000- £30,000

Top essential skill



## Ethnobotanist



Ava studies how people use plants for medicines or food, in different cultures.

**Career route** Degree, Masters, PhD

**Salary range** £47,000 -£82,000

Top essential skill



You don't need a degree to be a scientist!  
You can take a different career route including an **apprenticeship, degree apprenticeship** or by **training on the job.**



Which job would you like to do?



One of the most effective ways for students to understand technology is by building something themselves. When students move from learning about technology to creating with it, they often develop a deeper understanding of how digital tools can be used to solve real-world problems.

The Tech Mentor National No-Code Hackathon is a STEM enrichment experience where students work in teams to solve real-world challenges using modern digital tools.

**Event details:**

- Sunday 12th April
- 10:00am - 4:00pm (online)
- Students aged 14 - 18
- £15 per student

**Further information and registration:** <https://techmentor.org.uk/national-hackathon-competition>

**About the event**

During the hackathon, students work in teams to respond to a real-world challenge revealed on the day. Previous themes have explored areas such as sustainability, education access, and digital wellbeing.

Using beginner-friendly no-code platforms such as Lovable, students design and prototype a digital solution with guidance from experienced mentors.

No previous coding or technical experience is required.

The experience focuses on developing skills that are increasingly valuable across many fields, including:

- Collaborative working and communication
- Creative problem solving
- Analytical thinking and idea development
- Presenting ideas clearly and confidently
- Understanding how technology can be applied across different sectors

Students also gain insight into how technology and innovation are used in modern workplaces. The experience mirrors how many technology teams operate: analysing problems, generating ideas, building solutions, and presenting them clearly.

**Participants receive:**

- A certificate recognising participation in a national technology competition
- A completed project or prototype suitable for portfolios or applications
- Experience presenting ideas and solutions
- Exposure to potential technology career pathways

Winning teams will also progress to the National Finals on 11th July 2026, where teams compete for the following prizes:

- 1st place: £1,000 for the team and £100 to each winning team member's school
- 2nd place: £750 for the team
- 3rd place: £500 for the team

Students can register individually using the link below. Spaces are limited and allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Registration:**

<https://techmentor.org.uk/national-hackathon-competition>

**PRESTON**  
COLLEGE

PRESTON  
Harpreet  
Dispensing Assistant

APPRENTICESHIP & T LEVEL

**OPEN EVENT**

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 4.00PM - 6.30PM

**REGISTER TODAY!**



# INVESTIN WORK EXPERIENCE SUMMER SCHOOLS



✓ Explore real workplaces and work with top professionals

✓ Gain a qualification in work experience & career planning

✓ Experience university life at UCL

*In London  
this summer*

*Experience your  
dream career*

*For students  
aged 12-18*

**Find out  
more**



**Visit  
investin.org**

# GAIN HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE IN YOUR DREAM CAREER

Choose from 15 careers

*Art & Design*

*Architecture*

*Computer Science*

*Dentistry*

*Engineering*

*Entrepreneurship*

*Forensic Science*

*International Politics*

*Investment Banking*

*Law*

*Media*

*Medicine*

*Psychology*

*TV & Film*

*Veterinary Science*



## ENGINEERING

Visit a working airfield and learn from aeronautical engineers about mechanics



## BANKING

Trade the stock market with the London Academy of Trading



## MEDIA

Visit a TV studio and deliver a simulated broadcast



## MEDICINE

Shadow doctors on a simulated ward round at a London training hospital



“Now I’ve been on an InvestIN programme, I know what I want to do forever”



# YOUTH FUTURES YEAR 11 LEAVER EVENT

**FINISHED Y11 & UNSURE WHAT NEXT?  
NEED SOME ADVICE OR SUPPORT?**

**No appointment needed – just drop in! Can't attend?  
Get in touch using the details below.**

We can help you with;

- Your next steps
- Getting into education
- Finding work
- Building your confidence
- Boosting your skills

Let's work together to figure out your next steps!

## DROP IN



Chorley Tatton Community  
Centre - PR6 0FJ



Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August  
12-4pm

## CONTACT US



01772 531 044



youthfutures@lancashire.gov.uk



@youthfutures\_team



[https://padlet.com/youthfutures/  
resources](https://padlet.com/youthfutures/resources)

Scan the QR Code  
for more details on  
events, booklets,  
and resources!





**DON'T WORRY IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SOMETHING BEFORE, IT'S NOT THAT YOU CAN'T DO IT BUT PERHAPS THE OPPORTUNITY HASN'T BEEN THERE BEFORE. KEEP DOORS OPEN AND MAKE THE MOST OF ANY OPPORTUNITY YOU GET!**

**KATE LLEWELLYN-CRIPPS, MARKETING & ATTRACTION, EARLY CAREERS**

#NCW2026

Headline Partner:

**NCW**

Headline Partner:



University of Lancashire  
**Training 2000**

**APPRENTICESHIP  
VACANCIES**

**MSM Fabrications**

Accounts Office /  
Administrator Apprentice  
Nelson  
£286.90 per week  
Accountancy

**Northcote Hotel**

Apprentice Finance  
Assistant  
Blackburn  
£283.12 per week  
Accountancy

**Alan Gordon Engineering**

Apprentice Machinist  
Chorley  
£286.90 per week  
Engineering

**Pets Choice**

Apprentice Maintenance  
Engineer  
Blackburn  
£316.00 per week  
Engineering

**Krones UK**

Maintenance Engineering  
Apprentice  
Westhoughton  
£378.00 per week  
Engineering

**Caswell Engineering  
Services**

Production Engineer  
Haslingden  
£294.45 per week  
Engineering

**Marshall's Group Plc**

Apprentice Maintenance  
Engineer  
Ramsbottom  
£363.40 per week  
Engineering

**Morecheck**

Fabricator/Pipe Fitter  
Welder Apprentice  
Preston  
£312.00 per week  
Engineering

**Apply online:** [www.training2000.co.uk](http://www.training2000.co.uk)

Latest vacancies can be found on our website  
Correct on 24th March 2026

DEVELOPING TALENT THROUGH TRAINING

**Some really good opportunities available through Training 2000.  
Check out their website for further details and the application forms.**



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SUCCESS IS *PERSONAL*



A PARENTS & CARERS GUIDE TO

# APPLYING FOR APPRENTICESHIPS WITH EDF



## A Parents & Carers Guide to Applying for Apprenticeships with EDF

This new practical, easy-to-read guide explains who EDF is, what an EDF apprenticeship involves, the range of programmes available and the benefits of an apprenticeship with EDF. It also lays out the application process and shares tips on how parents and carers can best support young people at each stage of the process.

[DOWNLOAD THE GUIDE](#)

### EDF's apprenticeship vacancies are OPEN for applications

Vacancies are open for applications in roles ranging from Wind Turbine Technician to Health Physics Monitor, Engineering Technicians to Human Resources, Project Management to Business Administration, Health and Safety, and more.

[EXPLORE EDF APPRENTICESHIPS](#)



### Virtual work experience

If you're interested in applying this year or working for EDF in the future, their virtual work experience programme is still open until **29th March 2026**, helping you to explore EDF careers and learn what employability skills will make you stand out.

Visit EDF's Meet the Employer profile and head to the resources & information section to access the work experience.

[EXPLORE VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE](#)



# Project ROUTE

Powering the future of transport with data skills



Powered by



We'd like to share an exciting opportunity for your students to get involved in something meaningful and future-focused.

