



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

There are loads of great opportunities inside this issue of Career News.

- You can win a fully funded place on a summer work experience package with InvestIn Education - but hurry - the deadline is rapidly approaching!
- Pupils can take part in a survey with InnovateHer to understand how technology and social media are really making them feel. The survey takes just 10 minutes and there are ASOS vouchers to win.
- There is a Sport and Football taster event at Preston College on 26th May for Year 11s - scan the QR code to secure your place.
- There are some really good apprenticeship opportunities on offer this week: Alty's Builders Merchants, NSG Environmental, Matthew Marsden Joiners and Duke Street Nursery School. See inside for full details.
- Loughborough University are hosting a three day residential in the summer holidays to give girls a chance to explore what engineering is really like. There are bursaries available - check the page for all the details and how to apply.
- Year 10 had an assembly earlier this week from Leyland Playscheme - this is the largest playscheme in the UK and has been running for over 25 years. Volunteering is great for building confidence and also those vital employability skills. See inside for details on how to apply.
- Various events from Young Professionals over the May half term holiday, with some of the biggest names in the business and finance world - not to be missed.
- If construction interests you then why not check out the Go Construct website. There are quizzes, apprenticeships, information, interactive games and much more.
- Plus of course, career of the week!



Have a great weekend



11th - 15th May 2026

FREE WEBINAR: HOW TO FIND WORK EXPERIENCE

WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY, 6PM (BST)

2 in 5

18 to 24-year-olds have never completed any work experience

With fewer opportunities available to students today, it can be hard to know how to find work experience. That's why we're hosting a free webinar for students and parents, sharing our top tips for securing valuable work experience placements in 2026.

JOIN US AS WE EXPLORE:

- The value of work experience
- What counts as work experience
- How to maximise your experience
- Where to find work experience and next steps



REGISTER NOW

Remember, if you can't attend live, you can still register to receive the webinar recording!

Built To Scroll

Young people aged 11–18 are spending more time online than ever, but are they consuming tech, or is tech consuming them?

This is a national research project, and the data only works if young people from all walks of life are in it. Share the link and help us build the picture.

SHARE OUR SURVEY.



innovate<her>

Get Involved Today

The national conversation about young people and social media is loud, polarised, and largely happening without them in the room. The Build to Scroll survey is crafted to change that. The survey seeks to explore **how technology is designed to keep young people consuming, not creating.**

We want your help to **survey young people** to understand **how technology and social media are really making them feel** – not through the lens of concerned parents or academics, but directly from them.

We want to hear students' thoughts on:

- How tech makes them feel daily
- Whether they feel in control of their digital lives
- What they find helpful vs harmful
- What they would design differently if they could

The survey takes just **10 minutes to complete**, and by completing it, students have the chance of winning **one of three £30 ASOS vouchers.**

Access the survey via the button below

[Click Here](#)



**Centre of
Sporting
Excellence**

YEAR 11s SPORT AND FOOTBALL TASTER EVENT

Tuesday 26th May 2026

Preston College

10am to 12pm

Registration from 9.45am



Scan QR code to
secure your place



NOT SURE WHAT TO DO AFTER EXAMS?

Take 50 minutes to explore a real option.



TESCO



Join a virtual session for the Tesco Stronger Starts Retail Apprenticeship

- ✓ Earn up to **£23,000** (full-time)
- ✓ Start from age 16
- ✓ Get **real work experience** + a recognised qualification
- ✓ Learn directly from Tesco + get application tips

A great alternative if you're unsure about
sixth form, college, or taking a gap year.

Apprenticeships available nationwide. [See more](#)

Applications closing soon – don't miss out

Choose one session:

Session 1

Tue 12 May

[REGISTER](#)

Session 2

Wed 20 May

[REGISTER](#)

Session 3

Thur 28 May

[REGISTER](#)



APPRENTICESHIPS

which one works for you?

Level 2

Engineering Operative Apprenticeship, International Tissue Co Ltd, Blackburn VAC: 2000018298
This is a fantastic opportunity to earn while you learn, gaining hands-on experience and technical knowledge in both mechanical and electrical engineering disciplines.

Apprentice Autocare Technician, Stoneacre Motor Group, Wigan VAC: 2000024737
Duties include servicing and repairing light vehicles such as cars and vans working on all the systems found in the vehicle. You will work towards Autocare L2 Technician.

Chef Apprenticeship, Farmers Arms, Preston VAC: 2000029595
Join us at Stonehouse Pizza and Carvery, we love our pizzas, we love our roasts, but mostly we love our people. An opportunity to gain skills, experience and a qualification.

Level 3

Fabricator/Pipe Fitter Welder Apprentice, Morecheck Ltd., Bamber Bridge VAC: 2000020803
The broad purpose of the occupation is to carry out metal fabrication work using things such as rolled steel joists, columns, channels, steel plate and metal sheet.

Health & Safety Apprentice, William Hare Ltd (Nationwide) VAC: 2000028101
The apprentice will support the Safety Health and Environmental Team with day to day advice and guidance to the broader business. The role is essential in ensuring that all SHE policies and procedures are adhered to and kept up to date.

Human Resources Apprentice, ExamWorks, Middlebrook, Bolton VAC: 2000023904
The role is to support the HR Team in delivering a high quality service to the group.

