



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

Here we are at the end of another busy week at Parklands. Earlier this week we had staff from Wigan & Leigh College conducting interviews and on Friday we will have our Year 11 Mock Interview Day - where around 25 employers will speak to pupils. Hopefully I will have a full report for next week's edition. Pupils have been writing CVs and personal statements in readiness for the interviews - and college staff are on standby ready to run the debrief and feedback sessions.



In other news this week:

- There is a Festival of Engineering and Construction on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February at the Pagefield Campus, Wigan & Leigh College from 4.30pm - 7.00pm. There will be masterclasses and workshops, plus a number of top employers from companies such as Sellafield, Network Rail and so on.
- Alliance Learning in Horwich have their open evening on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February - and they too will have some major employers ready to talk about apprenticeship vacancies and career options.
- NHS North West Ambulance Service are holding a Live Chat event on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February for anyone considering a career in the ambulance service. Follow the link inside for full details.
- Don't miss the chance to find out more about the apprenticeship offers at Leyland Trucks with a number of live webinars during National Apprenticeship Week. Have your questions answered live and gain tips and advice from current apprentices.
- Westholme Sixth Form have an Open Evening on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> February from 5.00pm - 7.00pm. Scan the QR code to book your place.
- There is a Sport and Football Taster Session at Preston College on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February from 10am - 12pm. Follow the link to sign up.
- If the Army is more your style, then why not take part in the online event on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, from 6.30pm - 7.30pm. You will find out more about the wide range of career opportunities in the British Army.

*Have a great weekend*



9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

National Apprenticeship week

NWAS CAREERS

**NHS**  
North West  
Ambulance Service  
NHS Trust



# LIVE CHAT

Are you thinking about a career  
in the ambulance service?

Are you considering  
alternatives to University,  
such as apprenticeships?

 **Tuesday 10th February 2026**

 **1 pm- 2 pm**

 **4 pm- 5 pm**

For more information and advice on  
roles and opportunities available,  
join our live chat at the specified  
times via this link:

**<https://www.nwas.nhs.uk/careers>**

For more information, please email:  
**[talentfor.care@nwas.nhs.uk](mailto:talentfor.care@nwas.nhs.uk)**



SCAN HERE TO FIND  
OUT HOW TO CHAT  
TO US ONLINE





# FESTIVAL OF ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION



## YEAR 10 OR 11?

**INTERESTED IN A CAREER IN  
CONSTRUCTION OR ENGINEERING?**



### **CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION**

Pagefield Campus, Walkden Avenue, Wigan WN1 2JH

**4.30PM - 7.00PM**

**MONDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2026**

- Find out about apprenticeship opportunities and careers within these sectors
- Tours of the facilities
- State-of-the-art renewable energy power house
- Industry masterclasses led by employers
- Technical skills showcases



# LEYLAND TRUCKS

A PACCAR COMPANY

Level 3 - Assembly Operative x 10

Level 4 - Automotive Engineer x 4

Level 4 - Facilities & Maintenance x 1

Level 4 - Fabrication and Welding x 1

Level 5 - HR x 1

Level 6 - Design Engineer x 2

Level 6 - IT Software Engineer x 1

Level 6 - Supply Chain x 1

Visit [leylandtrucksltd.co.uk/apprenticeships](https://leylandtrucksltd.co.uk/apprenticeships)



## Apprenticeships at Leyland Trucks

It's that time of year again! We're thrilled to announce that in 2026, we'll be bringing on board 21 apprentices across a variety of functions, including Operations, HR, Design, IT, and Supply Chain.

We have 10 Level 3 apprenticeships available for Assembly Operators, along with six Level 4 apprenticeships in Automotive Engineering (4 positions), Facilities & Maintenance (1 position) and Fabrication and Welding (1 Position). For these roles, a minimum of five GCSEs at grade 4 or above, including English, Maths, and Science, is required.

We have one HR Apprenticeship available at Level 5, and for our Degree Apprenticeships: we have 2 in Design Engineering, 1 in Supply Chain, 1 in IT Software Engineering. To apply for these roles, you'll need a Level 3 qualification in a relevant subject.

We would encourage you to view the resources available, including our Application and Interview Top Tips.

Our Level 3 and Level 4 Apprenticeship are available to school leavers.

[Level 3 Apprenticeships](#)

[Level 4 Apprenticeships](#)

Each week, our social media accounts will shine a spotlight on the various apprenticeships we are recruiting for, with factsheets, videos and helpful top tips available.

If you know anyone who may be interested in one of these apprenticeships, please direct them to the [Leyland Trucks website](#) for further information and an online application form.

The closing date for all applications is Sunday 1st March 2026.



# Q&A TIME

APPRENTICESHIPS

*live!*

WEBINARS

*Register  
Now*



**PACCAR PARTS**

**LEYLAND TRUCKS**

A PACCAR COMPANY

# LEYLAND TRUCKS

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## A PACCAR COMPANY

Following the launch of our apprenticeship advert, we are excited to announce an upcoming 'Apprenticeship Live' webinar during Apprenticeship Week, from 9th to 12th February.

This webinar is a fantastic opportunity for anyone interested in pursuing an apprenticeship at Leyland Trucks to:

- Have their questions answered live
- Gain insider tips and advice from myself and one of our current apprentices
- Learn more about the apprenticeship scheme and what to expect

### Webinar Schedule:

- **Assembly Operative – 9th February at 4pm**
- **Automotive, Facilities & Maintenance, Fabrication & Welding – 10th February at 4pm**
- **Design Engineer – 11th February at 4pm**
- **HR, Supply Chain & IT Software Engineer – 12th February at 4pm**

Register your interest here:

**<https://hubs.li/Q040s-QF0>**

*Don't miss your chance to learn, ask questions, and meet the people  
who've been where you want to go.*



**LEADING THE UK MARKET SINCE 1995**



**LEYLAND TRUCKS**

**DAF**



WESTHOLME

PREP | SENIORS | SIXTH FORM

# OPEN EVENING

Thursday 26 February 2026

17:00 – 19:00

[www.westholmeschool.com](http://www.westholmeschool.com)



Sign up via the  
QR code





## **Get into Business & Accounting**

**Thursday 12th February 5pm - 6.30pm**

Are you a Year 11 student looking to start a career in business, finance, or accounting? Join us for an exclusive virtual event on Thursday, 12th February (5:00pm - 6:30pm) where you'll gain insights from top employers and discover exciting apprenticeship and graduate opportunities with some of the world's leading employers.

There will also be workshop rooms you can go into to delve deeper into some specific organisations and business sectors.

This event is your chance to learn about various pathways into finance and business, where you can earn while you learn - gaining real-world experience with some of the biggest names in the industry.

Explore careers across multiple industries, gain insights from professionals, and learn how you can start your career through an apprenticeship.

