



CAREERS BULLETIN – JANUARY 2026

The Careers Team (Mrs Duffy, Mr Dean, Mrs Birchall and Mrs O'Leiski) are here to support you and your child and you can email the careers team at any time - careers@bedford.wigan.sch.uk

Theresa O'Leiski, our School Careers Adviser from Wigan Council Aspiring Futures, is based in U08 and will be in school 3 days a week. She is currently providing 1:1 careers interviews with Year 11 students.

We have a dedicated Careers Page on our school website and links to various careers websites such as Amazing Apprenticeships Parent Zone are on there.

<https://bedfordhighschool.co.uk/careers/>

GMACS (THE GREATER MANCHESTER APPRENTICESHIP & CAREERS SERVICE)

What is GMACS <https://gmacs.co.uk/about/>

Explore Top Sectors in Greater Manchester <https://gmacs.co.uk/sectors/>

Parents & Carers help your child <https://gmacs.co.uk/advice/parents-carers/>

Look at specific areas (Wigan, Manchester) <https://gmacs.co.uk/areas/>





COLLEGE OPEN EVENTS

Year 11 students should have/or be applying to 3 Colleges immediately.

WIGAN & LEIGH COLLEGE OPEN EVENINGS - <https://www.wigan-leigh.ac.uk/life-at-college/events/>

Monday 26th January 4.30-7pm at our Parsons Walk Campus, which includes our Centre for Advanced Technical Studies, Centre for Performing Arts and Pagefield Campus.

Please note that during the Wigan event, the Pagefield Campus is now fully open for young people interested in Construction or Engineering. This is due to the recent announcement of our Construction Technical Excellence College (CTEC) status!

Monday 2nd February 4.30-7pm, our Leigh Campus Open Evening is taking place.

Book just one place (for students with parents) using the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-evening-wigan-leigh-college-26-january-2026-tickets-1663261823889>

Festival of Engineering & Construction at Pagefield Campus, home of the Construction Technical Excellence College NW (CTEC). This flagship event showcases cutting-edge facilities, hands-on activities, and the exciting pathways available into some of the region's most dynamic engineering and construction industries.

Date: Monday 9th February

Time: 4.30pm – 7.00pm

**Location: Centre of Excellence in Engineering & Construction,
Pagefield Campus, Walkden Avenue, Wigan, WN1 2JH**

Booking link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/festival-of-engineering-construction-2026-tickets-1663365664479>



The event provides a fantastic opportunity to:

- Tour our state-of-the-art facilities and workshops (including our brand-new sustainable energy Powerhouse)
- Explore apprenticeship opportunities and career pathways
- Watch technical skills showcases in action
- Meet employers from both the engineering and construction sectors

Please note: When booking, students only need to select one ticket per group. Parents/guardians do not need to book additional tickets.



BOLTON COLLEGE open event – 9th February

<https://www.boltoncollege.ac.uk/event/open-event/2026-02-09/>

PRIESTLEY COLLEGE open event – Thursday, 5th February

<https://www.priestley.ac.uk/events/book-open-event/>



MYERSCOUGH COLLEGE – OPEN EVENTS

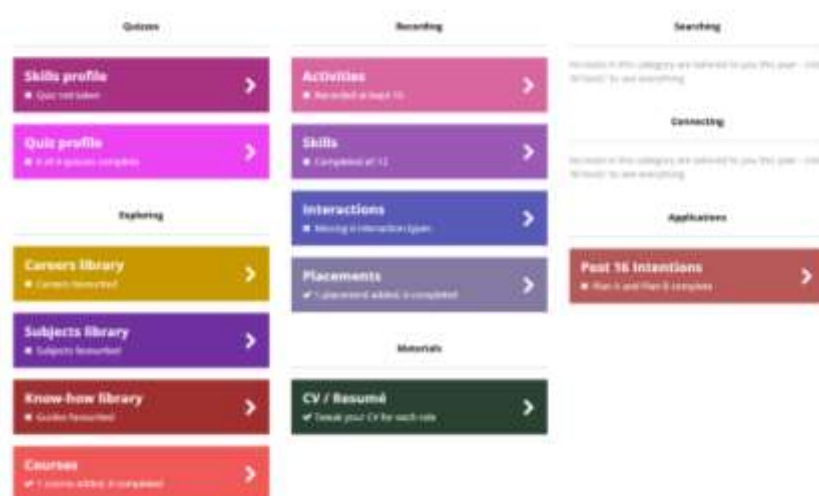
1. **Saturday 7th February 2026 - Course Advice Morning** (Preston, Liverpool, Warrington and Manchester Old Trafford Cricket Centre.)
2. **Saturday 18th April 2026 - Course Advice Morning** (Preston, Liverpool, Warrington and Manchester Old Trafford Cricket Centre.)