Electrical Control & Instrumentation Apprentice: NSG Environmental Ltd., Chorley VAC: 2000022783
Throughout your apprenticeship you will engage with multiple aspects of nuclear engineering, including: consultancy, R&D, site installation and decommissioning. The role combines both theoretical knowledge with practical workplace application.

Mechanical Engineering Apprentice: NSG Environmental Ltd., Chorley VAC: 2000022952
You will help create basic electrical and mechanical drawings, support with calculations for cables, lighting and mechanical systems, assist the team with design tasks. You will undertake placements at various sites in the UK.

Early Years Apprentice, Les Enfants, Darwen VAC: 1000349947
The apprentice will, under supervision, provide care for children including washing, changing and feeding, while supporting their personal and emotional needs. They will engage with children, contribute ideas in team meetings and work as part of a friendly, supportive team of educators.

See inside for full details of Alty's Builders Merchants and Duke Street Nursery School opportunities.

Matthew Marsden Furniture Ltd, a bespoke furniture manufacturing business based in Ecclestone, are currently looking to recruit an apprentice bench joiner to join the team.

We would be very interested in connecting with any students who are seeking an apprenticeship opportunity. As part of our recruitment process, we are inviting suitable candidates to attend a trial shift at our workshop to get a feel for the role and demonstrate their skills.

Please see below for contact details. Ring or email Cara Booth for more information.

Cara Booth, Office Manager, Matthew Marsden Furniture
Lawrence Lane, Ecclestone, Chorley, Lancashire, PR7 5SJ

Tel: 01257 450413
mmfurniture.co.uk

**CARDINAL
NEWMAN
COLLEGE**

SPORTS ACADEMY TRIALS



Have you booked your Sports Academy Trial? Don't miss out! At Cardinal Newman College, our Sports Academy Programme offers competitive opportunities in:

- Netball - Trial Date - 28th May 9-3pm
- Basketball - Trial Date - 26th May 10-2pm

If interested, please email: admissions@cardinalnewman.ac.uk



University of Lancashire
Training 2000

**APPRENTICESHIP
VACANCIES**

IAS Associates
Apprentice Accounts Assistant
Blackburn
£320.00 per week
Accountancy

Lincoln Lewis Solicitors
Office Admin Apprentice
Blackburn
£300.00 per week
Business Admin

Watson Ramsbottom
Business Admin Apprentice
Blackburn
£280.00 per week
Business Admin

WILLS HVAC Services
Electrical Control Panel Apprentice
Burnley
£320.00 per week
Engineering

Dobson and Beaumont
Apprentice CNC Machinist
Blackburn
£312.00 per week
Engineering

D A Design Automation
Apprentice Machinist
Chorley
£337.50 per week
Engineering

Global Bakery Solutions
Engineering Apprentice
Nelson
£304.00 per week
Engineering

Unicorn Precision Engineering
Sheet Metal Fabricator
Accrington
£304.00 per week
Engineering

Apply online: www.training2000.co.uk

Latest vacancies can be found on our website
Correct to: 29th April 2022

DEVELOPING TALENT THROUGH TRAINING

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



Furthergate Business Park,
Harwood Street
Blackburn
BB1 3BD
01254 54659
info@t2000.co.uk

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Cookie Notice

Accessibility Statement
Modern Day Slavery Statement
University of Lancashire

FOLLOW US





Alty's Builders Merchants Chorley are looking to recruit an apprentice.

If you are leaving school or college this year and want to join a successful independent builder's merchant then send your application to:

jobs@altys.co.uk

L2 TRADE SUPPLIER

OVERVIEW

This programme is suitable for colleagues working within a branch who are new to the sector or new to the business. The programme teaches someone to be a great colleague within a branch, pulling together product knowledge with a strong understanding of our customer base.

WHO IS THIS PROGRAMME FOR?

Colleagues working in a branch who are new to the sector business (up to 6 months experience)

DURATION

13 months

DELIVERY METHOD

Virtual

QUALIFICATION

Level 2 Trade Supplier

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

- Construction basics
- Business mission & culture
- Understand the flow of goods/products
- The industry 7 market
- Policies, procedures & legislation
- Communication
- Customer service skills & relationships
- Product knowledge
- Selling skills
- Health & safety
- Processing, receiving, loading/unloading stock
- Industry technology
- Personal performance & behaviours

MODULES

- Customer & competitors
- Safety
- Products & stages of building
- Supply chain
- Selling skills
- Communication & presentations
- ESG & future building

Duke Street Nursery School

Office / Business Administration Apprenticeship

Business Administration Apprenticeship (Level 3)

Duke Street Nursery School & Highfield Nursery School – September Start

Are you organised, reliable and interested in working in an office environment?

Duke Street Nursery School is inviting **expressions of interest** from school leavers who may wish to apply for a **Business Administration Level 3 Apprenticeship**.

What Is the Role?

As an administrative apprentice, you will help support the smooth running of a busy nursery school office while gaining a recognised qualification and valuable workplace experience.

You will work closely with experienced staff and learn how school administration operates day-to-day.