### **Event Details**

Date: Thursday 12th February 2026

Time: 5:00pm - 6:30pm

Location: Zoom (link provided upon registration)

Who Can Attend? Year 11 students interested in STEM careers

### **Employers Leading the Event:**

- **KPMG** – One of the 'Big Four' professional services firms
- **BDO** – An international accounting firm offering diverse apprenticeship routes
- **Grant Thornton** – A global leader in finance, tax, and advisory services
- **RSM** – Leading audit, tax, and consulting adviser for mid-market business leaders worldwide
- **CIMA** – Discover how professional qualifications can boost your career
- **Fidelity** – Offering investment management, retirement solutions, and brokerage service

### **Why Attend?**

- **Discover Business & Accounting Roles** – Explore alternative career routes that allow you to gain real-world experience while earning a salary.
- **Meet Industry Experts** – Hear from professionals at leading firms about their experiences and the skills they look for in apprentices.
- **Future-Proof Your Career** – Gain insights into the future of finance, accounting, and business, and how you can secure a top role in the industry.
- **Get Application Tips** – Understand what top employers look for in apprentices and graduates.

**Join Us & Take the Next Step in Your Business and Accounting Career!**

**[Register Here](#)**



We would like to share with you some information about our final open day of the academic year that may be of interest to your high achieving mathematical students.

Our application form is still open (and can be accessed via our website) with open day providing late applicants with the opportunity to discover more about LUSoM from staff and current students alike. The Admissions team is also on hand to support all applicants with any queries they may have.

We also welcome year 10 students who may be at the start of their journey and are beginning to explore their sixth form options. For further information and the booking link, please see below.

**10:00 - 12:30 on Saturday 14th March.**

Students have the opportunity to tour our purpose-built building, attend a talk from the Head of School, Peter Tiltman and speak with staff and current students to learn more about life at LUSoM.

**Here's the link to book:**

**<https://bit.ly/4hb66tl>**

If you have any queries about the above, please email [outreach@lusom.ac.uk](mailto:outreach@lusom.ac.uk).



**NATIONAL  
CAREERS  
WEEK**

02 - 07  
MARCH 2026

**1 MONTH  
TO GO**



National Careers Week

**NCW**

Headline Partner:



**NatWest**  
Thrive





**Centre of  
Sporting  
Excellence**

# Sport and Football Taster Session

for all interested Year 11s  
at Preston College

**TUESDAY  
17TH FEBRUARY 2026**

10am to 12pm | registration from 9.45am



The taster session will be at **Preston College** on **Tuesday 17th February**  
10am until 12pm. There is a link to a form interested students can click:  
[Centre of Sporting Excellence Applicant Taster Day – Fill out form](#)

## UNSURE ABOUT YOUR FUTURE CAREER?

**Too many careers to choose from? Feeling overwhelmed? Struggling to match your skills and interests with a desirable career?**

These are all natural thoughts and signal an excellent starting point to discovering your dream career.

### WHAT TO DO NEXT

- ✓ **Don't panic:** Lots of students are in your position, so there's no need to stress!
- ✓ **Reflect:** Ask yourself simple questions like what are my strengths? What inspires me? What subjects do I enjoy?
- ✓ **Understand:** Research, network and explore what different careers involve, including the skills, experience and qualifications required.
- ✓ **Explore:** Seek hands-on experience and learn first-hand whether you are suited to a career or industry.

### THE CAREER QUIZ

If you're unsure about your future, the best place to start is our Career Quiz, which helps you discover an industry that aligns with your skills, interests and aspirations.

Over 30,000 students have already completed the career quiz and received personalised career advice. Take the quiz today!

**TAKE  
THE  
QUIZ**



### WEEKEND PROGRAMMES

Are you aged 15-18 and curious about life after school?

Join us in March for an immersive one-day career taster in London, offering hands-on workshops and real-world career simulations alongside industry professionals.

Test-drive your dream career in 2026!

**SIGN  
UP  
NOW**





## QEGS SIXTH FORM

# Old Co Scholarships

**The supporting body of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Old Co, are delighted to offer up to 10 scholarships per academic year to Sixth Form students. Each scholarship is worth £2,000, payable in two installments, the first in December of Year 12 and the second in December of Year 13.**

**To be eligible to apply you must:**

- achieve at least 5 grade 7s and above in your GCSEs in June 2026, with grade 8 or above in the subjects you wish to study at A level
- have excellent attendance at your current school
- wish to contribute fully to Sixth Form life by joining our clubs and societies.

**Application forms can be requested by emailing [spalmer@qegsblackburn.com](mailto:spalmer@qegsblackburn.com)**

Application forms must be returned to QEGS admissions by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026. All applications will be acknowledged.

You will then need to enrol at QEGS Sixth Form on 20<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup> August 2026. Successful applicants will be informed by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2026. If there are more applicants than scholarships then the decision made by Old Co will be final.

**Apply now:** [QEGSblackburn.com/sixth](https://qegsblackburn.com/sixth)

01254 686300 | [sixth@QEGSblackburn.com](mailto:sixth@QEGSblackburn.com) | QEGS Sixth Form, West Park Road, Blackburn, BB2 6DF



@QEGS\_Blackburn



/QEGSBlackburn

**Ofsted**  
Rated Good  
with Outstanding features

**QEGS**  
MULTI ACADEMY  
TRUST



**INVESTIN** presents:

# Getting Your Foot in the Door

*A Quick Guide to Preparing  
for Your Future Career*

Your career might feel a long way off, but the steps you take at school will bring you closer to your dream job than you realise.

Early career preparation is key to getting your foot in the door and kickstarting your future.

*Here are the steps  
you can take towards  
your future career*



## Build in-demand skills

Look for opportunities inside and outside school where you can practise key skills like communication, critical thinking and digital fluency.

## Understand what drives you

Take time to reflect on what you enjoy, what motivates you and the type of environment you work best in.

## Explore careers in the real world

Turn curiosity into clarity by speaking to industry professionals, attending career events and participating in hands-on career programmes.

## Gain early industry exposure

Seek work experience, shadow professionals and learn how workplaces really operate by talking to friends and family about their jobs.

## Free resources to prepare you for your future

Future of Work  
Webinar Series

### Getting Your Foot in the Door

*How to Prepare for Career Success  
InvestIN Education*

The InvestIN  
Career Quiz

## Ready to take the next step?

Discover InvestIN Weekend Programmes

Gain hands-on industry experience in your dream career in London this March.

*Choose from 15 competitive careers  
and register today!*



Register Now

info@investin.org

+44 (0) 203 488 5089

www.investin.org



# INVESTIN

'Get your foot in the door' is a phrase you're likely to hear a lot as a student, so it's important to know what it means and how you can take the first steps in your career.

Gaining early industry exposure, developing in-demand skills and connecting with experienced professionals are key to opening the door to your dream career.

You can do all of this during an [InvestIN Weekend Programme](#) in London this March:

Led by industry professionals: Connect with experts and learn from their real-world experience.

Test-drive your future: Participate in immersive career simulations to learn if a specific career is the right fit for you.