**Project Route** is currently seeking enthusiastic and open-minded young people (aged 15–25) from across the UK to join our virtual Youth Advisory Group. The Group will bring together diverse voices to help shape the future of careers in the transport industry. It offers students a unique chance to develop new skills, build confidence, and collaborate with industry professionals while contributing their ideas to a real-world project.

Importantly, students do not need any prior knowledge or experience in transport. We are keen to hear from those who are simply curious, willing to learn, and interested in exploring new opportunities.

We are particularly looking for students who:

- Are aged 15–25
- Are interested in discovering new career pathways and developing skills
- Would value the opportunity to make an impact and engage with industry professionals

By participating, students will have the opportunity to:

- Share their perspectives and have their voices heard
- Contribute to meaningful discussions and projects
- Gain insight into careers within the transport sector

We are committed to inclusivity and welcome applications from all backgrounds - every perspective is valuable.

**Students can find out more and apply here!**



# CAREERS FAIR 2026



Year 9, 10 and 11 recently visited our annual Careers Fair, held in the Sports Hall and Gym. We had representatives from all kinds of industries, plus colleges, universities and training providers.

If you would like to be involved in any of our careers events here at Parklands, please get in touch!





# THE GT SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

Every so often, we meet a scholar whose journey perfectly captures why we do what we do.

Meet Brittany, a 15-year-old scholar with a love for science, sport, and learning. When Brittany joined our Tutoring and Mentoring Programme, she was confident in many areas - but Maths was holding her back.

She knew she was capable of more.



*"I joined the GT Scholars programme to develop my learning in Maths, because Maths is one of my weakest subjects. My grades went up. I started with a grade five, which I was definitely not happy with, and now I'm at a grade six/seven."*

What made the biggest difference wasn't just improving marks - it was how Brittany felt about learning.

*"Doing one-on-one tutoring showed me that I can move my grades up. It gave me confidence and a real boost. My mentor helped me realise there's more to life than academics. She taught me the importance of taking a break, looking after my mental health, and having fun - which actually helps with learning too."*

This is exactly why our programmes combine academic support with mentoring. We don't just help scholars improve grades - we help them build confidence, clarity, and belief in what they're capable of.

You can read Brittany's full story to find out exactly how tutoring and mentoring helped her improve her grades and build her confidence.

If you're interested in applying to our programmes, make sure to sign up for Priority Access in our 1-to-1 and small group tutoring programmes. Parents with priority access will receive an early booking link, giving them a 24-hour head start to complete their application before applications open.

**Get priority access!**

28th April - 30th April

2026

# Meet the **RUSSELL GROUP**

Afternoon  
Session: 12:00 -  
13:30

Evening  
Session: 16:30 -  
18:00

[www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/russell-group-webinars](https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/russell-group-webinars)

## 1. Meet the Russell Group (RG) Webinars - April 28th - 30th

This is incredibly informative for students considering applying for RG universities such as Cambridge, Leeds, Manchester, Durham and Kings. The webinars will cover topics such as Personal Statements & Applying, Researching University Options and Considering Health/Clinical Professions.

Students, teachers and parents can sign up for each webinar via the registration link: <https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/russell-group-webinars>

They can also sign up to be sent recordings.

## 2. UK University & Apprenticeship Search Events

- Manchester FC's Old Trafford Stadium - Wednesday 23rd September - [see details here - email emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk](#)
- Liverpool FC's Anfield - Friday 13th November - [see details here - email emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk](#)

All events will feature an array of exhibitors including Russell Group, red brick and modern universities, as well as apprenticeships representing top UK companies and local providers. Vital seminars will take place at these fairs including UCAS personal statement, degree apprenticeships and student finance.



The poster features a vibrant background with purple, blue, and pink wavy shapes. At the top, the text 'UK UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH FAIR' is prominently displayed in white. Below this, a photograph shows a group of young people in business attire interacting with an older man in a blue striped shirt. To the right, a circular inset image shows the exterior of Old Trafford Stadium with the Manchester United logo. At the bottom, a blue banner contains icons for a calendar, a location pin, and a clock, followed by the text '23rd September', 'Manchester', and '9.30am - 2.30pm'. The footer text reads 'Special Focus: UCAS Applications | Applying for Apprenticeships'.

UK university & apprenticeship search fairs

## UK UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIP SEARCH FAIR

Manchester, Old Trafford Stadium, M16 0RA

23rd September Manchester 9.30am - 2.30pm

Special Focus: UCAS Applications | Applying for Apprenticeships



## Spaces for The Scholars Programme in the 2026/27 academic year are now available

The Brilliant Club recently published the 21st edition of its journal of outstanding pupil essays, [The Scholar](#).

Every year, PhD tutors on The Scholars Programme submit the best assignments they've seen to be reviewed by a panel of other researchers. The most impressive are selected and included in the prestigious journal.

This year's successful pupils range from **Key Stage 2 to 5** and they've written on such diverse topics as how 3D printing can be used to support the priorities of high-tech industries, how we can challenge traditional understandings of identity in antiquity by viewing Ovid through a queer lens, and whether autistic people should be in charge of autism research.

The essays are written at the end of The Scholars Programme, where small groups of pupils **aged 8-18** experience an inspiring university-style course, taught by a world-class PhD researcher through a series of seven tutorials. They receive 1-1 feedback from their tutor before submitting their 1500–2000-word essays and celebrating their achievements on a visit to a university campus.

The programme supports **GCSE attainment raising**, increased university progression, and builds important skills like **oracy** and **critical thinking**. It also offers an **enrichment opportunity** beyond the curriculum.

Spaces on The Scholars Programme during the 2026/27 academic year are now available. Make a quick enquiry today to understand how the programme could support your child

**Make an enquiry now**



## Industrial Cadets: Individual Challenger Experiences



**Our current available Individual Challenger activities are listed below. More exciting activities will be added soon.**

To register for one of the activities - click on the link below, create an account on our Learning Platform, choose and pay for your activity, start and complete your 3 hour activity in your own time. Suggested age 11-16. On completion you will receive your Industrial Cadets Challenger certificate to download.

**Cost:** £25

### **Coding (Scratch) Project**

This course is aimed at 11 -16-year-olds and can be completed by yourself. The recommended time to complete is 3 hours but it can take longer depending on the detail you put into your project. You can complete it in your own time, and it can be completed in multiple sessions as your progress will be saved.

This course is designed to help you learn about digital programming through the use of scratch. You will use Scratch to create two games one with a moving sprite and at least three levels. You will develop this in game two where your sprite will also move through items.

By the end of the course, you will have experience developing two games with sprites, different levels and functions. You'll see how digital programming is used in games and learn about careers in gaming.

### **Carbon Capture - Eco Garden project**

This course is aimed at 11 - 16 year olds and can be completed by yourself. The recommended time to complete is 3 hours but it can take longer depending on the detail you put into your project. You can complete it in your own time and it can be completed in multiple sessions as your progress will be saved.

This course is designed to help you create a garden that supports the environment and contributes positively to the fight against climate change. Together, we'll explore the basics of climate change, its impacts, and the importance of natural carbon stores.

You'll learn about carbon sequestration—the process by which plants, soil, and other natural features capture and store carbon dioxide. With this understanding, you'll plan a garden that includes as many carbon-storing elements as possible. We'll also look at other features that can make your garden environmentally friendly, such as supporting biodiversity, conserving water, and providing habitat for pollinators.