What You'll Do

- Answer phones and respond to emails
- Help with filing, data entry and record keeping
- Support staff with letters, forms and documents
- Use computer systems and office software
- Welcome visitors and communicate professionally
- Learn about confidentiality and working in a school environment

What You'll Get

- A **paid apprenticeship** while studying for a Level 3 qualification
- Training with an approved apprenticeship provider
- Support from an experienced workplace mentor
- Development of transferable office and IT skills
- A strong foundation for future careers in administration or education

What We're Looking For

- A positive attitude and willingness to learn
- Good organisation and communication skills
- Confidence using (or learning to use) computers
- Reliability and professionalism

You may be required to complete Maths and English as part of the apprenticeship if you do not already meet the required level.

Please Note

- This is an **expression of interest only**
- A **formal recruitment and interview process** will follow
- Apprenticeship offers are subject to **Lancashire County Council checks and approvals**



Duke Street Nursery School

Early Years Educator Apprenticeship (Level 3)

Duke Street Nursery School & Highfield Nursery School – September Start

Are you interested in working with young children and starting your career in childcare?

Duke Street Nursery School is inviting **expressions of interest** from school leavers who may wish to apply for an Early Years Educator Level 3 Apprenticeship.

What Is the Role?

As an apprentice, you will work alongside experienced staff in an **Outstanding nursery school**, helping children learn through play, exploration and creativity. You'll be supported every step of the way while you gain a recognised qualification and valuable work experience.

What You'll Do

- Help children learn through play activities
- Support children's social and emotional development
- Prepare toys, resources and learning areas
- Work as part of a friendly and supportive team
- Help care for children and support daily routines
- Learn how nurseries work and develop confidence in the workplace

Every day is different – you'll need to be enthusiastic, caring, and happy to get i

What You'll Get

- A **paid apprenticeship** while you work towards a Level 3 qualification
- Training with an approved apprenticeship provider
- Safeguarding and first aid training
- Support from experienced staff and a workplace mentor
- A strong start to a future career in childcare
- Possible progression opportunities once the apprenticeship is complete

What We're Looking For

- A genuine interest in working with children
- A positive attitude and willingness to learn
- Good communication and teamwork skills
- Reliability and commitment

You may be required to complete Maths and English as part of the apprenticeship if you do not already have the required grades.

Please Note

- This is an **expression of interest only**
- A **formal application and interview process** will follow
- Apprenticeship offers are subject to **Lancashire County Council checks and approvals**



Two Simple Questions for
Two Unforgettable Weeks

INVESTIN

COMPETITION TIME: WIN 2 WEEKS OF WORK EXPERIENCE

InvestIN's new competition offers you the chance to win a fully funded place on a Summer Experience Programme of your choice, giving you two weeks of hands-on work experience led by industry professionals in one of the world's most competitive careers. Partially funded places are also available for runners-up.

HOW TO APPLY

Simply answer the two questions below to be in with a chance of joining us for two weeks this summer.

- ✓ Why do you want to attend this programme?
- ✓ Imagine your chosen career 10 years from now. What do you think it will look like, and what role would you like to play in it?

The best part? You choose how to answer: write it, film it or get creative with a presentation or poster!

Hurry!
Applications close
at midnight on
Monday 11th May.

FIND OUT
MORE



ENTER NOW

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

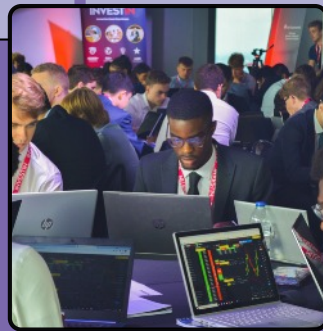
TV & Film

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

EXPLORE PROGRAMME TIMETABLES

**Ages
12-18**



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



Girls into Engineering

An immersive, three-day residential summer course at Loughborough University that gives girls the chance to think big in engineering!



Over three exciting days, students will dive into hands-on STEM activities, creative design challenges, and collaborative problem-solving.

Designed for girls in Years 8 and 9, this is a fantastic chance to explore what engineering is really like while connecting with other students who share similar interests.

During the course, participants will:

- Take part in hands-on engineering projects and creative challenges
- Develop practical STEM and problem-solving skills
- Learn from engineers and inspiring role models from industry
- Work together with peers to tackle real-world engineering challenges
- Experience university campus living, with fun social activities in the evenings

Students are supported throughout by the organiser's friendly STEM Engagement Specialists and industry volunteers, who bring engineering to life by sharing their experiences and career journeys.

It's a welcoming and encouraging environment where students can ask questions, try new ideas, and discover what they're capable of.

Booking details- [click here](#)

- **Dates:** 11 to 13 August 2026
- **Location:** Loughborough University
- **Year groups:** 8 and 9

Cost: £415, which includes accommodation and all materials and equipment. Full bursaries are available.



ARMY
BE THE BEST

“Here’s my advice to young women thinking of joining up: **grab every opportunity by the horns and do it.** There were things I didn’t think I could achieve, but they’ve turned out to be my biggest triumphs. I didn’t think I was smart enough or good enough – but I was, and I am.”



MEET NATASHA DAY, MBE

Royal Army Medical Corps

Growing up, Corporal Natasha Day was a young carer for her grandad. When he passed away, she wasn’t sure what to do next – she wanted to care for people, make a difference, and make her grandad proud. One day she walked past an Army Careers Centre, dropped in to say hi, and her whole life changed.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO DISCOVER OUR OPPORTUNITIES AND LEARN ABOUT LIFE IN THE ARMY





LINKING LEYLAND
CHARITY EVENTS 2026



LEYLAND TRUCKS
HELPING HAND

ARE YOU STRONG ENOUGH TO PULL A TRUCK?