Tailored career coaching: Gain advice and industry guidance from professionals and start building practical skills.

[Download this free resource](#) to help you prepare for the first steps in your future career.



As a parent, you will understand how important it is for your child to get their foot in the door and take every opportunity to prepare for their future career.

At InvestIN, we understand the importance of gaining early industry exposure, developing in-demand skills and connecting with experienced professionals. That's why we offer Weekend Programmes in London for students aged 15-18.

What does an [InvestIN Weekend Programme](#) involve?

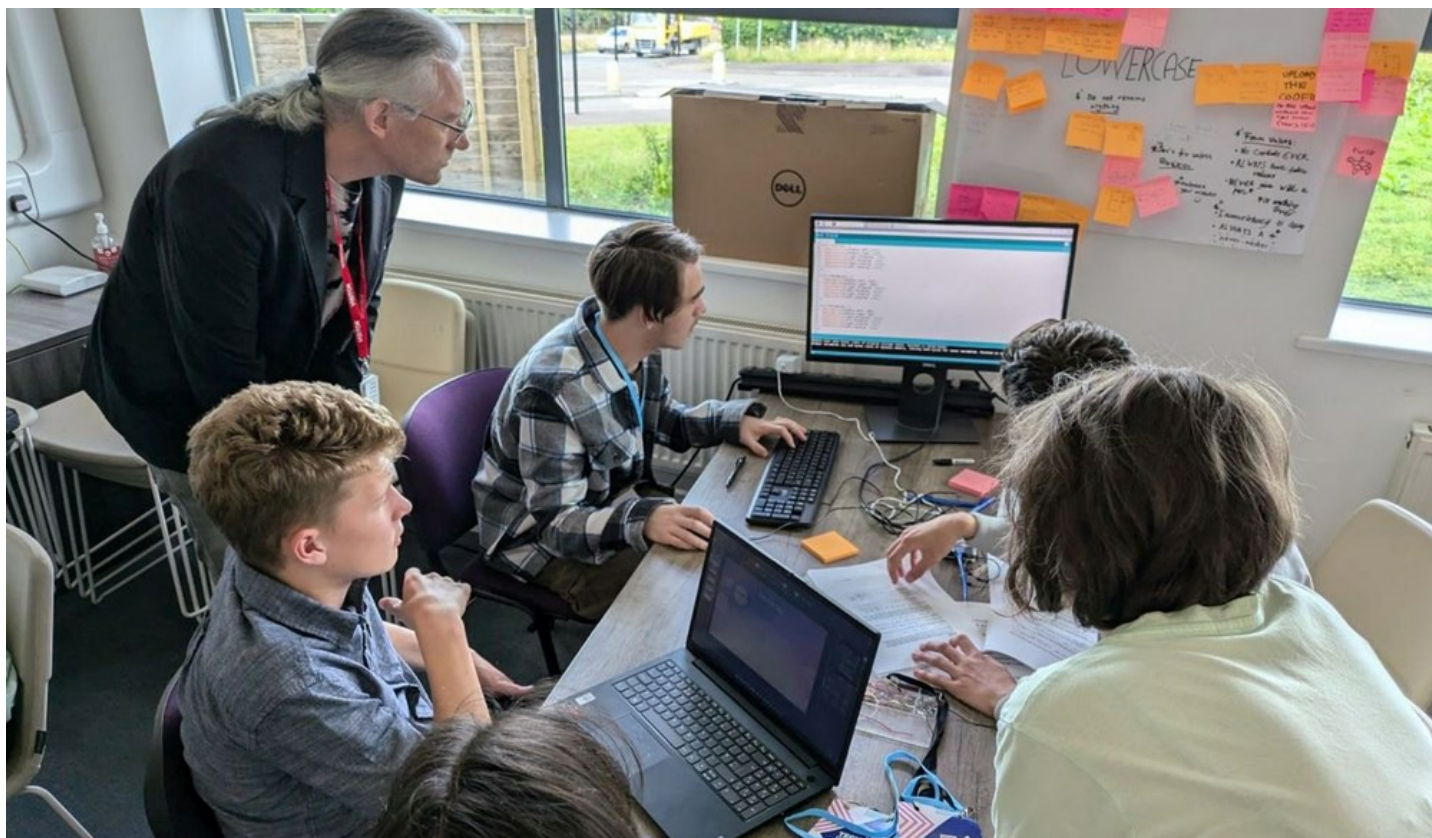
Led by industry professionals: Students can connect with experts and learn from their real-world experience.

Test-drive your future: Students can participate in immersive career simulations to learn if a specific career is the right fit for them.

Tailored career coaching: Experienced professionals offer advice and guidance to help students build practical skills.

# Mission to Mars Work Experience

Start your students' journey to Mars from anywhere! A flexible, online work experience programme designed to introduce young people to real-world technology careers, with an optional in-person event in July.



Run by Tech Cornwall, Mission to Mars is an exciting, future-focused programme that has inspired students for over a decade.

It combines **flexible online learning** with an **optional in-person event**, giving young people the chance to explore real-world technology careers.

## Step 1: Remote component (Open now – July 2026)

Students start with a 20-hour online work experience they can complete at their own pace.

### What's included:

**Structured online pathway:** Around 20 hours of guided activities students can complete from school or home.

**Real tech skills:** Learn to build dependable software, use agile methods, and create a personal portfolio for CVs and interviews.

**Hands-on challenges:** Work with programmable circuits, solve problems, and develop confidence through reflective tasks.

**Industry mentoring:** Connect with tech professionals who share insights and guidance.

Students must complete the remote component by February 2026 to qualify for the in-person event.

## Step 2: Optional in-person event (13–17 July 2026)

Students who finish the remote experience can apply for a two-day immersive mission in Cornwall.

They'll put their skills into practice by building and testing the software and technology needed to reach Mars – a real-world simulation that brings learning to life.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE\*\*](#)





## National Careers Week 2026:

### British Army Careers: Seven Career Streams, Endless Opportunities

**Online Event: Thursday 3rd March 2026, 6:30pm-7:30pm**

In celebration of National Careers Week and International Women's Day, join us for an insightful webinar exploring the wide range of career opportunities available in the British Army.

**Did you know you could start your career in STEM, Healthcare, Law, or Intelligence? The British Army is not just about combat roles.**

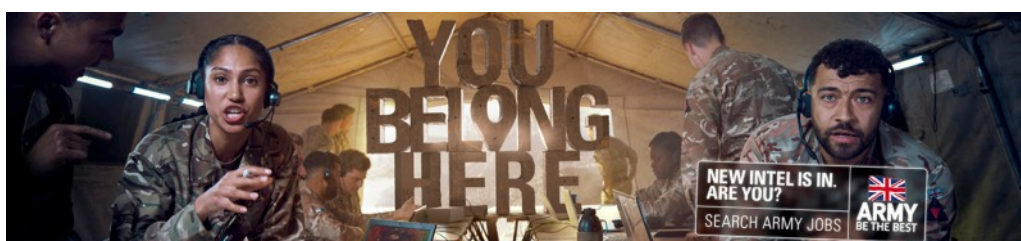
We'll also shine a spotlight on women in the Army, challenging outdated perceptions and highlighting the diverse roles women thrive in today from technical and leadership positions to frontline and specialist careers.