To bring your ideas to life, you'll have the option of using recycled or craft materials for hands-on model building, or digital tools to create a detailed online design. This flexibility allows you to explore your creativity in a way that suits your preferences and resources.

By the end of this course, you'll have a clear plan for an eco garden tailored to your space and a deeper understanding of how small, thoughtful changes can make a big environmental difference.

### **TinkerCAD Moon Base Project**

This course is aimed at 11 - 16 year olds and it can be completed by yourself. The recommended time to complete is 3 hours but it can take longer depending on the detail you put into your project. You can complete it in your own time and can be completed in multiple sessions as your progress will be saved.

This course is designed to help you create a 3D design using a CAD program. You will be able to investigate and learn how to create a 3D moonbase, fit for astronauts, whilst learning more about the best place to setup a base on the moon. Please keep in mind you will need an email address to log into TinkerCAD- this can be your own email or a parent/carer's email.

You'll learn about all the different elements you'd need to consider when building a base such as environmental factors, temperature, design shape, rooms and also think about what materials you could use in space.

To bring your ideas to life, you'll log in to TinkerCAD and go through the different lessons that are assigned to you.

By the end of this course, you'll have a clear understanding of how to use a CAD program whilst deepening your understanding of space.

If you have any questions regarding these activities please contact [studentrecruitment@etrust.org.uk](mailto:studentrecruitment@etrust.org.uk)

**SIGN UP**

**FIND OUT MORE**



£25 per  
project

For ages  
11 - 16

# Individual Challenger Experience

The Individual Challenger Activities are an exciting way for students to complete a short STEM project from home and gain an Industrial Cadets Challenger award.



## Carbon Capture - Eco Garden Project

- **Create a garden** that supports the environment and contributes positively to the **fight against climate change**. You'll learn about **carbon sequestration**—the process by which plants, soil, and other natural features capture and store carbon dioxide.
- By the end of this course, you'll have a clear plan for an eco garden tailored to your space.

## TinkerCAD Moon Base Project

- Create a **3D design using a CAD program**. Learn how to create a **3D moonbase, fit for astronauts**, whilst learning more about the best place to setup a base on the moon.
- By the end of this course, you'll have a clear understanding of how to use a CAD program whilst deepening your understanding of space.

## Coding (Scratch) Project

- Develop your digital programme skills by creating games with different levels and functions.
- By the end of the course you'll be confident in creating games and devising new ways of programming.

## How to sign up/find out more

To sign up, please visit our website [here](#) or scan the QR code!





# Work Experience is better at home

Virtual work experience with major employers which can all from the comfort of your students own home.



Talent XP is a virtual work experience platform that lets you explore different careers, complete real-world employer modules, and boost your CV – all from your phone, tablet, or laptop.

[\*\*START EXPLORING\*\*](#)

# Why Virtual Work Experience with TalentXP?



## Flexible to the learner

Discover real industries without the travel costs and time restrictions - complete when works for you.



## Genuine areas of interest

With so much to choose from, you can do modules that you are genuinely interested in.



## Earn Recognition

Gain digital badges and certificates to boost your CV and applications.

**Start Today**

**Full Work Experience Programme**

with



## Work experiences waiting for you

Discover work experiences ready and waiting for your students - sign up today and get started!

Start Today

### Full Work Experience Programme

with

**Specsavers**



Start Today

### Full Work Experience Programme

with

**ABP** | ASSOCIATED  
BRITISH PORTS



Start Today

### Full Work Experience Programme

with

**Sysco**



## Still deciding? Here's 5 more reasons to sign up:

- ✓ Flexible: Complete modules anytime
- ✓ Boost CVs & personal statements
- ✓ Gain insight into real employers
- ✓ Build confidence before applying for jobs
- ✓ Perfect for students aged 14+



**SIGN UP TODAY**

Experience your future, with



**GET STARTED**



**Click the 'GET STARTED' link above to access any of the programmes**

# Parents' Evening: The Newsletter That Helps You Support Your Child's Future



Worried about exams?  
Confused about career  
options? Wondering what  
comes next?

**We've got your back.**

Get free, quarterly updates  
full of expert advice, tips, and  
guidance to help your child  
make confident decisions  
about their future.

- ✓ Exam stress & study tips
- ✓ Uni vs apprenticeship advice
- ✓ Application & interview help
- ✓ Soft skills made simple
- ✓ SEND support for parents
- ✓ Real success stories
- ✓ Live job opportunities

 **Sign Up Today!**

Get practical, no-nonsense advice straight to  
your inbox – **plus your free guide:**

"10 Tips to Help Your Child Find Their Career Path"



# THE GT SCHOLARS GUIDE TO APPRENTICESHIPS



This guide breaks down what apprenticeships involve, how they work, who they're suited for, and how they can support a young person's long-term career development.

If your child is exploring options beyond traditional academic routes - or simply wants to understand what's available - this is a helpful place to start.

National Apprenticeships Week is a great time to have open conversations about future pathways - and the right information makes those conversations much easier.

You can access the Guide to Apprenticeships here:

<https://gtscholars.org/guide-to-apprenticeships>



# Centre of Sporting Excellence

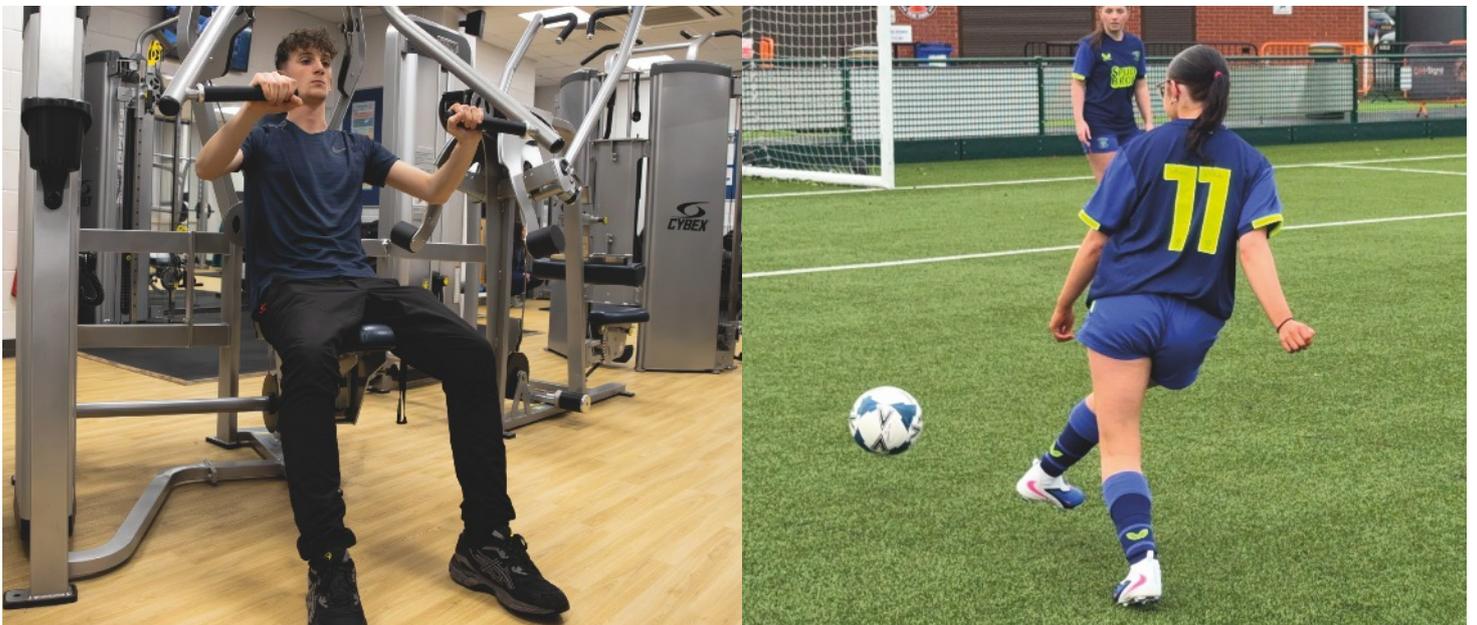
## Year 11 Easter Taster Sessions

**Sport and Football** Tuesday 31st March

**Personal Training** Tuesday 7th April

**Netball** Tuesday 7th April

Preston College | 10am to 12pm | registration from 9.45am



For more information please  [jcollum@preston.ac.uk](mailto:jcollum@preston.ac.uk)

 @pnecommunity   PNECET  [www.pnefc.net/pnecet](http://www.pnefc.net/pnecet)



# Centre of Sporting Excellence

We are holding 2 different sessions - **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March** and **Tuesday April 7<sup>th</sup>** to let students see a more varied delivery of 'The Centre of Sporting Excellence'. This will also give the students an opportunity to meet other potential students ahead of September.

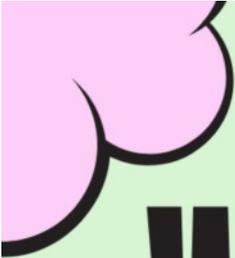
- We are delivering a **Football and Sport** session on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March**, this is like the one we deliver in February. Register interest here: **Tue 31<sup>st</sup> March, 10:00–12:00** (register 9:45)  
[Year 11 Taster Event at Preston College Easter – Fill in form](#)
- We have a **Personal Training** session for our PT and Sports Fitness BTEC: **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April**, 10:00–12:00 (register 9:45).  
[Year 11 Taster Event at Preston College Easter PT – Fill in form](#)
- There is also **Netball** session on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April**. 10:00–12:00 (register 9:45).  
[Year 11 Taster Event at Preston College Easter NETBALL – Fill in form](#)



Enhancing lives and our communities

Preston North End Football Club, Sir Tom Finney Way, Deepdale, Preston PR1 6RU  
T: 01772 693309 [www.pnafc.net/pnecet](http://www.pnafc.net/pnecet)

Registered Charity No. 1130773



PARKLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

# WORK EXPERIENCE WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?

ONCE YOU HAVE IDENTIFIED AN EMPLOYER WHO IS WILLING TO SUPPORT YOU, COLLECT A BOOKLET, GET THIS COMPLETED AND RETURN IT TO SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

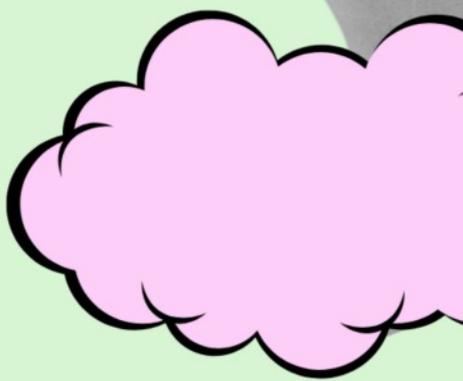
**13 – 17 JULY 2026**

THERE ARE OTHER OPTIONS IF YOU CAN'T FIND AN EMPLOYER: MPCT, NHS – ASK FOR DETAILS

## **WHAT YOU WILL GAIN FROM WEX:**

- TEAMWORK
- LEADERSHIP
- CONFIDENCE
- RESPONSIBILITY
- TIME MANAGEMENT
- PLUS THE CHANCE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT AN INDUSTRY/JOB

*RETURN YOUR BOOKLET TO THE TOP OFFICE OR TO MRS WELDON*





## The UniTasterDays Students' Guide to University 2026

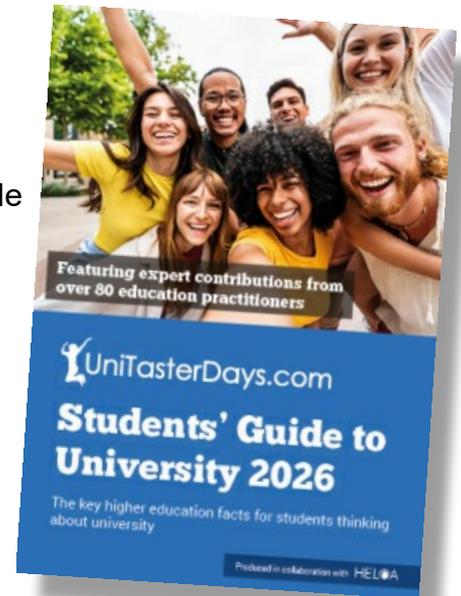
The key higher education facts for students thinking about university

The Students' Guide to University 2026 will allow you to make an informed choice about university. It includes articles to help you decide whether university is right for you, what you should study, and where you should study it.

Contributions have been provided by over 80 university representatives from across the UK, along with expert voices from outside the sector, such as educator and TV personality Baasit Siddiqui. The guide is supported by HELOA, a membership group for university advisers.

It is divided into sections to support you and your students through every stage of the university journey. Topics include researching options, attending events, financing studies, applying, and preparing for university life.

This year, mindful of the cost-of-living crisis, several articles are designed to help you overcome financial difficulty. You'll learn how to explore universities on a budget, secure "free money" to fund your student experience, manage your finances at university, secure a part-time job, and consider more affordable options like studying online.