£50 ENTRY
PER TEAM

Join Leyland Trucks' Linking
Leyland's Truck Pull Challenge!

When: **Sunday 31st May**, 12.30pm - 3pm

Where: **Leyland Trucks LTD**, Leyland

Do you and your friends have the strength and teamwork to pull a real DAF XB truck – weighing over 5 tonnes?

We're looking for teams of **8 primary students (6 for high school school)** to represent their school in this exciting charity challenge.

Speak to your teacher to register your interest and put yourself forward for the school team.



Raising money for:



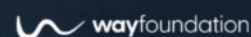
Parent Teams welcome too!
Pull a DAF XF in teams of 4 - fastest team wins!

How to take part:
Scan the QR Code and register on EventBrite

SCAN ME



TO OUR **SPONSORS,**
THANK YOU!





Get into Law Virtual Work Experience Day During the May Half-term

Thursday 28th May, 10am - 4pm

This online work experience event will bring together some of the world's biggest law firms to share what it's like to be a corporate lawyer. There will be workshops, panels and lots of networking across the event.

Are you interested in breaking into the legal field?

If so, then this work experience is for you! This May Half Term break, we have teamed up with some of the world's biggest law firms to give students an incredible insight into what it's really like to work in the industry and become a top lawyer at a leading international law firm.

If you think you've got what it takes to step into the shoes of a corporate lawyer for the day and have a go at some real-world cases, then this event is for you!

Event Details:

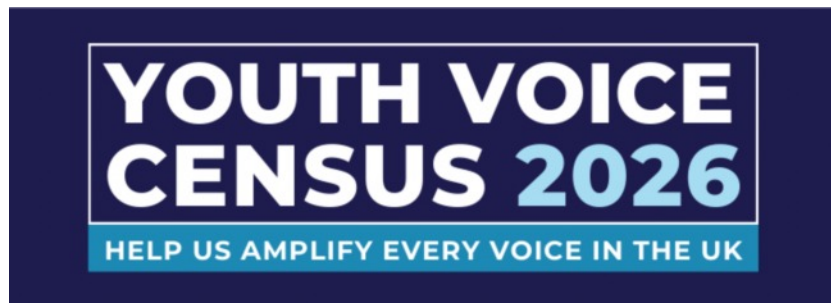
- Date: Thursday 28th May
- Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm
- Location: Zoom (link provided upon registration)
- Who: Year 10, 11,12, 13 students

What to Expect:

- Law Work Experience during the May Half Term
- Employers attending are Fragomen, A&O Shearman, Farrer & Co, Charles Russell Speechlys and The University of Law
- An opportunity to take part in legal workshops, hear from international law firms as well as the UK's biggest university offering law degrees
- Networking opportunities in the virtual booths
- Certificate of completion sent out to all students who take part in the day

Please apply via the link below:

[Click here for the Application Link](#)



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.YOUTHEMEMPLOYMENT.ORG.UK



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

“As an apprentice in a small business, when you achieve something, even if it’s small, people notice.”

**Sonia, Sales Executive Apprentice at
Call Systems Technology**



Getting Started In The Industry

New to construction? Whether you're still in school, recently graduated, or thinking about a fresh start in a new industry, CIOB Aspire is here to support you every step of the way. From discovering what the construction world has to offer to building your skills and confidence, we're here to help you lay a strong foundation for a successful career.



Reasons To Choose Construction

Construction is more than building – it's shaping the world we live in. Whether you're designing, managing, or solving global challenges, there's a role for everyone.

Diverse Roles

From architects and engineers to digital planners and sustainability officers

Career Growth

Clear pathways with professional accreditation through CIOB

Global Opportunities

Transferable skills and qualifications open doors worldwide

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Runshaw College Year 10 Sampling Taster Day: Important Parent/Guardian Information

Over a 3-week period in June and July, we will be welcoming more than 5000 Year 10 students from 42 High Schools, and we are delighted that your child will be one of them!

Our goal is to inspire and inform your child about the exciting opportunities available here at Runshaw. By participating in the taster day, they will gain insights into their potential career, meet fellow students from other High Schools and experience our vibrant student community.

Your child will have, or will soon have, chosen the subjects they wish to take on the day and a unique timetable for them will have been created. Please scan the QR code to see the information that your child will be receiving about the day.

Event Details:

- Date: 2nd July
- Time: 9.00 AM to end of the school day



Planned Timetable for the Day:

- 1. Pick up from School (9:00 AM onwards)**
- 2. Welcome Assembly (9:50 AM - 10:20 AM):** A friendly welcome and then pupils guided to Lesson 1.
- 3. Two 50 minute Lessons (10:20 AM - 12:10 PM):** Our teachers will lead these fun, interactive sessions.
- 4. Lunch (12:15 PM – 1:05 PM):** Students will all receive a lunch voucher and enjoy a delicious lunch in one of our many excellent Campus outlets.
- 5. One 50 minute Afternoon Lesson (1:10 PM – 2:00 PM)**
- 6. Farewell Assembly (time permitting) and catching the bus back to School (2.15 PM)**

Thank you for your support with this Taster Day and please feel free to reach out directly to me using the contact information below if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Please do also watch the video by scanning the QR code above.