**[Sign-up now!](#)**

- Designed for **students, parents, teachers, and careers advisers**, this webinar will:
- Break down the **seven Army career streams** in a clear, accessible way
- Show how **school subjects link directly to Army careers**
- Explore training, apprenticeships, and progression routes
- Address common myths and misconceptions
- Help adults feel confident supporting young people with informed career conversations

Whether you're supporting a young person exploring their next steps or simply want to broaden your understanding of modern Army careers, this session offers practical insight, reassurance, and inspiration.

**[Sign-up now!](#)**



***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](#)**





# COME ALONG TO OUR APPRENTICESHIP OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026  
4:00PM-7:30PM

**Business Administration | Leadership and Management  
Engineering Operative | Engineering Fitter  
Machining Technician | Metal Fabricator  
Engineering Design Technician  
Mechatronics Maintenance Technician  
Maintenance Operations Engineering Technician**

- Find out everything you need to know about Apprenticeships
- Have a tour of our specialist facilities
- Check out our current Apprenticeship vacancies
- Discuss your career options with our team
- Meet some of our Apprenticeship employers

Simply scan the QR code to secure your spot —  
it's quick, easy, and only takes a minute!

**SCAN ME**



01204 677888

[info@alliancelearning.com](mailto:info@alliancelearning.com)  
[www.alliancelearning.com](http://www.alliancelearning.com)

The Hurst Building, Horwich Business Park  
Chorley New Road, Horwich, Bolton, BL6 5UE  
(behind Horwich fire station)





# **Blackburn Cyber Fest**

**Saturday 7th February 2026**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

A family fun cyber day, for our local community with lots of cyber and digital activities in collaboration with local community groups IMO and OneVoice and IN4.0 Group.

Talk with cyber and digital employers to find out about jobs in the sector. Enjoy free food, drink and parking! Everyone is welcome.

## **Activities**

- Laser Tag
- Cyber Ops Trivia
- Escape Room
- Hacker Heist
- Virtual Shields (VR Game)
- Cyber Mythbusting
- Bee Bot Programming

And much more .... with more to be confirmed!

## **Location**

When you arrive on campus, head to the University Centre (building number 1 on your campus map) to sign in and find all the activities happening.

## **Parking**

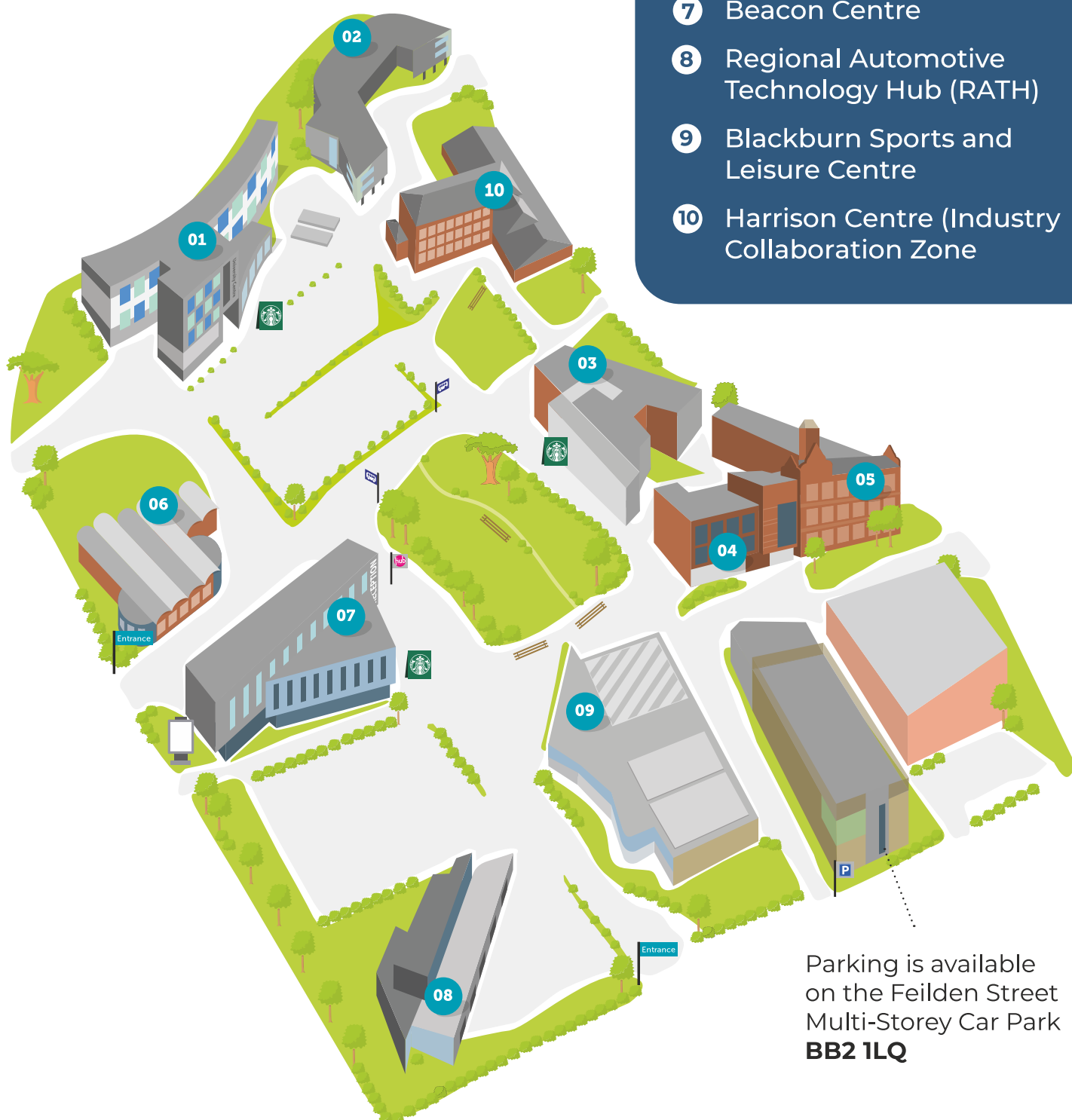
Car parking is available on campus (BB2 1LH) for FREE or at Feilden Street multi-storey (BB2 1LQ). Please note Feilden Street multi-storey closes at 8.00pm and charges apply.