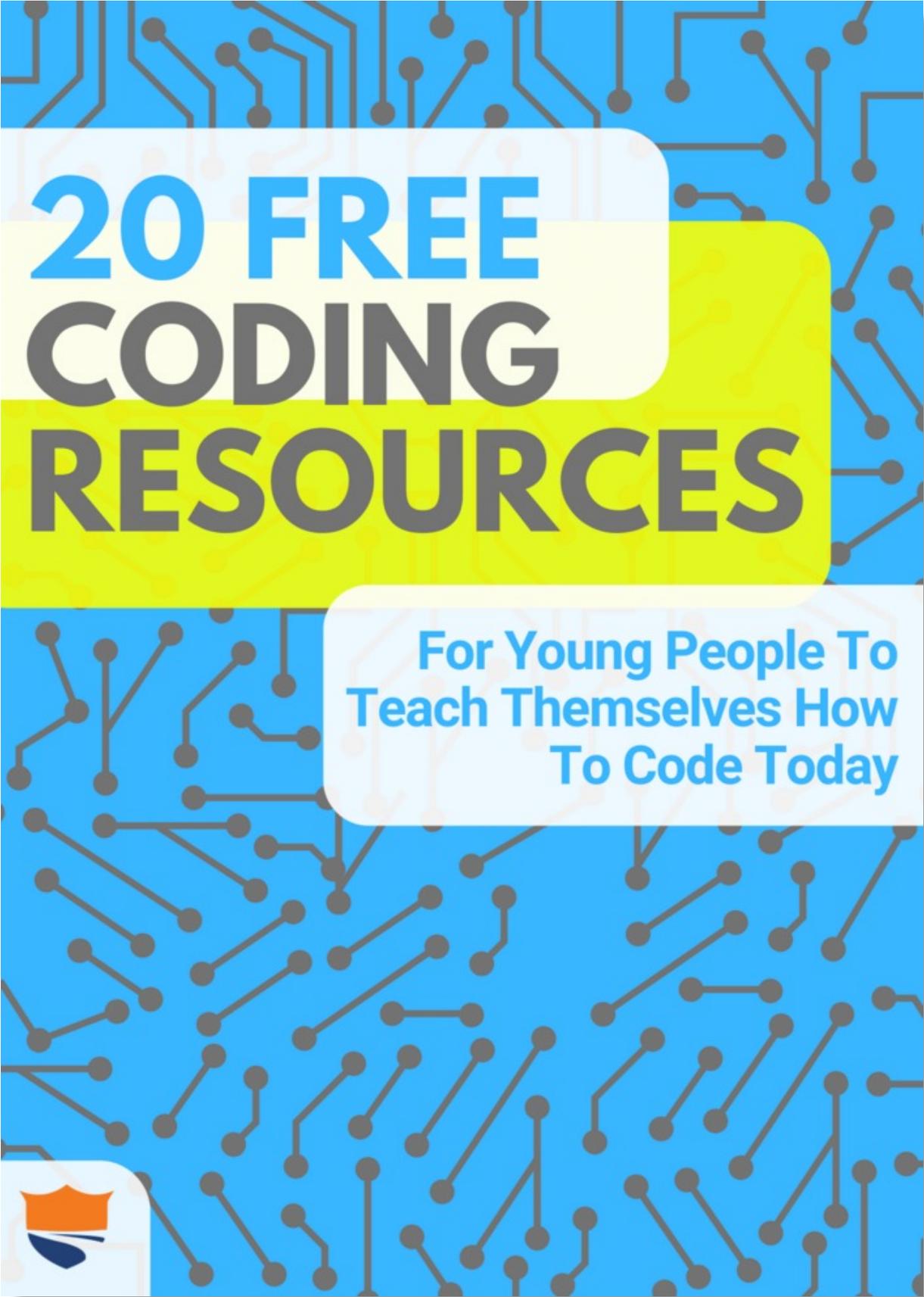


[Download now](#)

## The UniTasterDays Students' Guide to University 2026

- ✓ The key university facts for students
- ✓ Featuring editorial from over 80 university experts
- ✓ Available for direct download!





# 20 FREE CODING RESOURCES

For Young People To  
Teach Themselves How  
To Code Today

Supporting your child doesn't always mean doing more - sometimes it's about having the right resources at the right time.

That's why we're sharing our free resource of the month - a practical guide designed to help families support learning in a calm, accessible way.

Download here: [20 Free Coding Resources for Young People](#)

It brings together trusted, handpicked resources young people can explore independently - whether they're curious, confident, or just starting out.



**DID YOU KNOW?**

# **T-LEVELS**

are available in 20 subjects.  
Whatever you want to be, from  
a data analyst to a nurse,  
a T Level can support you.



**Are you interested in working in healthcare or medicine?**

**Do you want to know more about careers in the NHS?  
*(spoiler alert - there are more than 350!!)***

**If so - why not sign up to the NHS 'School to Work' work experience programme, held at the LIFE Centre at Chorley Hospital.**

It's an informal look at various careers, with talks and demos by health professionals from all different areas: eye specialists, radiographers, pathologists, pharmacists and much more. You will get a tour of the hospital and get to work in the simulated wards, plus take part in lots of interactive tasks and activities. You even get a certificate at the end!

You can't do clinical work experience in Year 10, so this is the next best thing if you are an aspiring medic.

**See Miss Berry for more info ....**

**Collect an application form  
today from the Top Office**



**Limited to TEN places, so  
don't delay - apply today!**

# COACH YOUR TEEN TO **SUCCEED**



**THE 7 PRINCIPLES TO CREATE A  
LIFETIME OF WINS FOR YOUR CHILD**

**Download Your FREE Resource: Coach Your Teen To Succeed**

Looking for practical ways to guide them without adding pressure?

Want to help your teen build the habits that lead to long-term success?

**[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)**



## **GT Scholars**

### **1-TO-1 TUTORING & MENTORING PROGRAMMES**

**Are you an ambitious young person aged 10-18?**

Would you like to boost your leadership skills? Are you keen to improve your grades? Our 1-to-1 programmes might be just for you!

Each term you'll get access to:



#### **Online Tutoring**

12 hours of academic support, including 10 hours of 1-to-1 online tutoring in Maths or English up to GCSE



#### **Online Mentoring**

6 hours of 1-to-1 online mentoring sessions with professionals and graduates from top companies & universities



#### **Personal Development Courses**

3 new personal development courses each year, group coaching sessions & unlimited access to our online learning hub

<https://gtscholars.org/register-your-interest>



# DON'T MISS OUT!

## Unlocking Your Future:

### The Power of Apprenticeships

inno  
vate  
<her>

#### Student Feedback

"It was great! I loved hearing about different opportunities other than university. I would definitely consider applying for an apprenticeship now. I loved hearing advice from those who are apprentices already!"

"Interesting and told me lots of different things about the tech business, it also taught me more about apprenticeships and the work around it."

inno  
vate  
<her>

In this 20-minute activity, students will gain a deeper understanding of apprenticeships and the opportunities that they can provide.

The resource provides:

- An apprenticeship mock application
- Role Model, Amber, who discusses her journey and experience as an apprentice

A spotlight on the exciting possibilities apprenticeships offer.

Complete the activity via the button below

[Access Here](#)

# The science behind your favourite book

Paper was first made in China **2,000 years ago**.



**59%** of paper is recycled making it the most recycled material.



It can even be turned into wall insulation!



Fast-growing trees like **eucalyptus** and **pine** are used to make paper.



**Cellulose** (a strong fibre) is extracted from plants to make paper.



**Pulp** (a mix of plant fibre and water) is spread, pressed and dried to produce sheets.



We can process **6-8% more information** if we read paper vs digital books.

**5 litres** of water are needed to make **1 sheet** of A4 paper.



# Be curious – Ask more questions!

Is all paper recyclable?

Are e-books better for the environment than paper books?

Who made this book and where was it made?

How could we make books more sustainably?

Where did the paper in my book come from?



**careers connection**

**Foresters** plant, manage and harvest trees for timber production and conservation.

**Top essential skills:**



**careers connection**

**Chemical engineers** add chemicals, to bleach or alter the properties of paper. They're creating more environmentally friendly dyes.

**Top essential skills:**



**What question will you ask?**



## Make 2026 your year with this month's top new and free courses

Whatever plans you have this year, get the tools to make them happen. Discover the expert content to help you transform your career and keep your new year momentum going, all year long.

Ready to start learning? Explore this month's course picks.

### Top free courses

Stay on track with your resolutions with our range of **free courses**.

#### Business



**Accenture**

Digital Skills: Digital Marketing

#### Creative Arts



**Arden University**

Design Your Future

#### Nature



**University of Reading**

Integrating Food and Energy Production on Farmland

### [Browse free courses](#)



Take your learning a **degree** further.

