



In the newsletter this month



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News updates

DfE publishes updated statutory guidance for careers provision



The DfE has published the [2026 Statutory Guidance on careers guidance and access for education and training providers](#) for schools, colleges and TPs in England. Following a significant update to the statutory guidance in 2025, including revised Gatsby Benchmarks and new work experience policy, this year's update is more limited. Further guidance on the work experience guarantee and the requirements on schools was expected. The guidance references additional support materials from the Careers & Enterprise Company (CEC) and others. Read the Guidance [here](#).

Enrichment Framework Benchmarks published 15th June – Gov.uk



The [enrichment framework for schools and colleges](#) was published by Government on the 15th of June. The Framework provides non-statutory guidance to support schools and colleges to design and deliver a high-quality enrichment offer for all pupils and students and applies to schools and colleges in England. Eight [Enrichment benchmarks](#) have been set out, informed by [Enrichment for all](#) and [Enrichment](#) is to be strategically aligned, well-rounded, well communicated, shaped by the school or college community, accessible, engaging, outcomes =focused and continually improving.

Reality of Work Experience 2026 - Morrisby



Students with four or more meaningful employer encounters are 86% less likely to be NEET and can earn up to 22% more in their careers. In schools achieving all eight Gatsby Benchmarks, disadvantaged young people see a 20% reduction in NEET rates. But with fewer employers offering traditional placements, Morrisby have put together a guide to what's actually changed, what's working well, and where to start when planning your provision: [WEX in 2026 - what's changed and what careers leaders can do](#).

Future Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) – first round consultation outcomes published



The Office for Students has published the outcomes of the first round of consultation on the future Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF) for the UK HE sector and this article: [First round of consultation on future TEF sees movement on the implications of a Bronze award](#) discusses the implications of the bronze award and the indication from the government's post-16 education and skills white paper that permission to increase fees could also be subject to TEF ratings in future. Read the full article: [here](#).

King's College Entrepreneurship Lab Essay Competition – deadline 5th August 2026



In this University of Cambridge [Entrepreneurship Lab Essay](#) competition, students will submit a 1,000-word essay in response to one of 4 questions about entrepreneurship. It's open to students studying any subject and encourages the use of local, community based, or personal examples. Find out more and submit your essay [here](#).

Upcoming Events

Framestore Visual Effects hands-on Work Experience – late July and October half-term 2026



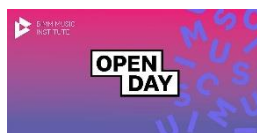
Are you aged 15-18, love creating cool visuals and dream of a career in VFX? [Framestore](#) is offering you an epic opportunity to join their London and Greater London based Work Experience programme: [Framestore - Launchpad Insights | Work Experience in Visual Effects](#). Dive into the world of filmmaking and visual effects, get hands-on and see what it's like to bring stories to life on screen. Find out more and apply [here](#).

University of Portsmouth – UCAS Clearing webinars



The University of Portsmouth 'Introduction to Clearing' webinar on **Tuesday 7th July or 4th August** will offer students up-to-date advice and guidance to help them explore their options with confidence - students can ask any questions or simply listen to our Clearing experts, who'll guide them through the Clearing process. With a dedicated [Social Work clearing webinar](#) on **Tuesday 21st July** and a dedicated [Science and Health Clearing Webinar](#) on **Wednesday 5th August**, these are useful events designed to support both current and prospective applicants alike.

BIMM Music Institute – July 2026 Open Days



Join BIMM in July for their [Undergraduate Open Days](#) and take your chance to try out the workshops and demos, tour your chosen campus, see live performances and attend the student Q & A. With Open Events at [Birmingham](#), [Brighton](#), [London](#) and [Manchester](#) on Saturday 11th July and the [Bristol](#) Open Event on Saturday 18th July, students can find out more about the courses, industry links and bursaries on offer.

University of Cambridge – summer 2026 Applicant webinars



REMINDER: The [University of Cambridge's Applicant webinar series](#) continues this summer with sessions for current 6th Form students. With *Writing your Personal Statement* on **the 14th**, *Parents and Supporters: How to support a Cambridge applicant* on **the 15th**, *Student life at Cambridge: what to expect* on **the 21st**, *Pre-registration admissions tests explained* on **the 22nd July** and *Cambridge Colleges demystified* on **the 7th September**; these are useful events for anyone with an interest in the Cambridge University application process. Register for your place [here](#).

Medic Mentor Get into Medicine Conference – new FINAL 2025/26 date ONLINE Conference 19th July



The final [Medic Mentor Get into Medicine ONLINE Conference](#) of 2025/26 will take place on Sunday 19th July. 9:30am – 1:30pm, providing students with an overview of the medical school admissions process for the 2026/27 UCAS cycle. Students will receive guidance on: what medical schools are looking for, UCAT preparation and admissions testing, strategic choices, writing a competitive Personal Statement, gaining and reflecting on work experience, interview preparation and scholarships and mentorship. Book your place [here](#).