**SIGN UP BELOW**

# Blackburn College Campus



- ① University Centre
- ② The Futures Centre
- ③ Blackburn Sixth Form
- ④ The Elizabeth Building
- ⑤ The Victoria Building
- ⑥ Construction Centre
- ⑦ Beacon Centre
- ⑧ Regional Automotive Technology Hub (RATH)
- ⑨ Blackburn Sports and Leisure Centre
- ⑩ Harrison Centre (Industry Collaboration Zone)



Parking is available  
on the Feilden Street  
Multi-Storey Car Park  
**BB2 1LQ**



## **Get Into Law Virtual Work Experience Evening: Explore Legal Careers with Global Law Firms**

**Monday 9th February 5pm - 6.30pm**

We will be joined by global and national law firms (Slaughter and May, Browne Jacobson, University of Law, Farrer & Co and Charles Russell Speechlys) where your students will be able to take part in workshops, interactive breakout rooms and panels and hear about the latest opportunities on offer, including work experience!

Are you considering a career in law but unsure which route to take? Join us for our **Get Into Law Workshop Evening**, a special event where you will hear directly from **leading law firms and legal experts** about the different pathways into the legal profession through interactive workshops.

This event is designed for students exploring options such as **legal apprenticeships, solicitor training contracts, and university pathways**. Whether you are looking for an alternative to university or seeking clarity on the legal profession, this session will give you the information you need to make an informed decision about your future.

### **Event Details:**

**Date:** Monday 9th February

**Time:** 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

**For:** Year 11 students interested in law

**Location:** (Zoom link provided upon registration)

### **Meet Leading Law Firms & Institutions**

**You will have the opportunity to engage with representatives from some of the most prestigious law firms in the UK (Slaughter and May, Browne Jacobson, Charles Russell Speechlys, University of Law and Farrer & Co)**

### **What to Expect?**

- Workshop rooms on Zoom, where you can rotate around rooms to chat with different employers and dive deeper into different areas of law
- Insights into solicitor apprenticeships, training programmes and work experience schemes
- First-hand experiences from current legal apprentices and trainees
- Advice on applications, securing work experience, and making yourself stand out
- Interactive sessions with Early Careers teams and senior lawyers from top firms
- The opportunity to ask questions and network with various legal professionals

This event is a must-attend for anyone considering a legal career. Whether you are set on becoming a solicitor, interested in alternative routes, or simply exploring your options, this session will provide valuable insights to help shape your future.

**Register now to secure your place!**

**[Register Here](#)**



# ARE YOU PREPARED FOR LIFE AFTER SCHOOL?

The world of work is changing fast. Join our series of free workshops to explore what the future of work could look like and how you can start to prepare for it.

3rd Feb 6pm Uk Time

## Will AI Take My Dream Job?

- How AI is impacting jobs now and in the future
- The opportunities and challenges that AI could bring you
- How AI affects subject choices, university decisions and career planning
- Live Q&A

10th Feb 6pm Uk Time

## How to Futureproof Your Career (interactive workshop)

- Learn how to prepare for changing career paths
- Identify what matters most to you
- Practise building key transferable skills
- Explore how work experience supports career planning

Receive a certificate of completion

INVESTIN

REGISTER NOW



# The science behind your favourite book

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



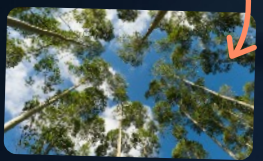
**59%** of paper is recycled making it the most recycled material.



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**



## Meet the scientist

### Jodi is an **architect**

Jodi designs new buildings and chooses the best materials, so the building is energy-efficient, long-lasting and safe.



She manages projects and visits sites to check on progress.



She draws plans by hand and uses computer-aided design software.

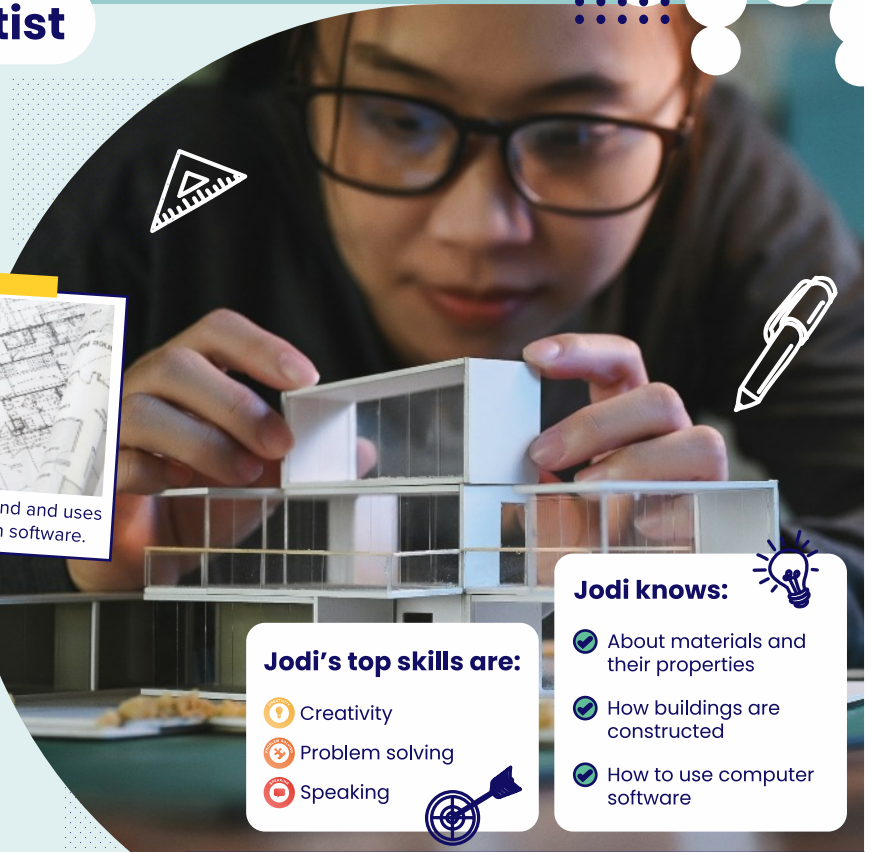


The architect who designed this building has made the most of the natural light so **less electricity is needed** for artificial lighting.



[www.energisingfutures.co.uk](http://www.energisingfutures.co.uk)

For more about essential skills: [skillsbuilder.org](http://skillsbuilder.org)



#### Jodi's top skills are:

- Creativity
- Problem solving
- Speaking



#### Jodi knows:



- About materials and their properties
- How buildings are constructed
- How to use computer software

**Would you like to be an architect?**

**CARDINAL  
NEWMAN  
COLLEGE**

**SAT  
07  
FEB**

**OPEN DAY**

**10AM - 1PM**

**Last open event for this year - applications close on 10<sup>th</sup> February - don't leave it too late!**



## Don't Miss This Exclusive Warner Bros. Discovery Webinar!

Warner Bros. Discovery's Early Talent Team is hosting a virtual event - Championing Apprenticeships - on **Tuesday 10th February at 6:00PM GMT** in support of National Apprenticeship Week and we would love to invite you to attend!