With Warmest Regards,

Gillian Cahill, Senior Admissions Tutor

T: 01772 643000

E: Cahill.G@runshaw.ac.uk





Business & Accounting

Virtual May Half-Term Work Experience

Imagine spending two days getting real, hands-on insight from some of the biggest names in global business — and walking away with the skills, connections, and confidence to launch your career. That's exactly what we're offering this May Half Term!

We've partnered with world-leading accounting and professional services firms to bring you an exclusive 2-day virtual work experience that will transform the way you think about business. Whether you're considering a career in accounting, consulting, or finance, this is your moment.

WHAT'S HAPPENING:

DAY 1 - Multi-Employer Showcase

Hear directly from BDO, Grant Thornton, S&W, and CIMA. Get the inside scoop on what it takes to thrive at a top firm, and start building your professional network from day one. Plus a business workshop with Dan Miller from The Apprentice, and also the CEO and Founder of Young Professionals.

DAY 2 - A Full Day with KPMG (Big 4!)

Spend an entire day immersed in the world of one of the most prestigious firms in the world. Take part in workshops, tackle real business challenges, and pitch your ideas to KPMG professionals.

WHAT YOU'LL GET:

- Hands-on experience with real business projects — including a live profit & loss analysis
- A chance to take on a consulting brief and pitch to industry professionals
- Access to graduate schemes, apprenticeships & summer work experience opportunities
- Networking sessions with firm representatives in virtual booths
- A certificate of completion to boost your CV (for those completing both days)

EVENT DETAILS:

- Dates: Tuesday 26th & Wednesday 27th May
- Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm (on both days)
- Location: Zoom (link sent on registration)
- Open to: Year 11, 12 & 13 students + 1st Year University Students
- Spots are limited - don't miss your chance to get ahead of the crowd!

REGISTER NOW:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YP_Business_May



Your career, translated.

Did you know that globally, speaking more than one language can **boost your annual earnings by 14.3%**? That's almost **£7k more a year!**

In a recent study, Preply found that **Spain** offers the largest pay uplift, with bilingual workers earning up to **£26,000** more per year in some industries. However, the most sought-after language across the globe is **French**, reflecting its widespread use in international diplomacy and in business.

Even with the rise of AI, there's still huge value in learning a new language. Now's the perfect time to add a second language to your CV.

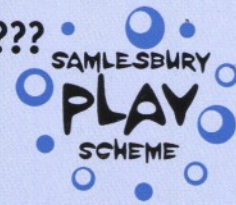
[Try a language course](#)

Gain an employable edge

Looking to master the IELTS or learn the basics of professional French? You can gain the practical skills that open new doors and grow your global network.



What are you doing with your summer???



Why not become a volunteer?!

We are looking for young people to volunteer as Play Leaders on the UK's largest Playschemes of their kind this summer.

To get involved go to- www.playscheme.org/volunteer

Why Volunteer?

- Looks great to future employers and universities
- Give something back to the community
- Develop your team & leadership skills

and most of all **It's great fun!**

- Full basic training given
- Access to additional training
- Enhanced DBS Clearance free
- Accredited volunteering hours
- **FUN!!!**

How do I get involved?

Simply book onto ONE of our Play Leadership training days held in Leyland, Preston, Chorley & Blackburn on dates throughout June.

You will also need to attend our Skills Training Day in July

For this years dates and to get involved just go to

www.playscheme.org/volunteer

Year 10 had an assembly on Wednesday with Chris from Leyland Playscheme, talking about the importance of volunteering. It doesn't just help with confidence, it shows that a young person can take initiative, develop leadership skills, work as part of a team, be resilient, creative, caring - all the qualities that employers are looking for, and that are hard to evidence without a scheme such as this.

All travel to and from the Playscheme and events is free, there are social events for the playleaders and young people get to join in all the activities.

This scheme has been running for well over 25 years and is the largest playscheme in the UK. Taking part looks great on CVs and application forms for colleges, universities or employment in the future.

[CLICK HERE](http://www.playscheme.org/volunteer) for more details on how to take part

Does your child love horses?

Find out more about careers in the Horseracing industry



When people think about Horseracing, the first job that comes to mind is being a Jockey. However, the industry offers hundreds of different career opportunities, ranging from hands on roles with horses in racing yards or stud farms to positions on racecourses or within administration. In fact, horseracing is the largest sporting employer in the UK.

Find out more



Apprenticeships in Horseracing

Is your child coming to the end of their academic studies? An apprenticeship in Horseracing could just be the path for them! There are dedicated training providers offering apprenticeships, training and development opportunities at all levels via the British Racing School in Newmarket, the National Horseracing College in Doncaster, the National Stud in Newmarket and the Scottish Racing Academy.

The Foundation Course

The Foundation Course is a great starting point for your child, the 12-week residential course provides people with the essential skills to start a career in horseracing. Whether your child has experience of riding and caring for horses or they are completely new to it, the Foundation Course will set them on the path to a successful, long-term career.