[Explore degrees](#)

# OPEN EVENTS

5-7PM

15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

12<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

12<sup>TH</sup> MAY

18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE





**Myerscough**  
College & University Centre  
**EMPOWERING FUTURES**  
Since 1894

- ✓ School Leavers
- ✓ Apprenticeships
- ✓ University Degrees

# Course Advice Morning



The North West centre for land-based, sport, engineering and science education

**Download our 2026 School Leaver Prospectus**

**Saturday 7th February 2026**  
**Saturday 18th April 2026**

CENTRES ACROSS THE NORTH WEST      PRESTON • WARRINGTON  
LIVERPOOL • MANCHESTER

[www.myerscough.ac.uk](http://www.myerscough.ac.uk)

### Why choose the Preston Centre of Sporting Excellence?

- Three different vocational levels for 16 to 19 year olds
- Lessons are delivered at Preston College; sports hall, 3G pitch, fitness suites and classrooms
- High level of competition in football with the opportunity to represent Preston College and Preston North End Community and Education Trust (PNECET)
- Work experience opportunities with PNECET
- Assessed through the completion of a portfolio, formal assignments, presentations, in class tests and practical assessments
- A progression pathway into higher education with the University of South Wales, scholarships or employment
- Dedicated recruitment team to support any application or interest



Scan the QR code to complete our  
expression of interest form or for further information

 [john.lee@pne.com](mailto:john.lee@pne.com)

Applications for entry September 2026  
open on October 1st 2025

# Gaining Experience Beyond The Classroom

**INVESTIN**  
THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE

## Why?

Gaining work experience or doing extracurriculars is data-gathering for your future; you will learn what you like and dislike, what motivates you or doesn't. Plus, it's a great way to stand out in future university and job applications! University admissions tutors are looking for applicants who are dedicated to their subject and have taken the time to explore it beyond the classroom.

## Work Experience

### What counts as work experience?

Any professional environment where you are developing and applying skills is a form of meaningful work experience!



## What?

- **Shadowing**  
Observing someone in a working environment
- **Volunteering**  
Such as at charity shops, care homes or tutoring
- **Insight days & workshops**  
Online or in-person programmes for students
- **Part-time job**  
Such as in a cafe/restaurant, shop assistant
- **Formal placements & internships**  
Typically more widely available for 18+

## Where?

- **Look local**  
Research organisations in your local area and enquire about shadowing or volunteering opportunities
- **Use your network**  
Ask friends, family, teachers for any relevant connections
- **Look out for formal schemes**  
Research opportunities for school students on sites like [Prospects](#), LinkedIn or the [Student Ladder](#)

## Extracurriculars

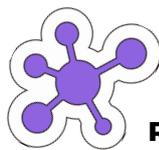


Consider what you already do outside of school - **what does it say about your interests or skills?**

Then, consider how you could develop further the skills required for your dream university course or career.

### Socialising

Communication  
Empathy



### Sport

Leadership  
Teamwork

### Music or drama

Creativity  
Commitment

### Reading & writing

Analytical thinking  
Attention to detail

### What can I do in my free time to develop my skills?

Read or listen to podcasts related to your subject interests

Raise money for a charity or awareness about an issue important to you

Set up a club: STEM, debating, photography, newspaper, documentary...

Create your own portfolio of work, e.g. create a GitHub account to log your coding projects

Produce a journal or research project

Organise an event (marketing, sales & project management)

Manage a budget for a trip or holiday

## Talk about your experiences in your applications...



Gaining experiences beyond your studies is only meaningful in your personal statement if you know how to relate them to your chosen course!

**THINK:** why has your extracurricular/work experience/project contributed to your passion or compatibility for your chosen subject? How did it ignite your spark for that field?

Looking to gain work experience? Check out InvestIN's programmes at [www.investin.org](http://www.investin.org)



## Find out about Dunelm apprenticeships!

### Starting your career with Dunelm opens a world of possibilities

Dunelm will be opening their apprenticeship vacancies on the 2nd February 2026 across a range of roles, including Supply Chain & Logistics, Commercial, Retail, and an exciting new Fitter Apprenticeship opportunity.

But be quick, the roles are very popular!

There are lots of ways you can find out more about these incredible opportunities, depending on what programmes you're interested in...



### Learn about the apprenticeship roles on offer with Dunelm

Meet the Early Careers team at Dunelm to learn about their exciting apprenticeship opportunities, including Retail, Supply Chain & Logistics, Commercial, Fitter and more. In this recording you'll find out about Dunelm's early careers programmes and pick up some hints and tips for your apprenticeship application.

[\*\*WATCH NOW\*\*](#)

### Learn about the new Fitter Apprenticeship ahead of its launch

Join us on 15th January to find out about Dunelm's new Fitter Apprenticeship - a unique role blending hands-on technical skills, customer interaction and the freedom of being out on the road. Apprentices work towards a Customer Service apprenticeship qualification, while gaining specialist training in fitting blinds in customers' homes.

[\*\*REGISTER FOR LIVE WEBINAR\*\*](#)



## And if you can't wait ...



### Check out Dunelm's virtual work experience programme

Dunelm has created their first-ever virtual work experience programme, created in partnership with Springpod.

This exciting opportunity is designed for students aged 13 and up, offering seven hours of immersive content across a range of modules that reflect the many areas of the business - from retail and customer service to product development, marketing, and more.

[\*\*FIND OUT MORE\*\*](#)

# Virtual Work Experience with Dunelm: Careers, Skills, and Opportunities

In partnership with:



Step inside Dunelm, the UK's favourite homewares retailer, and discover what it's really like to work both in-store and behind the scenes. This Virtual Work Experience programme gives you a unique opportunity to explore a wide range of careers – from retail and supply chain to tech and head office roles – all while building valuable employability skills.

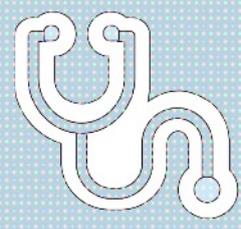
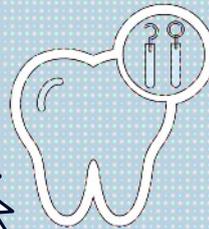
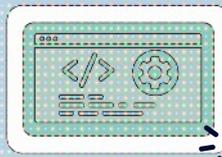
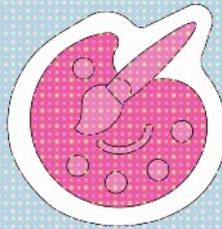
Through interactive activities and expert insights, you'll gain a deeper understanding of how a big business operates and what it takes to succeed in today's world of work. Whether you're interested in customer service, logistics, or digital innovation, this programme will help you find your happy place and take your first step towards a rewarding career.

-  This programme is open to anyone aged 13+
-  Certificate of completion
-  Over 7 hours worth of content
-  Complete at a pace that suits you

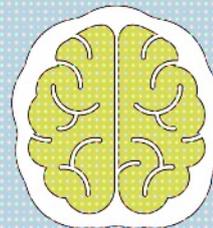
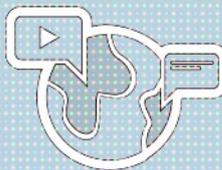
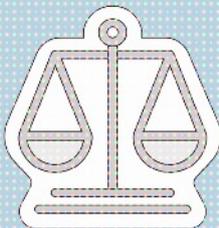
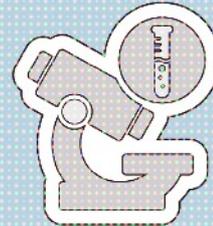
**Scan Me**  
To sign up for this course



[www.investin.org/pages/career-quiz](http://www.investin.org/pages/career-quiz)



# What career is right for you?



## INVESTIN

THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE



Review of your skills



Recommended subject choices & resources



Top tips from professionals



Take our **5-minute career quiz** to learn more about the industry you're best suited to



Discover your future



# PREPARING LIFE

# FOR WHAT YOU'LL THROW AT IT

Our Military Academy holds open days **every Friday.**

GET IN TOUCH TODAY TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!