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST**

### What to Expect:

- **Hear from our current apprentices** as they share their personal journeys and experiences.
- **Discover the exciting projects they've worked on** and how these have equipped them with invaluable #SkillsforLife.
- **Celebrate their achievements** and gain insight into the impact of our apprenticeship programme.
- **Learn more about our programme** and how it's designed to help apprentices thrive.

*Don't miss out and learn how an apprenticeship can make an impact on what's next for you!*

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST**

This event can be attended by students, parents, teachers and careers leaders, so make sure to sign up and share this with anyone you think could be interested!





NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP  
WEEK 2025

Amazing  
Apprenticeships

**9 FEBRUARY 2026**

# **NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK 2026**

## **UNDERSTANDING APPRENTICESHIPS**

### **SPECIAL WEBINAR FOR PARENTS & CARERS**

#### **Parent & Carer 'Understanding Apprenticeships' webinar**

Join us during National Apprenticeship Week 2026 on the 9th February at 6.30pm for this special parent and carer webinar 'Understanding Apprenticeships'.

Apprenticeships offer exciting and practical routes into rewarding careers. This early evening session is designed to help parents and carers feel confident supporting the young people in their lives as they explore these options.

**REGISTER NOW**



# 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



# UK university & apprenticeship search fairs

**SPJ LONDON** S P Jain London School of Management

[schools.liaison@spjain.ac.uk](mailto:schools.liaison@spjain.ac.uk)

## A BUSINESS DEGREE WITH A BOARDING PASS

**Business is global. Your degree should be too.**

Our **BBA (Hons) Bachelor of Business Administration** degree does just that by offering immersive learning and internships across 4 global cities - London, Dubai, Singapore and Sydney.

£8,000 Travel Bursary

## 2026 Events

It was fantastic to welcome so many of you to our autumn events. We also have fairs taking place across the UK in Spring and Summer 2026 at stadiums and universities. Our upcoming 2026 UK University & Apprenticeship Search events in your region are as follows:

- **Manchester - Old Trafford Stadium - 27th February** - [see details here](#) - email [emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk](mailto:emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk) for further details or to book places.
- **Lancaster University - 24th March** - [see details here](#) - email [emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk](mailto:emma@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk) for further details or to book places.
- **University of Derby - 17th April** - [see details here](#) - email [dan@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk](mailto:dan@ukuniversitysearch.co.uk) for further details or to book places.

For a full list of our spring & summer events please visit our [website](#).

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

Our **Meet the Russell Group Webinars** will be returning on **28th - 30th April**. These are incredibly informative for students considering applying for RG universities. The webinars will cover topics such as Student Life, Personal Statements & Applying to an RG University. You can **register for this spectacular event below**.

[Register Here](#)



## **Applications for BAE Systems' 2026 apprenticeship opportunities are now open**

We want to see young people from all backgrounds embrace careers including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

By fostering open communication and collaboration, you can support people with their next step. Careers with us really matter – it's work that helps to secure all our futures.

**Find out more**

With opportunities across engineering, manufacturing, technology or business; they'll be supported alongside the brightest minds through training, experienced mentors and inclusive networks that help them thrive.

They can explore limitless opportunities, earning while they learn and gaining industry recognised qualifications along the way.

**Intermediate - Apply Now**

**Advanced - Apply Now**



## 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



# Monday 2nd February was the #SoMuchMoreThanTalkingAboutJobs day

So what is #SoMuchMoreThanTalkingAboutJobs? It's a fantastic campaign started by 2 fantastic careers professionals, Katherine Jennick and Bella Doswell. The purpose of the campaign is to raise public awareness of what careers professionals do.



## Parent Post

Many people know that negative views of careers professions often stem from experiences of outdated, impractical, or uninspiring guidance, this is one reason I usually use the term careers professional rather than the 'old term' of careers adviser. To give a little space for reassessment of what careers guidance means in the 21st Century.

When people hear the phrase "careers guidance", it is easy to picture a one-off chat about job titles or a quick conversation about what a young person wants to be when they grow up. This often stems from experience of the 'old style' tick box approach which was prevalent in the 70s and 80s and is constantly regurgitated anecdotally in the press and via word of mouth. In reality, good careers guidance is about much more than that.

A qualified careers guidance professional, RCDP, helps young people make sense of themselves, their options and the world they are growing into. That support can make a real difference to confidence, motivation and future choices.

### **It starts with understanding your child, not pushing a job**

Careers guidance is not about telling a young person what they should do, or even could do. A good careers professional starts by listening. They help your child explore their interests, strengths, worries and ambitions, including the things they might not yet have words for.

**For some young people, this is the first time an adult has sat down with them and focused entirely on them as an individual, rather than on grades, behaviour or targets. This is a powerful moment which can lead to huge changes in mindset, ambition and/or confidence.**

### **It helps young people make sense of choices**

Young people are faced with important decisions earlier than ever. Subject options, post-16 pathways, apprenticeships, college, sixth form or training. These choices can feel overwhelming, both for students and for parents.

A careers guidance professional helps your child understand the pros and cons of different routes, how choices link together and what doors they keep open. This is about clarity, not pressure.



## **It builds confidence and motivation**

Many young people struggle to see the point of school when they cannot connect learning to their future. Careers guidance helps them understand why their education matters and how it links to real opportunities.

When a young person can see a purpose, confidence often grows. That can lead to better engagement in lessons, improved attendance and a more positive outlook overall.

## **It provides impartial, expert advice**

Parents play a vital role in supporting their children, but it can be hard to keep up with a fast-changing education and employment landscape. This often leads to well meaning but ineffectual or downright wrong advice. In the worst cases, the advice can inflict years of stagnated growth and ambition leading to poor academic and working life outcomes. Careers guidance professionals are trained to understand qualifications, pathways and local opportunities and thus avoid these pitfalls.

Their advice is impartial. It is not about promoting a particular route or outcome, but about helping your child find what is right for them, based on accurate, up-to-date information.

## **It supports wellbeing, not just progression**

Careers conversations often uncover anxieties about the future, fear of failure or worries about not fitting in. A careers guidance professional can help young people articulate these concerns and think through practical next steps.

Feeling heard and understood can reduce stress and help young people feel more in control of their future.

## **It supports parents too**

Careers guidance does not replace parental support. It complements it. Many parents find that having an external professional involved reassures them that their child is getting balanced advice and has someone neutral to talk things through with.

It can also help families have more productive conversations at home, with shared language and clearer understanding of options.

## **So much more than talking about jobs**

Careers guidance is about helping young people develop self-awareness, resilience and the ability to make informed decisions. It is about preparing them not just for their first step after school, but for a future where they may change direction many times.

That is why a careers guidance professional speaking to your child can be such a valuable part of their education. It is not a quick chat about jobs. It is an investment in their confidence, clarity and long-term success.

Janet Colledge RCDP

Feb 2

[Click link to read the original article](#)





It's nearly **National Apprenticeship Week**, and we're going behind the scenes of the UK's biggest industries. We'd love your students to join us!