The course is delivered in two stages. The first takes place at one of the racing schools listed above, followed by 6 weeks of practical training through a work placement at a racing yard. During these placements, they'll continue to build the skills and knowledge needed to work effectively with racehorses, as part of a successful team.



Find out more



WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

is where **your story** goes

Your students could become trusted voices of the future



The National Council for the Training of Journalists (the NCTJ) is the UK's leading provider of industry-recognised journalism training, offering a range of courses and qualifications to suit all students and providing the training and credibility they need to become a trusted voice of the future.

Whether they thrive in front of the camera or prefer to craft the story behind the scenes, the NCTJ can help them find where their story goes.

Discover roles for your students

74%

74% of NCTJ diploma students go on to work in journalism-related roles, compared to 28% of journalism graduates.

88%

88% of students who achieved the NCTJ's gold standard now work in journalism.

The world is changing, and storytellers are changing with it

In today's rapidly shifting media landscape, with endless AI-generated misinformation, truth and impartiality are more important than ever.

Visit the ['Where your story goes' hub](#) now to access the **quiz** and **video content** from **real life young journalists** that could inspire you about a path in journalism.



Blackburn College
presents



SING FOR YOUR SCHOOL!

at Young Melodies
Schools Choir Competition

THE WINNING SCHOOL WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO:



Sing in front of 400 people at
Blackburn College's popular
christmas carol service



Record a track at Blackburn
College's professional
recording studio

and more...



blackburn.ac.uk



BOLTON
COLLEGE



We are pleased to invite your Year 10 and Year 11 students to attend taster sessions at **Bolton College** on **Tuesday 12th May**. These sessions provide an excellent opportunity for learners to explore potential career paths and experience college life first-hand.

Students can book up to two sessions per person:

- **Session 1: 5:00pm - 6:00pm**
- **Session 2: 6:15pm - 7:15pm**

Available taster sessions cover the following areas:

- Art & Design
- Barbering
- Beauty Therapy
- Brickwork
- Business
- Carpentry & Joinery
- Catering & Hospitality
- Creative Media
- Digital
- Early Years
- Electrical Installation
- Engineering
- Esports
- Hairdressing
- Health & Social Care
- Motor Vehicle
- Plumbing
- Public Services
- Science
- Sport
- Travel & Tourism

The following booking link will allow students to reserve their places:

<https://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/year-10-year-11-taster-sessions/>



BOLTON
COLLEGE

WHAT ARE V LEVELS?

New post-16 vocational qualifications

What are V Levels?

V Levels are new level 3 vocational qualifications designed as an option for young people aged 16-19 following GCSEs and will be taught in schools and colleges.

KEY FACTS



- They last for 2 years.
- They are similar in size to one A-level.
- Students will be able to take V Levels in multiple subjects and in combination with other qualifications such as A-levels or level 2 English or maths.
- Learning is designed around real jobs and the skills employers need.
- Students will receive a nationally recognised qualification.
- They attract UCAS points.

Who are V Levels for?

V Levels are aimed at students who would like to explore sectors without specialising. They will provide the opportunity to pursue their interests further through a range of progression outcomes, whether that is higher education or work with training, including apprenticeships.

What is the difference between A-levels and V Levels?

A-levels are primarily an academic pathway which focus on theory and deep subject

knowledge. V Levels are designed as a vocational pathway and are closely linked to industry needs and practical application.

What will a V Level include?

The content of a V Level will be linked to the occupational standards that are set by Skills England (working with employers) to support workplace-relevant transferable skills. V Levels will focus on applied learning and aim to cover the core knowledge and skills related to an employment sector. In addition, they will prioritise attainment of skills such as problem solving and critical thinking to support progression to higher education.

How are V Levels assessed and graded?

V Levels will blend applied learning with practical assessment and a significant proportion of a V Level will include non-exam assessment. The Government are working with Ofqual (the organisation that regulates qualifications, examinations and assessments in England) who will be consulting on assessment and grading arrangements for V Levels.

Which V Levels are available?

V Levels will be available to students from September 2027 in the following subjects:

- Education and Early Years
- Finance and Accounting
- Digital

More subjects will be rolled out each year until 2030/31.

WHAT ARE V LEVELS?

New post-16 vocational qualifications

What if I'm not ready for V Levels?

Alongside announcing V Levels, the Government has also announced two new post-16 level 2 pathways, available from September 2027:

- Occupational pathway - a two-year programme for students who want to enter a particular level 2 occupation and need to develop their technical knowledge and skills.
- Further Study pathway - for students who aren't quite ready to progress onto V Levels, T Levels or A-levels yet. This one-year, classroom-based, level 2 pathway gets students ready for level 3 qualifications and includes English and/or maths, applied and practical learning and enrichment activity.

So for anyone who wants to do V Levels, a T Level or A-levels, but isn't quite ready, the Further Study pathway will be available from 2027.

What can a V Level lead on to?

There are lots of options available after a V Level. Students will be able to progress onto level 4+ study whether they take A-levels or V Levels. Options will include:

➤ Skilled employment


V Levels are designed to equip students with the skills, knowledge and experience necessary to access entry-level employment.

➤ Apprenticeships

V Levels will prepare learners for apprenticeships by building the practical skills and workplace behaviours employers expect.