UNIFROG

A new careers platform currently for year 10 and year 11 students.

Students log into Unfrog from the email link from noreply@unifrog.org.

All of the resources are available at the click of a button from the table below (quizzes, placements for work experience, CV builder etc). Y10 Students click on the Placement tool to complete the Placement Form 'Student Initial Form'. On the home page scroll down until you see the table below which is on the home page.





NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK – 9-15TH FEBRUARY

AMAZING APPRENTICESHIPS

Explore the parent zone of the Amazing Apprenticeships website:

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/zones/parent/>



Parent/Guardian Webinar - 9th February 6.30pm-7.30pm: Understanding Apprenticeships – click below for further information and to register for the webinar.

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/events/navigate-national-apprenticeship-week-parent-and-carer-webinar-understanding-apprenticeships/>

British Army Apprenticeships Webinar 3rd February 4-5pm

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/events/british-army-life-and-learning-apprenticeships-explained/>

ALLIANCE LEARNING Apprenticeship Open Evening – 12th February 4-7.30pm

<https://www.alliancelearning.com/page/apprenticeships>





WATERSIDE TRAINING Apprenticeship Open Evenings, for students considering post-16 or post-18 pathways into Engineering.

These events are a great opportunity for young people to explore **apprenticeships in Electrical, Mechanical, Multi-Skilled, and Manufacturing Engineering**.

Open Evening Dates:

Thursday 29th January

Thursday 12th March

Time: Arrival for either **5:00pm** or **6:00pm** – click on the link to register:

<https://www.waterside-training.co.uk/apprenticeships/events/>

GMLPN (Greater Manchester Learning Provider Network): Apprenticeships Explained Webinar – Wednesday, 11th February 6pm-7pm

This interactive session is for parents/guardians/students who want to better understand what apprenticeships are really like. Booking required – see leaflet attached or Email: info@gmlpn.co.uk.

ARMY APPRENTICESHIPS – free webinar Tuesday, 3rd February

Free online webinar - discover the exciting opportunities offered by British Army apprenticeships.



Tuesday, 3 February 2026



16:00 – 17:00



Online Event

Why attend?

- Explore a wide range of roles: engineering, logistics, healthcare, IT, and more
- Learn how students can earn while they learn
- Hear first-hand from soldiers and apprentices about training, career journeys, and day-to-day Army life

REGISTER TO ATTEND – CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW:

<https://jobs.army.mod.uk/meet-your-army/100032/?cid=mail5499639107>

ARMY PRESENTATION EVENING ABOUT THE ARMY FOUNDATION COLLEGE IN HARROGATE

February 25th 2026 there will be a presentation evening about our Army Foundation College in Harrogate. Students can request a copy of the letter by emailing careers@bedford.wigan.sch.uk.

Location: Army Reserve Centre, Nelson Street, Bolton, BL3 2RW – 7pm



HSBC APPRENTICESHIPS – VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

At HSBC, we believe apprenticeships are the future of the workforce – a gateway to valuable skills and meaningful careers. National Apprenticeship Week is a time to celebrate the incredible opportunities apprenticeships offer to young people and parents.

We are excited to invite your students and parents to a series of virtual events designed to ultimately inform and inspire young people.