From Law and Accountancy to Working at Festivals, we've gathered employers who are ready to give you candid, filter-free answers to your questions.

- Do GCSE's really matter?
- Can I work from home?
- Is working at a Law firm actually like Suits?

Honestly? If I were in your shoes, I probably would've scrolled past this when I was at school. I chose uni because that's what everyone does, but looking back, I wish I explored the apprenticeship pathway and actually read emails like these! I could've hit my goals years earlier. I'm sharing this so you don't have that 'what if' moment 5 years from now.

Join us this National Apprenticeship Week and explore what pathways are possible. See you on 9th February 2026!

Best wishes,

**Malika**

Head of Partnerships, Success at School



## Are you Curious & Detail-Oriented? Get to Know the NAO!



# National Audit Office

The **National Audit Office** plays a vital role in shaping the UK's future - and they do it with smart, curious people at the heart of their work. Hear how apprentices at the NAO build real skills, make real impact, and launch meaningful careers from day one. Plus, **when you work for NAO, you get a recognised professional qualification while working & earn a competitive salary from day one.**

**Explore the National Audit Office**

## Kick-start your career in Audit with the National Audit Office

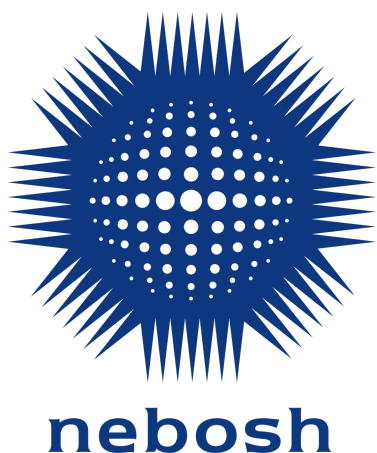


**Tuesday 10th February 2026, 6.30pm**

- Earn a competitive starting salary (**£28k+ in London**) and gain a top qualification that could take you to **£61k+** in the future.
- **Hear from current apprentices** about why they chose an apprenticeship over university.
- **Get the inside scoop** on life as an Audit Apprentice—from induction to college, exams, and day-to-day work.
- **Explore career progression** and the opportunities the NAO offers to help you grow.

**Register Here**

## Want to travel the world? Get to know NEBOSH



NEBOSH is a global name in health, safety and wellbeing, and their work protects millions of people around the world! In their NAW Session on 12th February, you'll discover how a career with NEBOSH can open doors internationally, combine purpose with progression, and give you skills that employers everywhere value. It's an exciting career with the chance to earn big from the start!

**Explore NEBOSH**



**Your Future in Health & Safety: From Film Sets & Festival Stages to Sports Arenas**

**Thursday 12th February 2026, 6.30pm**

Think a career in Health & Safety is just about rules? Think again! Join our webinar during **National Apprenticeship Week** and discover a career where you can:

- Travel the world
- Earn a median salary of £50k
- Do work you're passionate about every single day

**Ready to turn safety into your adventure?**

**Register Here**





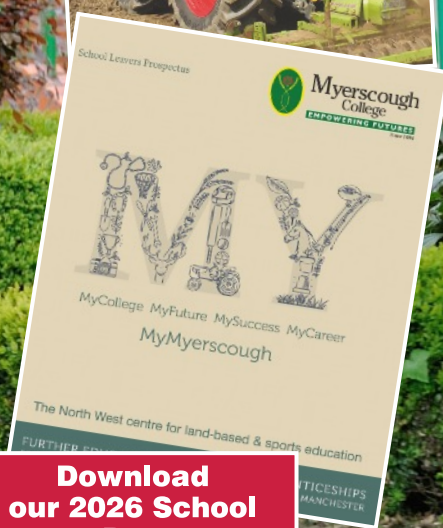
**Myerscough**  
College & University Centre  
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- ✓ University Degrees

# 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!



Remember, not all your work experience needs to be industry-specific - any experience provides you with transferable skills!

## 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

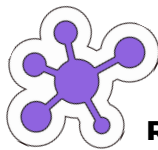


Consider what you already do outside of school - **what does it say about your interests or skills?**

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)





# GAIN THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE THIS SUMMER

**1 and 2-week programmes for students aged 15-18**

Register now with code **EARLY15** for 15% off Summer Experience Programmes!



Work with **top professionals** and explore **real workplaces**



Gain a **qualification** in work experience to boost your university application



Experience **university life** on-campus at UCL


## Choose from 15 different careers

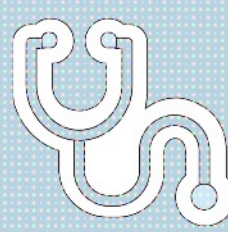
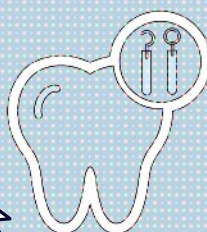
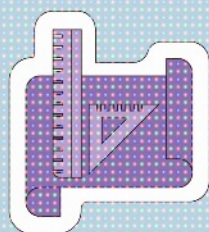
Art & Design  
Architecture  
Computer Science  
Dentistry  
Engineering  
Entrepreneurship  
TV & Filmmaking  
Forensic Science  
International Politics  
Investment Banking  
Law  
Media  
Medicine  
Psychology  
Veterinary Science



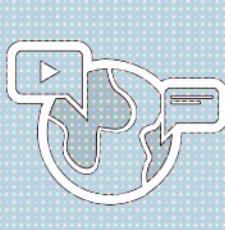
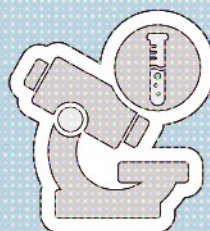
**REGISTER  
NOW**



 [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  
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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**

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.

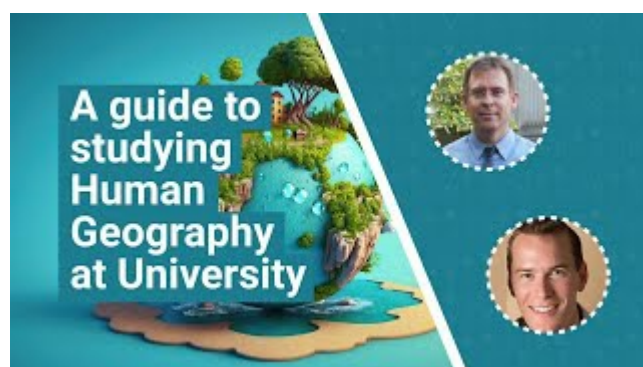
## Including the UK's first video subject guide!