- 50% physical and 50% academic training.
- Our roll-on roll-off course means you can join today!
- 90% of our learners progress into military or civilian roles.
- Financial support available.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



IN COOPERATION WITH



IN ASSOCIATION WITH



SCAN NOW TO  
BOOK YOUR PLACE



visit [mpct.co.uk](http://mpct.co.uk)

call 0330 111 3939

# Subject Guide Videos



These impartial videos have one key aim. To support students who are considering university to make informed future subject decisions. They feature guest speakers from a range of different universities, who are always experts in the subject being explored.

## Including the UK's first video subject guide!

Different subjects, but the same four themes explored in every single one:

- Why students may wish to consider the subject
- What to expect if they study it
- An overview of the careers it may lead to
- Application tips if they go on to apply

From Accounting to Zoology - and 100's of subjects in between. You can browse any of the videos, search by keyword, or filter by subject.

[CLICK HERE](#)



# MENTORVERSE

For students in the 10-11 year groups, we present the following avenues:

- Free NHS Virtual Work Experience
- Free Volunteering Placements with the 'You Okay Doc?'
- Free National Study Skills E-learning
- Free Virtual Medical/Dental Society Webinars
- Free Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion E-learning Course for Healthcare Professionals

Your students can access these extracurricular opportunities by signing up for a free student portal:

**Medical:** <https://medicmentor.org/the-medic-mentor-portal-2/>

**Dental:** <https://dental-mentor.org/the-medic-mentor-portal-2/>



**Enrolling as a bronze pathway student, you can .....**

- Access free work experience each month
- Get access to zoom links for all of our free conferences and meetings
- Access the Wider Reading and Virtual Medical Societies
- Participate in Fundraising
- Download all of your Medic Mentor certificates
- Access Study Skills E-learning
- Access how to advance to other Pathways



## **STRONGER STARTS PROGRAMME OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS!**

Tesco's Stronger Starts apprenticeship programme is now open, offering two fantastic apprenticeship pathways for young people, the well-established Retail Apprenticeship and the brand-new Maintenance Apprenticeship.

Stronger Starts is a fantastic opportunity for young people to kickstart a career in retail or maintenance, enjoy a brilliant starting salary, and receive lots of support and coaching along the way.

Read on for more information on the roles, links to apply, tips on applying and our upcoming webinar with the Tesco Early Careers team...

## **THE ROLES**



### **Maintenance Apprenticeships**

Stronger Starts are now offering a Maintenance Apprenticeship! Apprentices will work alongside earning a Level 2 Property Maintenance Operative qualification – equivalent to 5 GCSE passes.

The 18-month programme sets you up with the skills you need for everyday duties in maintenance jobs.

**FIND OUT MORE**



### **Retail Apprenticeships**

Retail apprentices will work, earn and learn, gaining a Level 2 National Standard in Retail qualification over the course of the programme.

You'll gain hands-on experience of how a store operates, and have the opportunity to experience different roles and tasks across the store.

**FIND OUT MORE**

## Retail Apprenticeship What skills do you gain?

It's not just about stacking shelves!

### RETAIL

Learn about all areas of retail and how a store works across all areas.

### BUSINESS

Develop an understanding of how a business works - on a store and national level.

### CUSTOMER SERVICE

Develop customer service and communication skills in a wide range of scenarios.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

Gain knowledge of the impact social media has on brand reputation.

### TECHNOLOGY

Become proficient at using a range of different technologies.

### FINANCE

Handle money and using financial operations in real-life situations.

### STOCK

Learn to manage stock availability using systems and procedures.

### PRODUCT PLACEMENT

Develop an understanding of product placement promotional activities.

### TEAMWORK

Build your people and teamwork skills by working with a wide variety of colleagues.

### TIME MANAGEMENT

Progress your time management skills and learn how to prioritise tasks.

### PROBLEM-SOLVING

There will be lots of opportunities to develop your problem-solving skills in retail.

### COMMUNITY

Gain knowledge of supporting local communities.



Scan to  
register!

LIVE!

FREE

# Get Into Medicine.

CONFERENCE

One of our doctors (Chief Mentors) will take you step-by-step through your application to medical school.

## This includes:

- Application Timelines
- Interview Training
- Personal Statements
  - CV Building
  - UCAT Exams
  - Extracurriculars
- Accessing Medical Leadership Programmes, Awards Programmes and Scholarships to University

You'll also hear from a recently successful applicant on what it takes to make your candidacy to medical school stand out!

Understanding the pivotal role that work experience plays in shaping a student's perspective on their future career, we're delighted to extend an invitation to your students to participate in our FREE 6-month medical or 4-month dental virtual work experience programme.

Aiming to provide students with insights into the medical and dental fields, this free virtual work experience empowers students to make informed decisions about their future.

Students aged 14 and above are eligible to apply for a placement for FREE through these links:

Medicine: <https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Dentistry: <https://dental-mentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Virtual work experience has been recognised by the Medical Schools and Dental Schools Council as a valuable substitute for in-person shadowing. This endorsement is underpinned by the Health Education England Discovery report, which highlights the positive impact of virtual work placements.

This virtual experience not only serves as a dependable alternative to traditional shadowing but also plays a pivotal role in equipping students with the necessary skills for their in-person work placements. In 2024, these 6-month medical and 4-month dental work experience programmes facilitated over 30,000 secondary school students in accessing complimentary work experience opportunities. Through structured instruction and direct engagement with healthcare professionals, students are well-prepared for their future endeavours.

Crafted in collaboration with Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust and built with the flexibility of an E-learning format, participants can navigate their placements at their own pace, exploring vital topics like ethics, procedures, and broader team roles. This virtual experience not only enhances students' UCAS applications, but also strategically prepares them for the practical challenges and opportunities ahead.

Taking part in the Virtual Work Experience will provide:

- **Comprehensive Insights:** The programme covers a range of specialities, providing a deep understanding of medical and dental practices. Each month, a new focus area is introduced, allowing participants to delve into different aspects of the field.
- **Flexible Participation:** Tailored for students from years 10-11, the programme accommodates various schedules by being virtual. Participants have one month to complete each specialty, ensuring flexibility and ease of participation.
- **Recognised Certification:** Upon successful completion of all sessions, students will receive a certificate from Medic Mentor and UHB, validating their active participation which they can include in their UCAS and apprenticeships applications.

***The new speciality on General Practice or  
Public Health & Oral Pathology is available now.***

Registering for these programmes is simple - students just need to complete the free online application form:

Aspiring Medics: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shrGJUAtigzZzDwTN>

Aspiring Dentists: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lwk6/shr1YAbWctfkXarfQ>

Previously successful Medical students:

<https://medicmentor.org/successful-student-journeys-reviews/>

Previously successful Dental students:

<https://dental-mentor.org/successful-student-journeys-reviews/>

From Secondary School Student to Medical Scholarship Student: a step-by-step guide on getting into medical school successfully: <https://medicmentor.org/become-a-medic-mentor-student-2/>



Scan to  
register!

