



VPA Careers newsletter



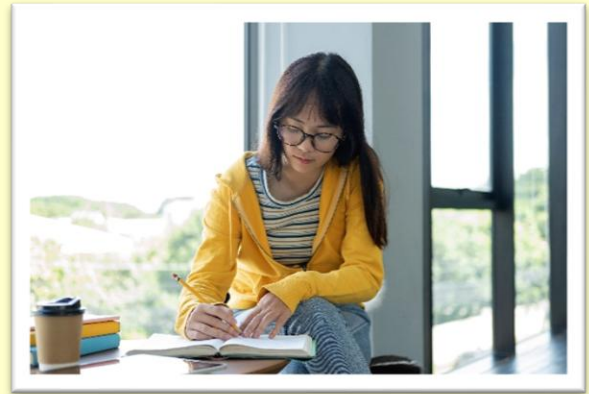
Year 11 students successfully apply for college

By Andrew Packer

VPA year 11 students have applied for college courses. Career choices include construction multi skills, electrical insulations, Joiner, hair and beauty, sport, social science and social care. The students have completed written applications and attended taster days at the college campuses. All of the students who have applied have been offered a conditional place some of our students have firmed up the offer by successfully completing an in-person interview and have really impressed college staff.



Year 11 students have also completed mock job interviews and updated their CVs and personal statements. They are very much getting ready to work and be prepared for their next steps when leaving VPA.



Send an email get free Chocolate



Email may seem something only old people use, but when applying for college it is an essential aspect of the application process. It is vital students and their guardians are checking emails to confirm the offer and attend taster days and interviews. Please check your email at least once a week, come and see Andrew Packer [careers mentor] for help. Students who successfully use their email to support this process are rewarded with a trip to the local shop for a treat!!

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Keep in mind **Eight Employability Skills**

- Adapting - Overcoming challenges and setbacks to achieve goals.
- Creativity - Using imagination and generating new ideas.
- Leadership - Supporting, encouraging, and motivating others to achieve a shared goal.
- Listening - Receiving, retaining, and processing information.
- Planning - Setting goals and designing routes to achieve them.
- Problem Solving - Finding solutions to challenges.
- Speaking - Transmitting information or ideas.
- Teamwork - Working cooperatively with others to achieve a shared goal.

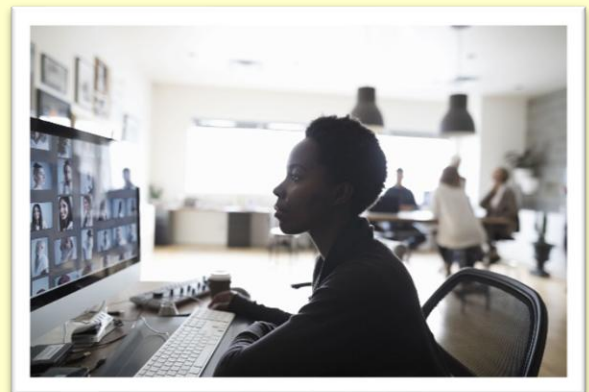
Home Education Courses

The free online home education courses from non-profit Youth Employment UK help young people explore skills and careers. They place a non-curriculum focus on creativity and positivity when it comes to exploring personal strengths and next steps. The aim is to help them make their own confident and informed choices about their future.

The free skills and careers courses are designed for young people educated at home to explore at their own pace, in their own time. They can choose which courses are most relevant to them and access them whenever they need to.

This resource will support young people to think about:

- Skills
- Learning
- What interests them
- The world of work and careers
- Their aspirations



How is this skills and careers course accessed?

Young people can access the course, which is free to complete, on the [**Youth Employment UK**](#) website by creating an account. Parents/carers can also create their own account and access the resource on the same page.

NATSPEC

All young people with learning difficulties or disabilities can

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access high-quality education and training, which meets their individual needs and supports their aspirations for skills, work and life.

We work to influence UK and Welsh governments to adopt policies which will lead to the realisation of our vision, particularly for young people with more complex needs.

<https://natspec.org.uk/>

Talking Futures

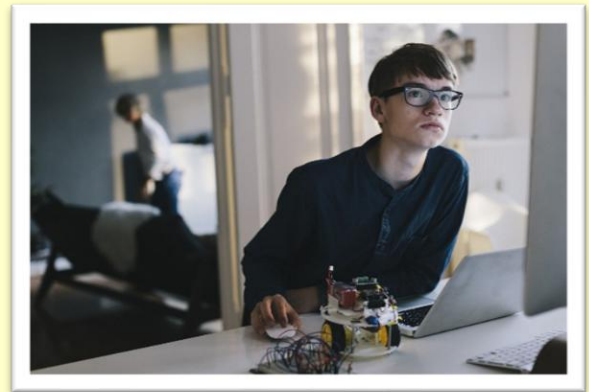
Talking Futures is a suite of resources to help you support parents' role in careers decision-making and increase their participation in your activities. Designed by the Gatsby Foundation, it is based on research exploring how institutions can best support parents to help young people make informed careers and education decisions. Resources feature a range of tools and activities including:

- Parent-facing activities for events such as parents' evenings and tailored family learning sessions.
- Student-facing activities to reinforce parents' role in decision-making.
- Support for Careers Leaders to identify activities that will complement existing provision.

- Practical tips and guidance on how to deliver each type of activity.

- A range of preparation activities to help you and parents get the most out of each session.

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/talking-futures>



Good links for more information

Resources for parents:

[Making your careers conversations easier - Talking Futures](#) and [Post 16 options | National Careers Service](#) to help you stay up to date and informed about options for your young person.

For students with **SEND** needs I would suggest using: [Greater Essex – Your Futures](#) and for students with EHCPs [Post 16 education, Apprenticeships, Traineeships and Supported Internships | Livewell Southend](#)