Recommended Websites & Resources

NMITE (New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering) – Open Day, 18th July



[NMITE](#) (New Model Institute for Technology and Engineering) in Hereford is a University Technical College with a non-traditional approach to teaching and learning. With commercial awareness and workplace readiness employability elements involved in their courses, non-standard offers to prospective students and a smaller environment, some students may prefer NMITE to a larger, city based, university. The next [NMITE Open Day](#) is on Saturday 18th July. Book your place [here](#).

Spotlight on: Parent Zone – Amazing Apprenticeships



Amazing Apprenticeships have a fantastic, dedicated [Parent Zone](#) on their website, full of useful resources for parents and carers. With a Guide to Apprenticeships, Quick Guides on T-levels and HTQs, Rapid Reads, Resources, the Parent Perspective podcast and webinars, the Zone offers great support around Apprenticeships and Vocational qualifications for Parents and Carers. There is also a [Parent and Carer newsletter](#) – you can subscribe [here](#).

Graduate Recruitment trends 2026 – Hays Recruitment



This article from Hays on [Graduate recruitment trends 2026](#) is being shaped by aspects such as: skills-first hiring (skills and practical experience over formal degrees), AI and automated recruitment - virtual and hybrid, AI becoming increasingly relevant in entry-level roles, with 35% of jobs requiring AI skills and flexibility, hybrid-working and employee wellbeing being key drivers. Students and graduates can adapt by considering changes in their field of study or acquiring AI-related competencies to remain competitive. Read the full article [here](#).

FutureSmart Careers blog – What's Next? Exploring Gap Year Options



This month's FutureSmart Careers blog, [What's Next? Exploring Gap Year Options](#) explains how a gap year could benefit you and explores some of the options available to you with handy resources and links. ... Read the blog and access our back catalogue at [FSC Blogs](#).

UCAS news – Supporting your students with offers and results



UCAS Clearing allows students to apply for vacant university places. This year, UCAS Clearing runs from **2nd July to 19th October 2026** and Uni Compare has created a [UCAS Clearing 2026 FAQs guide](#). See [UCAS Clearing 2026 FAQs guide](#).

MoneySavingExpert (MSE) student budgeting planner



The MoneySavingExpert (MSE) [Student budgeting planner](#) is a great tool working out your budget while at university, considering what to include in your incomings and outgoings lists, spreadsheets for planning your budget, handy tips on limiting splurges while living away from home for the first time and help to control your spending (such as the Piggy Banking technique) and methods for budgeting – such as popular Phone apps, the [Save the Student - budget sheet](#) and the [MSE Budget Planning Guide](#).

2026/27 NavigATE schedule of webinars – Amazing Apprenticeships



The NavigATE webinar programme for September 2026 to June 2027 has been announced: [NavigATE webinars & workshops](#). Designed for teachers, careers professionals, and anyone supporting aspiring apprentices, the series covers everything from understanding apprenticeships and technical education, navigating applications to higher and degree opportunities, SEND support, and employment options for 18–24-year-olds. Access the full webinar schedule [here](#).

Apprenticeship, Internship & Job Opportunities

Swift Childcare Level 3 Apprenticeships, West London – ongoing recruitment



Looking to build a rewarding career in childcare? At [Swift Childcare](#), we offer a variety of apprenticeships designed to help you grow in the early years sector. Whether you're just starting out or looking to further your skills, our flexible learning options and expert guidance ensure you're equipped for long-term success. With opportunities in areas such as: Chelsea, Twickenham, West Drayton, Wembley, North Kensington, Chiswick and Hammersmith, students can find out more and apply at: [Jobs - Swift CC](#).

Deloitte London and Bristol: Brand Ambassador 2026/27 PAID Work Experience – deadline 19th August



The [Deloitte Brand Ambassador Programme](#) is designed for university students passionate about Deloitte and their personal and professional growth while positioning themselves for future opportunities at the company. As a flexi-working Brand Ambassador, you'll play a key role in promoting Deloitte and their career opportunities to students at your university through: Social media promotion, Lecture shout-outs and Building relationships with female societies and faculty members, receiving training, networking opportunities, and earning £14.24 per hour. Apply [here](#).

CMS Law Scholarships for School Leavers 2026, Bristol and London – deadline 10th July



Aimed at Year 12s and 13s, the [CMS Law Scholarship](#) offers a £3,000 per year scholarship, mentoring and work experience throughout university to those students in under-represented groups. CMS believe that a career in law should be open to everyone. The [Law Scholarship scheme](#) provides financial assistance, mentoring, guidance throughout the UCAS application process, sustained support throughout undergraduate studies and valuable paid work experience. Find out more and apply [here](#).