LIVE!

FREE

# Get Into Dentistry.

CONFERENCE

One of our dentists (Chief Mentors) will take you step-by-step through your application to dental school.

This includes:

- Application Timelines
- Interview Training
- Personal Statements
  - CV Building
- Entrance Exam: UCAT
  - Extracurriculars
- Accessing Medical Leadership Programmes,
- Awards Programmes and Scholarships to University

You'll also hear from a recently successful applicant on what it takes to make your candidacy to dental school stand out!

# MEDIC MENTOR



YOUR MEDIC FAMILY

The Medical Schools Council acknowledges virtual work experience as an equal alternative to in-person shadowing based on a discovery report conducted by Health Education England. I encourage students aged 14 and over, interested in medicine to participate in our FREE National NHS Virtual Work Experience programme. We are pleased to offer a variety of medical specialties, with a focus this month on palliative care. This enables your students to gain a well-rounded perspective of working within the NHS.

This opportunity is for students in Years 10-11.

<https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Developed in collaboration with Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust, this Virtual Work Experience has proven to be transformative for thousands of secondary school students over the past year. It also provides a strong foundation of knowledge for students who are preparing to undertake future in-person placements.

We've designed a 6-month medical e-learning work experience programme, focusing on one specialty each month, allowing students to set their own pace of learning. From structured teaching to direct interaction with doctors and healthcare professionals, our programme ensures students not only observe procedures but also gain a broader understanding of roles within the medical field.

Covering everything from confidentiality and ethics workshops delivered by the GMC to clinical procedures, our virtual work experience provides a crucial overview, thereby enhancing your students' UCAS applications.

Signing up is easy – students simply need to fill out the free online application form:

## Why the Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience is the largest in the UK...

- There are 6 Sessions in total providing the longest and most in-depth work experience available
- It covers 6 different areas of medicine whereas other work experiences only cover 1 or 2
- It is e-learning based so students can complete it in their own time around school work
- Students have 30 days to complete one session and then the next session drops
- Students are provided a certificate of completion once all 6 sessions are done
- Involves real doctors, clinical settings and high fidelity simulations
- Takes students on a complete patient journey
- Students get an insight into the multidisciplinary team
- Includes a free reflective journal (great for personal statements)
- It's completely free!
- *Why not sign up today?*



**University Hospitals  
Birmingham**  
NHS Foundation Trust



Follow multiple patients over a 6-month period, as they go from their initial injury to recovery. It is amazing how many different healthcare professionals are involved in a patient's care. This incredible opportunity showcases a variety of professionals in one day. It gives students a chance to see them in action in various settings from the ward to the community. It is also a fantastic opportunity to see them work together in a multidisciplinary team.

During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. Students will observe the healthcare professionals as they interact with the patients and also each other. Students will have an opportunity to ask questions and gain knowledge through teaching. This will help students to make an informed career decision as well as learn about how healthcare professionals work together as part of a multidisciplinary team. Each work experience day is completely different and students will be able to build on their knowledge of NHS careers as they see different patient cases and their healthcare professionals work in a variety of settings, such as hospital and community. For this reason we recommend that students attend one work experience a month for 6 months to not only gain a deeper knowledge of multidisciplinary teams in general but also their chosen careers.

Register here: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

Once they've registered, students will be emailed links to their virtual work experience portals.

Please ask students to check their spam folders and mark their attendance on the day in order to receive their Work Experience Certificates.

This programme is suitable for students in year groups 10/11 who are interested in the following careers:

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedicine
- Physiotherapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Dietetics
- Radiography
- Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Speech and Language Therapy
- Pharmacy

The sooner students begin work experience, the better. During the work experience day, students will follow 2 patients from their initial presentation to recovery. They will gain a unique insight into how patients interact with a variety of healthcare professionals and what it's like to work in an NHS multidisciplinary team.

Attendees will have the opportunity to interact with healthcare professionals throughout each day. This will empower students to make an informed career decision and demonstrate their commitment to healthcare in their UCAS applications.

Students will receive certificates as evidence of having participated in the work experience programme. Those that complete the full 5-month programme will also be awarded Highly Commended References.

Students can register individually at any time throughout the 5-month programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs:

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

Join Every First Sunday Of The Month!



Scan to  
register!

LIVE!  
VIRTUAL

# Allied Healthcare Work Experience

Take your first steps into the world of healthcare careers  
in our Virtual Allied Healthcare Work Experience.

Meet this month's AHP professional **guest speaker**, from **9 - 10am**, and  
then dive into live work experience sessions.

After a compelling talk from our guest speaker about their career and  
what they do day to day, you will **dive into live work experience sessions**  
**from the safety of your home.**

Witness the journey of two patients from injury to recovery over 6  
months, and experience how many different healthcare professionals  
are involved in a patient's care, from hospital all the way through to a  
community team.



ALLIED  
HEALTHCARE  
MENTOR



# CAREER *of the* WEEK

## Software engineer

**Software engineers use their skills in programming, applying logic and mathematical principles, to create computer software and IT solutions.**

As a software engineer, you'll create, maintain, audit, and improve systems to meet specific needs, often as advised by a systems analyst or architect. You may be tasked with writing programs using code and designing software, including operating systems.

You might also test and upgrade hardware and software, as well as help resolve IT-specific issues. You may also make recommendations for future developments, as and when required.

Due to technological advances and the strategic direction of the organisation you'll be involved with, you'll need to adapt to a constantly evolving environment.

Job titles and descriptions in this industry are not standardised. Instead of being labelled a software engineer, you may be called a systems / software / database / web programmer, engineer, or developer, depending on the system you're working with.

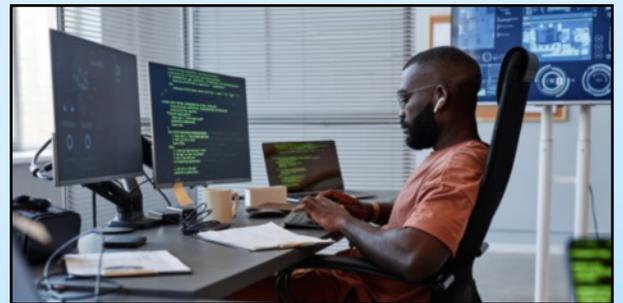
Alternatively, the programming language you use may become part of your title, such as Java or C# developer.

The work of a software engineer can also form part of a multimedia programmer role.

### Responsibilities

As a software engineer, you'll need to:

- analyse and determine user requirements
- write and test code, refining and rewriting as necessary, communicating with any programmers involved in the project
- research, design, and write new software programs, such as business applications or computer games, and operating systems
- evaluate the software and systems that make computers and hardware function
- develop existing programs by analysing and identifying areas for modification
- integrate existing software products and get incompatible platforms to work together
- create technical specifications
- write systems to control the scheduling of jobs or to control the access allowed to users or remote systems
- write operational documentation with technical authors
- maintain systems by monitoring and correcting software defects, including 'patching' software with new updates to keep them current or to fix any issues
- work closely with other staff, such as project managers, graphic artists, UX (user experience) designers, other developers, systems analysts, and sales and marketing professionals
- discuss with clients and colleagues about the maintenance and performance of software systems, with a view to writing or modifying current systems
- learn about new technologies related to your field
- continually update technical knowledge and skills by attending in-house and external courses, reading manuals, and accessing new applications



**For more information click here**