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](#)



# PRESTON COLLEGE



St Vincent's Road  
Preston  
PR2 8UR

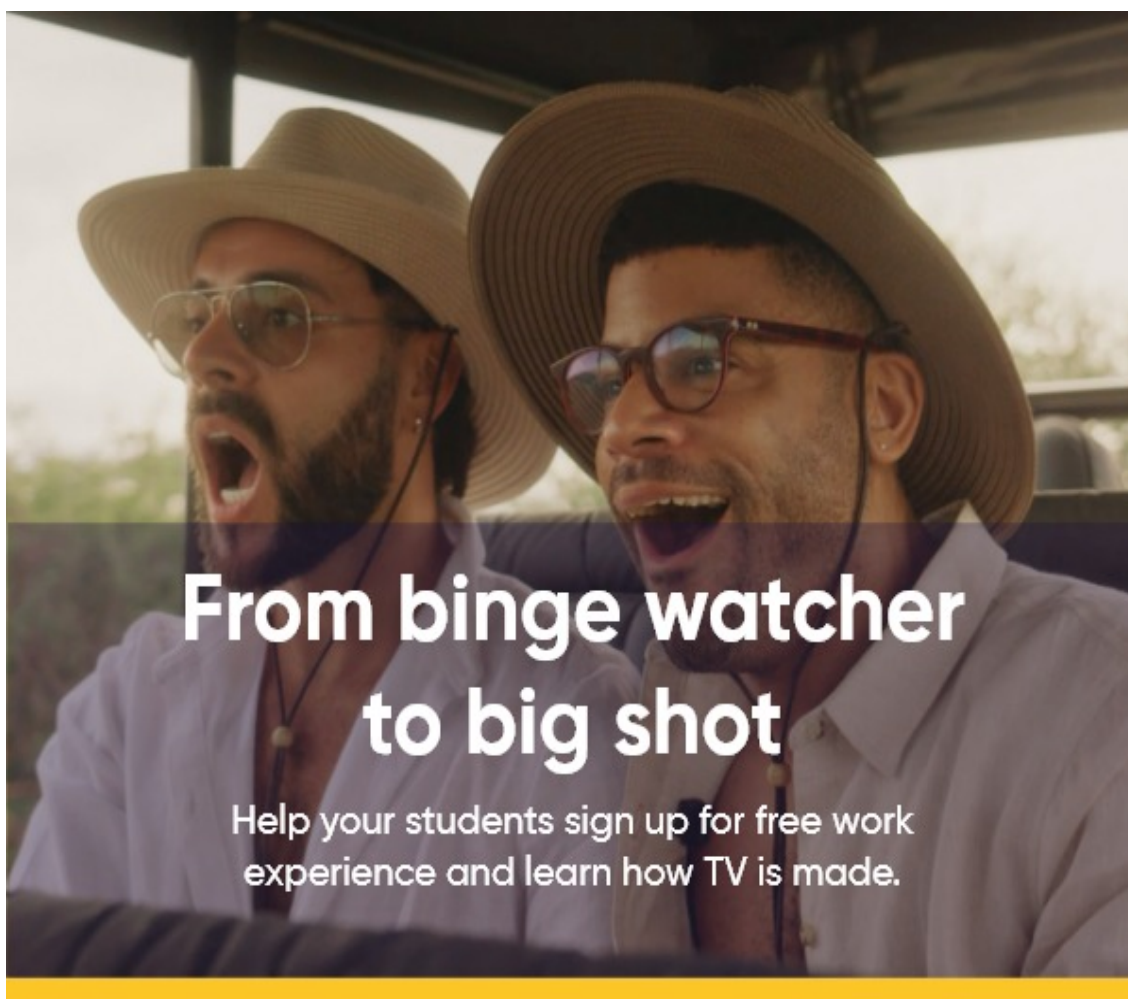
**W** [www.preston.ac.uk](http://www.preston.ac.uk)  
**T** 01772 225522  
**E** [info@preston.ac.uk](mailto:info@preston.ac.uk)



[www.preston.ac.uk/apply](http://www.preston.ac.uk/apply)

**APPLY NOW FOR SEPTEMBER 2026!**





## From binge watcher to big shot

Help your students sign up for free work  
experience and learn how TV is made.

**We wanted to send a little festive  
treat your way...**

Channel 4 work experience has officially been  
extended to **27th February!**

Think of it as a bit of extra breathing space for you  
and your students as we head into the new year.

**SIGN UP NOW**



**To make things even easier,  
we've wrapped up everything  
you need below.**

### **Catch Up on the Latest Careers Lead Webinar**

If you missed our recent session—or want to revisit it over a mince pie—the full recording is now available.

**WATCH HERE**

### **Questions? We're here!**

Whether you're curious about what the online work experience involves, how to sign up, or what kind of creative projects you'll get to try, our 4Skills team is here to help. Get in touch and we'll guide you through everything you need to know to make the most of this opportunity.

**GET IN TOUCH**





## **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.





**NEW**

**COLLEGE**

**PODCAST**

**COLLEGE COMPASS**

**UNLOCK THE  
SECRETS TO  
A SUCCESSFUL  
CAREER**

**GUEST SPEAKERS  
ADVICE & GUIDANCE  
INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE**

**LISTEN NOW ON SPOTIFY**



# 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



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/appgXnyzN5ZD9lw6/shrGJUAtigzZzDwTN>

Aspiring Dentists: <https://airtable.com/appgXnyzN5ZD9lw6/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

## Chemical engineer

**Chemical engineers develop raw materials into a range of useful products. A career in this field could involve you creating petrochemicals, medicine and plastics.**

As a chemical engineer, you'll be involved in the design and development of a range of products. Your work will focus on changing the chemical, biochemical and physical state of a substance to turn it into something else, such as making plastic from oil.

You'll need to understand how to alter raw materials into required products, while taking into consideration health and safety and cost issues.

Modern chemical engineering is also concerned with pioneering valuable new materials and techniques, such as nanotechnology, fuel cells and biomedical engineering.

### Types of chemical engineering

You can work in a variety of industries, including:

- energy
- food and drink
- oil and gas
- pharmaceuticals
- plastics
- toiletries
- water treatment

### Responsibilities

Your daily activities will be extremely diverse and largely depend on the role and the sector in which you work. However, you'll generally need to:

- work closely with process chemists and control engineers to ensure the process plant is set up to provide maximum output levels and efficient running of the production facility
- design plant and equipment configuration so that they can be readily adapted to suit the product range and the process technologies involved, taking environmental and economic aspects into account
- set up scale-up and scale-down processes, including making appropriate changes, to equipment design and configuration
- assess options for plant expansion or reconfiguration by developing and testing process simulation models
- design, install and commission new production plants, including monitoring developments and troubleshooting
- optimise production by analysing processes and compiling debottleneck studies
- apply new and emerging technologies
- research new products from trial through to commercialisation, and improve product lines
- ensure that potential safety issues related to the project operator, the environment, the process and the product are considered at all stages.

Examples of work activities in specific sectors include:

- undertaking small and intermediate-scale manufacturing and packaging activities in pharmaceutical product development for clinical trial purposes
- developing new methods of safe nuclear energy production, including projects such as conceptual design, simulation and construction of test rigs, and detailed design and operations support



**For more information click [here](#)**