



OUR PLAN FOR 2026–2027

Unity Academy Careers Strategy

Helping Every Student Build a Bright Future

How we help you succeed:

- **Working Together:** Teaming up with local businesses and career experts.
- **Learning Useful Skills:** Building real-world skills in every lesson.
- **Your Next Step:** Guiding you to your dream college, apprenticeship, or job.

Destination



Opening Doors for Every Student

Helping every student—no matter where they start—build the skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed.

1. Where We Start

Learning about local jobs and opportunities in Blackpool, Lancashire and the North West.

2. What We Do

Breaking down barriers and showing everyone that any career is possible.

3. Where We're Going

Connecting what you learn in class to real jobs and exciting future pathways.

What You Will Achieve Before You Leave

1. Knowing Your Choices

Learning about all the different pathways you can take after school.

- **Explore options:** Learn about college courses, apprenticeships, and university options.
- **Understand training:** See how practical and classroom learning fit together.
- **Make good decisions:** Pick the path that best matches your future dreams.

2. Skills for Success

Practicing key life skills that every employer looks for.

- **Good communication:** Speak clearly, listen actively, and share ideas.
- **Problem solving:** Tackle difficult tasks with confidence and creativity.
- **Teamwork & resilience:** Work well with others and keep trying when things are tough.

3. Knowing Yourself

Understanding what you are good at and what you want to achieve.

- **Know your strengths:** Explain what you do best and what makes you unique.
- **Explore local jobs:** Find out what jobs are available in your area.
- **Set clear goals:** Build a step-by-step plan to reach your dream job.

4. Real Work Experience

Seeing real workplaces and meeting people from different jobs.

- **Workplace visits:** Get firsthand experience in modern, real-world workplaces.
- **Meet employers:** Talk with visiting experts from various industries.
- **Practice work life:** Learn what behavior and standards are expected at work.

Our 3 Big Steps to Help Every Student Succeed

1. Smart Tracking

Data & Cohesion (GB1 & GB2)

- **Smart System:** Using Compass+ across the academy to record your goals and progress.
- **Quick Help:** Teachers and career advisers can check your data in real time.
- **Clear Steps:** Making sure every student has a solid plan for their next school step.

2. Lessons for Life

Purposeful Learning (GB4)

- **Trained Staff:** All teachers learn how to connect classroom topics to future jobs.
- **Real Connections:** Clear career links in everyday subjects for Years 7–11.
- **Useful Skills:** Practice practical skills you can use in future jobs.

3. Work Experience

Real Experiences (GB5, GB6, GB7)

- **Workplace Visits:** Real work experience opportunities for older students.
- **Meet Experts:** Visits from companies, colleges, and training providers.
- **All Years Included:** Careers events and guidance for Years 8 to 11.

How School Habits Prepare You for Work

READY (At School)

- **Being on time:** Coming to school on time every day
- **Smart look:** Wearing uniform neatly and being prepared
- **Self-control:** Staying calm and managing your feelings



Being Professional (At Work)

- **Punctuality:** Arriving early and ready to start work
- **Workplace pride:** Dressing properly and acting responsibly

RESPECTFUL (At School)

- **Good listening:** Paying attention when others speak
- **Clear speaking:** Speaking politely and clearly
- **Kindness:** Working happily with all classmates



Teamwork & Communication (At Work)

- **Good talker:** Sharing ideas politely and listening to advice
- **Team player:** Helping teammates solve problems together

SAFE (At School)

- **Online safety:** Using computers and internet safely
- **Digital footprint:** Being sensible with technology
- **Boundaries:** Knowing personal space and staying safe



Health, Safety & Ethics (At Work)

- **Safety rules:** Keeping yourself and others safe at work
- **Doing right:** Following rules and knowing your rights

Simple Steps from Primary School to Your Future Job

1. Primary School

KS1 & KS2 (Ages 5–11)

- **KS1:** Discover different kinds of fun jobs.
- **KS2:** Learn about steps after primary school.
- **Building Skills:** Start learning key life skills early.

2. Lower Secondary

Years 7 & 8 (Ages 11–13)

- **Year 7:** See how school subjects connect to real jobs.
- **Year 8:** Try new skills and talk to visitors about work.
- **Exploring Options:** Find out what you enjoy doing.

3. Upper Secondary

Years 9 & 10 (Ages 13–15)

- **Year 9:** Choose your subjects and write your first CV.
- **Year 10:** Try work experience and hands-on learning.
- **Practice:** Practice job interviews and visit workplaces.

4. Final Year

Year 11 (Ages 15–16)

- **Year 11:** Make your big plan for college or training.
- **Guidance:** Get 1-on-1 advice to lock in your offer.
- **Success:** Step confidently into your future path!

Exploring Jobs and Building Your Future

1. Primary School

KS1 & KS2 (Ages 5–11)

- **Discover Fun Careers:** Meet guests from different jobs like healthcare and technology.
- **Visit Colleges:** See what learning looks like after primary school.
- **Build Key Life Skills:** Learn teamwork, listening, and problem solving every day.

2. Year 7

Lower Secondary (Ages 11–12)

- **Subject Connections:** See how Science, Technology, and Arts connect to real jobs.
- **Explore Pathways:** Learn about all the different paths you can take as you grow up.
- **Check Your Progress:** Record your achievements and celebrate your growing strengths.