➤ Higher Education (HE)

V Levels carry UCAS points in the same way as A-levels and T Levels do, to allow you to progress to Higher Education and study a relevant Higher Technical Qualification (HTQ) or degree.



Understanding the changes to post-16 pathways



Watch this short film to [find out about changes to post-16 pathways](#)



Linked resource

Find out more about the existing post-16 technical options in this guide (see link below).



[Click here](#) to view or scan the QR code





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:

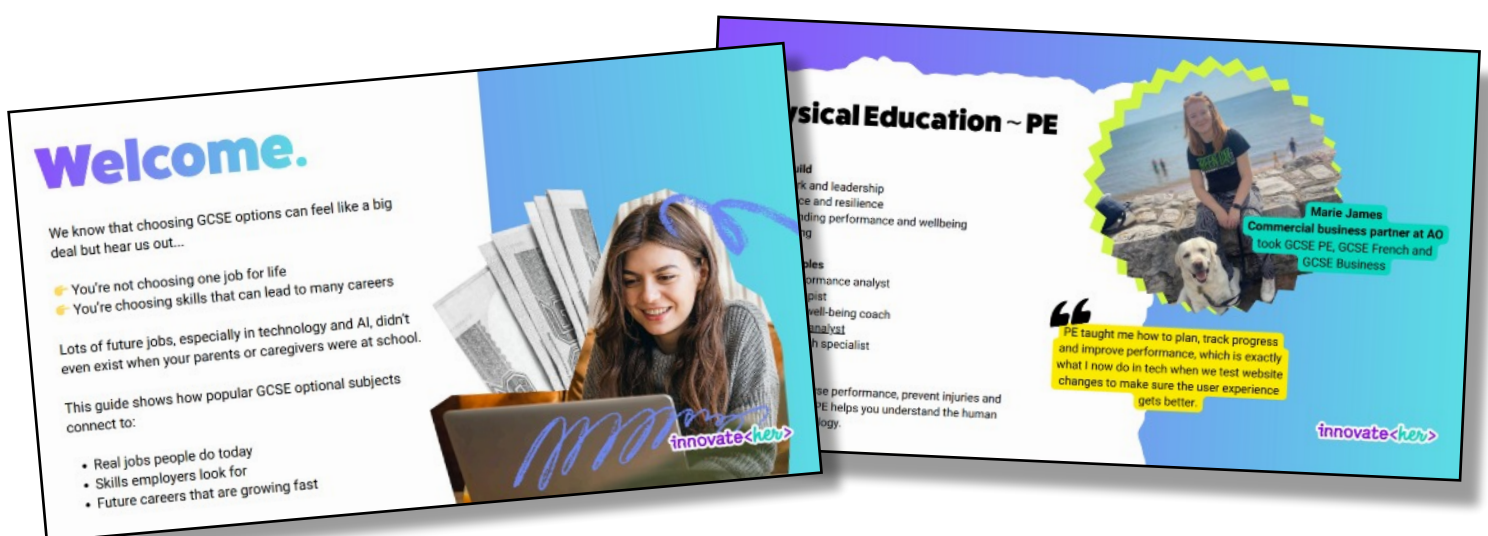
- Real jobs people do today
- Skills employers look for
- Future careers that are growing fast

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](#)



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

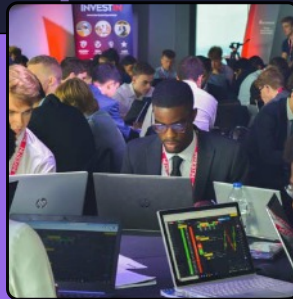
TV & Film

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”



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

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!





We are very excited to share the fantastic news with you that, due to the huge success of our February Half Term pilot course, we will be re-running our: **FUTURE SKILLS PROGRAMME: Careers in STEM** over the May Half Term and the ***APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!**

This virtual programme is designed to inspire students, broaden their understanding of STEM careers, and equip them with the skills and confidence needed to make informed choices and succeed in future applications and the workplace.

Who is this for? Students in Years 9-10 - S3-S4

When is this course running? 26th-29th May

How long will it take to complete? Approximately 30 hours flexibly

How much will it cost? £50 (Fully funded bursaries are available for eligible students, criteria is here),

This course is perfect for students who:

- Have an **interest or curiosity in STEM**, engineering, manufacturing, digital technology, or future careers
- Would benefit from **early exposure to real-world STEM pathways**, including apprenticeships, technical routes, and university options
- Are beginning to think about **GCSE subject choices, post-16 options, or longer-term career ideas**
- May not yet see themselves in a STEM career but would benefit from **inspiration, role models, and insight into local and regional opportunities**
- Are motivated to develop **employability skills** such as communication, networking, and professionalism

The course is suitable for **all abilities** – enthusiasm and curiosity are far more important than prior knowledge and at the end of the course, students will graduate as **Bronze-level Industrial Cadets**, a nationally recognised award they can use as evidence of their experience to support future applications and career journeys.

Please use the link below for any students and their parents/guardians in Years 9-10

[Programmes - The Future Skills Programme: Careers in STEM](#)





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!



Kickstart your career with **Story Summer School**

6th - 8th July 2026

What does it include?