BAE Systems Cardiff, Oxford, Bath: Brand Ambassador 2026/27 PAID Work Experience – ongoing



Become a [BAE Systems Brand Ambassador](#). Develop skills, build your network, and earn £14.24 per hour. If you're passionate about BAE Systems and personal and professional growth while positioning yourself for future opportunities, then here is your chance to: promote BAE Systems early careers opportunities, build brand presence through on-campus activities and create a high-quality pipeline of candidates from STEM degree backgrounds to the BAE Systems early career talent pool. [Apply here](#).

Customer Service Apprenticeships with The National Trust



Kick-Start Your Future with the Cornwall NHS Supported Internship Programme. If you are a young person with an EHCP and want to build confidence, gain real work experience, and move towards paid employment, the Cornwall NHS Supported Internship Programme could be the right next step. To find out more, or to explore whether this programme is right for you or someone you support, contact: supportedinternships@unitedresponse.org.uk

For Careers Leaders/Heads of Careers Department

Cambridge Admissions Tests updates for 2027



The University of Cambridge have provided an [update about admissions assessments for 2027 entry](#). Students should check the website and individual Colleges' pages for the most up-to-date information for their year of entry. Applicants to our [Mathematics course](#) from 2027 will need to take [TMUA](#) and [STEP \(Sixth Term Exam Papers\)](#); while applicants to our English course will no longer be required to sit the CELAT, check the [College admissions assessments page](#) for exceptions. For tests required for Linguistics and Languages, see [Linguistics and Linguistics & Modern Languages](#).

UK University & Apprenticeship Search Event: London, Tottenham Hotspur Stadium - October 2026



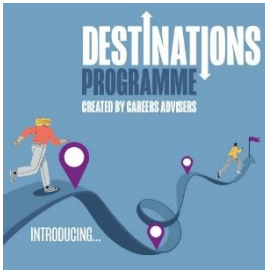
Aimed at students in years 13 and 12, the [2026-2027 UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fairs](#) begins this autumn with the [London event](#) on **Wednesday 14th October**. Featuring over **120** exhibiting universities and apprenticeship providers, with stands from Russell Group, Red brick, post-1992 HEIs and Apprenticeship providers, there are also seminars on UCAS Personal Statement & Application Advice, Why take an Apprenticeship, Choosing a Course, Higher & Degree Apprenticeships and Student Finance. Book your place [here](#).

T-Levels Week – 19th to 23rd October 2026



National T-Levels Week will take place on Monday 19th – Friday 23rd October: [T Levels | Amazing Apprenticeships](#). The week will focus on raising awareness of the many T-Level subjects now available and showcasing the success of the programme. The [T Level Resources](#) available include films, assembly slides, T-Level games and a quiz. Ahead of T-Levels Week, Careers Leads, Teachers and Advisers can find out more about [Sharing ATE options with your students](#) at the webinar on Monday 6th July 3:30-4:30pm.

UCAS Destinations Programme



The [UCAS Destinations Programme](#) equips schools and colleges with a two-year Careers Discovery Framework designed to raise aspirations, improve outcomes and drive post-18 progression. Developed by careers education specialists John Paley, Lis McGuire, and Liane Hambly, and aligned to Gatsby Benchmarks, the Framework guides students to build knowledge, confidence, and decision-making skills. Join the adviser community too and benefit from online drop-in clinics, tailored delivery support and CPD, share best practice and collaborate with peers [here](#).

Latest LMI updates for Wales show a stable jobs market – 20th June



This article from the CDI published 20th June: [Latest LMI updates for Wales show a stable jobs market](#) shares findings from the Welsh Government's [Labour market overview: May 2026](#) and the [Labour Market Information | Careers Wales](#). Together, the documents show an up-to-date picture of employment and economic inactivity, employment trends, sector growth and workforce demand across Wales. Also notable is the growth in green skills and infrastructure investment.

National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) 2027 – dates announced as 8th to 14th February 2027



Celebrate 20 years of National Apprenticeship Week! In February 2027 (8th to 14th), National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) will be 20 years old: [National Apprenticeship Week 2026 | Save the Date](#). We will be working with schools, colleges, teachers, students, employers, parents and apprentices to ensure that you have everything you need to make this week a success. Resources to support you in 2027 are currently being updated, so check out the 2026 resources [here](#).

Get in touch

FutureSmart Essentials for schools



FutureSmart Careers offers a range of well-loved packages for schools but can also tailor a plan to fit schools' needs exactly. Our FutureSmart Essentials package includes:

- Suite of downloadable resources
- 9-5 careers advice helpline
- Monthly newsletters with news, events and opportunities

Contact us



For all other enquiries, please contact our team at enquiries@futuresmartcareers.co.uk or give us a call on Tel: 0330 311 9509

We'd love to hear from you!

FutureSmartCareers

Bespoke careers advice services

1:1 Careers advice & guidance
Workshops, talks & assemblies
Group sessions
Parents evenings & options events
Careers Fairs
Mock Interviews
Morrisby assessments
Specialist SEND provision
Access to Helpline Service
Monthly newsletters
FutureSmart Essentials



We pride ourselves on offering a variety of unique careers services and we will work with you to create a tailored service to meet the needs of your students.

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