3. Year 8

Lower Secondary (Ages 12–13)

- **Meet Experts:** Take part in practical workshops with guest advisers and employers.
- **College & Training:** Talk directly with local colleges and apprenticeship providers.
- **Skills Audit:** Research local jobs and update your personal skills profile.

Year 9 to Year 11: Getting Ready for Your Future

1. Year 9

Age 13–14

- **Choose Options:** Pick the subjects you enjoy and want to study.
- **First CV & Skills:** Write down your strengths and create your first CV.
- **Meet Employers:** Practice job interviews and visit careers events.
- **Check Your Score:** Track how ready you are for your next steps.

2. Year 10

Age 14–15

- **Work Experience:** Try a 1–2 week work placement or real-world tasks.
- **Practical Courses:** Learn about T-Levels, college courses, and training paths.
- **Talk to Experts:** Meet visitors from colleges and apprenticeship teams.
- **Log Experience:** Record your work placement achievements.

3. Year 11

Age 15–16

- **1-on-1 Advice:** Get personal support to plan your college or training steps.
- **Application Help:** Get extra practice and support filling out application forms.
- **Lock In Your Offer:** Make sure you have a confirmed place for after school.
- **Confident Start:** Step smoothly into your chosen college course or apprenticeship!

How We Help Every Student Build Their Future

1. Big Plan & Data

Strategy & Goals

- **Yearly Plan:** We have a clear careers plan approved each year.
- **Regular Check-ins:** We measure our progress every term.
- **Job Information:** We share real job facts in lessons and with parents.

2. Help for Everyone

Inclusion & Support

- **Personal Support:** Extra help tailored to what every student needs.
- **Past Students:** Learn from people who used to go to our school.
- **1-on-1 Advice:** Personal chats with a adviser to plan your next step.

3. Learning in Class

Curriculum Links

- **Subjects to Jobs:** All school subjects show how classroom learning connects to real work.
- **Teacher Training:** Teachers learn new ways to link lessons to future careers.

4. Real Experience

Encounters & Visits

- **Meet Employers:** Talk with at least 2 employers or workers every year.
- **College & Training:** Learn about local colleges and practical courses.
- **Fun Trips:** Visit universities and exciting projects starting in Year 5.

How We Make Sure Every Student Succeeds After School

1. Smart Tracking

Data & Information

- **All Info Together:** We gather lesson results, career facts, and skill logs in one safe place.
- **One Big Picture:** Instead of separate tasks, everything works together to help you.
- **Clear Goals:** We check your progress so nobody gets left behind.

2. Early Support

Action & Mentoring

- **Starts in Year 9:** We spot early if you need extra help so you stay on track.
- **Friendly Mentors:** You get helper teams and real work experience placements.
- **Personal Advice:** You get 1-on-1 chats to plan your steps step-by-step.

3. Guaranteed Offer

Your Next Step

- **Equal Choices:** College, training courses, and practical jobs are all valued equally.
- **100% Confirmed:** By Year 11, every single student has a confirmed offer.
- **Zero NEET:** This means zero students left without a plan for their future!

How We Welcome Colleges & Career Experts to School

1. Welcome Policy

Our Open Door

- **Open to All:** We welcome colleges, apprenticeship teams, and training providers.
- **Fair Access:** We follow all legal rules to make sure you see all future choices.

2. Meeting Students

Assemblies & Events

- **Assembly Talks:** Visitors speak to year groups during regular assembly times.
- **Careers Fairs:** Interactive events and subject workshops throughout the school year.

3. Great Facilities

Rooms & Tech

- **Main Hall:** Large presentation spaces with screens and audio equipment.
- **Group Rooms:** Smaller quiet rooms for focused discussions with students.

4. Get in Touch

Contact Us

- **Careers Lead:** All visit requests are handled by our dedicated team leader.
- **Email Us:**
careers@unity.fcat.org.uk

What We Are Doing Step-by-Step (2026–2027)

1. Late 2026

Nov – Dec 2026

- **New Computer Tools:** Set up software so teams can track all student career meetings easily.
- **Clear Progress:** Log starting scores for every student to make sure 100% are counted.

2. Family & Alumni

Dec 2026

- **Parent Portal:** Launch "Talking Futures" so parents can help explore future choices.
- **Past Students:** Build a network of former students to share real success stories.

3. Teacher Training

Jan 2027

- **Staff Learning:** Train teachers on how classroom subjects link directly to real jobs.
- **Lesson Checks:** Review lesson plans so 100% of subjects highlight future career paths.

4. Real Experience

Mar 2027

- **Work Experience:** Launch hands-on work placement guides for older students.
- **Career Visits:** Ensure every Year 8 to 11 student meets career experts 4 times.

Who Works Together to Help Our Students

1. School Team

Inside Unity Academy

- **Seth Wilkins:** Strategic Careers Lead
- **Rachael Forrest:** Careers Lead - Operations
- **Our Role:** Planning and running all career activities in school every day.

2. Expert Advice

Independent Support

- **Claire Baker:** Independent Level 6 Careers Adviser (EBP NW)
- **1-on-1 Help:** Giving personal advice to help every student choose their path.

3. School Board

Governance Oversight

- **FCAT Governors:** Academy Governor Board
- **Checking Quality:** Making sure our school careers plan stays strong and fair for all.

4. Business Partners

Outside Support

- **Chris Maddock:** Enterprise Coordinator (Inspira / Hub)
- **Hannah Bailey:** Enterprise Adviser (Vinci Construction)
- **Real Work Links:** Connecting classrooms with real employers.