Open to young adults, aged 15 - 18, Story Summer School gives you the chance to learn more about the civil engineering industry by spending three days with the team at Story Contracting in our Chorley office. Across the week, candidates will:

- Take part in masterclasses hosted by industry experts from #TeamStory.
- Learn more about Story Contracting, how we work, and the wide variety of roles required to make our projects successful, from our support functions to our engineering and commercial teams.

Applying is easy, simply scan the QR code below, and input your details and tell us why you would like to join Story Summer School. **Good luck!**

STORY
SUMMER SCHOOL

**Scan the QR
code to apply**



Why should you apply?

“I have really enjoyed this week, it has made it clear for me that I would like to pursue project management as a career path. Talking to the team and seeing the sites in action has inspired me to enter the construction industry as I can see all the opportunities available.”

- **Kayla McNamara, 16**



OPEN EVENTS

5-7PM

15TH OCTOBER

18TH NOVEMBER

15TH DECEMBER

9TH FEBRUARY

12TH MARCH

12TH MAY

18TH JUNE



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 24th 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!





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](#)

Spring Clean your CV



1. The 10-Minute Declutter Challenge

- Delete any outdated or irrelevant experience
- Condense overly long bullet points, only keep the words that provide real impact!
- Cut filler words e.g. “responsible for” or “duties included”
- Ensure contact details are up to date and include a professional email address



2. Refresh your skills

- Add any new transferrable skills from recent school projects, part-time work, volunteering, extracurriculars, work experience or online courses
- Include concrete examples e.g. “developed leadership” → “lead a team of 6 people in Year 12”
- Try using the formula: **Action Verb + Task + Impact**
- e.g. Organised a school charity event attended by 150+, raising £800



3. Keyword Gardening

- Pick 3 job or course descriptions that sound interesting to you
- Identify the key skills or requirements they are looking for
- Add these keywords into your own CV with your own examples



4. Plant your next goal

- Having reflected on your CV so far, look to the future and plant the seeds for your next goal
- Write down one short-term and one long-term career goal
- Top Tip: For maximum efficiency make your goals SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time bound)

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

Applications for entry September 2026
open on October 1st 2025

Gaining Experience Beyond The Classroom

INVESTIN
THE ULTIMATE WORK EXPERIENCE

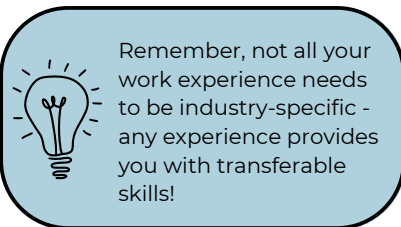
Why?

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

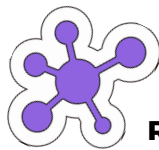


Consider what you already do outside of school - **what does it say about your interests or skills?**

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





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

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.

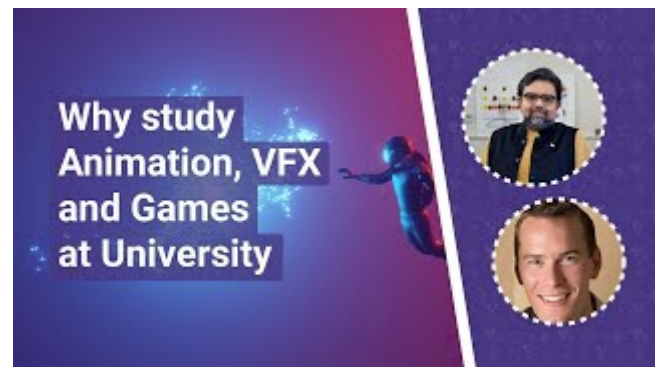
Including the UK's first video subject guide!

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](#)





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.



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/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

Illustrator

Illustrators create still drawings and images to communicate stories, messages or ideas, used in advertisements, books, magazines, packaging, greeting cards and newspapers.

As an illustrator, you'll work to commercial briefs to inform, persuade or entertain a client's intended audience, adjusting the mood and style of images accordingly.

Many illustrators specialise in a particular design medium, such as drawing, photography or digital illustration.

This is typically a freelance role, so most illustrators are self-employed.

Types of illustrator

Areas of work include:

- advertising - posters, storyboards, press
- publishing - books
- corporate work - brochures, catalogues
- editorial - magazines, newspapers and comics
- fashion - forecasting
- merchandising - greetings cards, calendars, t-shirts and ceramics
- multimedia - TV, film, computer games, websites, apps and animation

Specialist areas include scientific, technical and medical illustration. In these fields, illustrations showing new products, processes or techniques are created for text and reference books. For more information on these types of roles see medical illustrator.

Responsibilities

As an illustrator, you'll need to:

- liaise with clients, editors and authors in order to understand and interpret their business needs
- gain knowledge of appropriate styles
- negotiate pricing and deadlines
- analyse a brief's specification and the text to be illustrated, as well as research sources
- think imaginatively and creatively to produce new ideas
- create images and designs by using the traditional hand skills of drawing and painting, alongside other techniques, to meet design briefs
- use computer-aided design (CAD) packages to scan images and change size, colours and other elements
- provide roughs for approval
- redefine a brief through further consultation with the client to include new ideas or text as appropriate
- run your business, when working freelance
- speculatively approach potential commissioners to seek new sources of work
- work within a set timescale, often to tight deadlines
- create original pieces for self-promotion
- research appropriate galleries to find suitable venues to exhibit work



For more information click here