HSBC & You - Come and explore HSBC and the world of opportunity

Tuesday 10 February from 6pm until 7pm

Register [here](#)

Be inspired by HSBC Apprentices - Discover the experiences of HSBC Apprentices and gain insights into their professional journey. This event also offers a valuable opportunity to engage directly and pose questions to the apprentices

Wednesday 11 February from 6pm until 7pm

Register [here](#)

Explore various career pathways and discover methods to identify potential opportunities - An event for student and parents. Explore a range of emerging talent pathways and uncover ways to identify potential opportunities and selection methods.

Thursday 12 February from 6pm until 7pm

Register [here](#)

Virtual Event for Parents/guardians

How to support young people - Facilitating parental support in guiding their child's career initiation.

Monday 9 February from 6pm until 7pm

Register [here](#)

STEM The Future Skills Programme – February half term 16-21st February (20 hours flexible study) – Explore STEM Careers in four key pathways. Link to digital flyer below.

[The Future Skills Programme Course Flyer](#)



VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

GOOGLE VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES - <https://digdata.online/>

Would you like to gain **virtual work experience** and discover how **Google** uses data to shape the future?

Meet the team from **Google**, gain **essential skills** and **certification** too!

digdata
Created in collaboration with
Google

FIRST STEP - Year Groups 7-9
Want to be a YouTuber? Dig into the data sources that could make you go viral.
Wednesday 28th January - 4.30 pm

NEXT STEP - Year Groups 10-13+FE
Google Joins Forces with Gen Z Creators to Launch the Pixel 10!
Thursday 29th January - 5.00 pm

REGISTER NOW

www.digdata.online

The poster features two circular images: on the left, a man holding a smartphone; on the right, two women holding a smartphone. A QR code is positioned in the center, with a red 'REGISTER NOW' button above it.

NHS National Virtual Work Experience Programme Y10 & Y11 - Sunday 1st February 9:30am - 5pm, focusing on Geriatrics & Recovery – details below:

Learn more about Allied Healthcare Work Experience: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/>

The NHS Virtual Allied Healthcare Work Experience offers aspiring healthcare professionals a unique opportunity. Students will gain an intimate look at the healthcare industry in the LIVE virtual work experience, delving into diverse roles within allied healthcare and taking a closer look at patient care by following the journeys of two patients from incident through to treatment.

Once registered, students will receive access to their virtual work experience portals. Better yet, every complete session comes with a Work Experience Certificate, and for those who complete the full 6-month programme, there's a Highly Commended Reference – a golden ticket for their apprenticeship and UCAS applications.

Registration will start at 9:30am. Plenty of breaks are scheduled throughout, and students can ask questions throughout the day via our LIVE chat function.



Students can register at any time throughout the 6-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, or £50 for the full 6 months:
<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

CAREERS TALKS – VIRTUAL AT ANY TIME

Be inspired, there are lots of careers talks on the Futureforall/Speakers for Schools website which you can view to at any time - <https://www.futuresforall.org/talks-library>

Browse + search talks library

Search: People/Companies/Industries [Filter] [Sort]

[Clear All](#)

Ready to be inspired and watch replays of previous live virtual broadcasts whenever you wish? As part of our Speakers for Schools programme, all recorded talks in our library are free and available on demand. Additionally, you can search and filter by speaker name, talk topic, and key stage suitability. If you're interested in future talks, please [view our upcoming broadcasts](#)

FUTURESFORALL

Start your Story: Screen Industry Careers

with Into Film.

INTO FILM

Inspirational Talk

Start your Story: Screen Industry Careers

With Into Film

December 2025

Broadcast 11-19 Discover Creative Careers

SPEAKERS for schools

Beyond the Glam: Debunking Myths of the Makeup World

Katie Stedman, Director, The Makeup Team, Contract Manager, BBC Partner (BBC News)

TALK

Beyond the Glam: Debunking Myths of the Makeup World

With Katie Stedman, Director, The Makeup Team, Contract Manager, BBC Partner (BBC News)

June 2024

FUTURESFORALL

The impact of volunteering with Julie Phillips, Green Pathways Project Officer, Northumberland National Park

Green Pathways

Career Talk

From History Books to Foreign Affairs: The Power of Languages in International Careers

with Northumberland National Park

December 2025