



In the newsletter this month



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Cornwall &
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News updates

Government publishes Post-16 Education and Skills White Paper – October 2025



The long-awaited Government White Paper on Post-16 Education and Skills has just been published: [White Paper October 2025: Post-16 Education and Skills](#). View the Executive Summary on pp.6-11. Key takeaways: the Government will work with employers in a joined-up skills system, develop a specialist and prestigious further education sector and strengthen the Higher Education sector to align with the economy, be more specialised and sustainable – all underpinned by clear funding principles and delivered together with partners in the skills system.

PM sets new target for under-25s in university, college or apprenticeships – BBC News



Keir Starmer says that the government wishes to pursue a new target of two-thirds of young people going on to university, further education, or a "gold standard apprenticeship" by 25: [PM sets new target for under-25s in university, college or apprenticeships](#). Viewed by many as a significant shift which gives more prominence to skills training linked to jobs, there are calls for greater funding for FE to help meet the planned targets. Read more [here](#).

New V-level courses to be brought in for students after GCSEs – BBC News



New vocational courses called V-levels will be rolled out for 16-year-olds under government plans to simplify a "confusing landscape" of qualifications in England: [New V-level courses to be brought in for students after GCSEs](#). Set to replace Level 3 BTECs and other post-16 technical qualifications, the Sixth Form Colleges Association has warned V-levels may not fill the gap left by BTECs, which is among concerns that students are not offered the flexibility to mix qualifications or always told about all available post-16 options.

The Telegraph - Fishing to be taught in schools and colleges from autumn 2026



Fishing is to be offered on the curriculum for the first time: [Fishing to be taught in schools](#). Students will study angling and countryside at an equivalent to GCSE, BTEC and A-Level. Devised by The Countryside Alliance Foundation's Fishing for Schools programme, the qualification promises opportunities outside the classroom and was launched in parliament this week, aiming to provide practical, transferrable skills and enable careers in angling and beyond.

CDI's new Code of Ethics: Client version



The CDI has introduced a new Client version of the Code of Ethics: [CDI Code of Ethics - Career Development Institute](#). Shaped with input from clients to ensure it is clear, accessible, and meaningful, it's a resource Career Development Practitioners can share, helping clients understand our role, how we work, and the ethical principles we follow. Displaying it proudly shows our commitment to supporting clients with integrity, respect, and professionalism. Download it [here](#).

Graduate jobs and recruitment reality – WONKHE 20th October 2025



This article from WONKHE on [Graduate jobs and recruitment reality](#) discusses results of the Institute of Student Employers (ISE) [Student Recruitment Survey 2025](#), which indicates that while there is a decline in Graduate jobs and recruitment, there has been investment in apprenticeships at top UK employers and a rebalancing of early careers programmes with more focus on apprenticeships to meet skills demands and school and college leaver hiring.

Upcoming Events

BIMM Music Institute's November events



BIMM Music Institute is holding a series of Open Days and VIRTUAL events this month, with Open Days at [Brighton](#), [London](#), [Dublin](#) and [Birmingham](#) on Saturday 8th November, [Bristol](#) and [Manchester](#) on Saturday 15th November, the [Virtual Open Evening](#) 6-8pm on Tuesday 11th November and the Student Takeovers on [Accommodation](#) Wednesday 19th November or [International students](#) Thursday 20th November.

Skills Bootcamps from Cornwall Opportunities – November, December and January



Cornwall Opportunities have partnered with local providers on a range of [Skills Bootcamps](#). With short courses in areas such as Construction trades, Website Development, Digital, AI and Digital Marketing, Food & Beverage in Hospitality, Accountancy and Bookkeeping, Leadership & Management, Clinical pathways into Primary Care and EV maintenance and other Green careers (such as Retrofit), students are spoiled for choice. Find a course to suit you and apply [here](#).

BAE Systems careers: Women in Engineering Insight Experiences – apply by 10th November 2025



BAE Systems are offering Women in Engineering Insight Experiences from 12th January to 6th February 2026: [Insight experiences - Women in Engineering | BAE Systems careers](#), with Intermediate, Advanced, Higher and Degree opportunities. Students will gain an insight into BAE Systems, hands on experience in engineering skills, visit BAE Systems on

site and meet current engineering apprentices. Find out more and apply at: [BAE Systems - Women in Engineering](#).

Pathways into a Career at Hinkley Point (for PRE-16s) – VIRTUAL Work Experience opportunity



This free [VIRTUAL Work Experience](#) opportunity gives an insight into the development of the 3,200-megawatt nuclear power station being built at Hinkley Point C in Somerset. A hugely important project in helping the UK to reduce carbon emissions and become 'net zero' and ideal for students in Devon, Somerset or close to the Somerset border. Discover about different pathways into a career at HPC and try the structural integrity assignment. [Hinkley Point C – Join the Programme](#).

Explore: Home of Big Questions - free monthly webinars for students aged 13-18 5-6pm



Explore is a free webinar series for 13–18s. Each session explores a thought-provoking question with an Oxford academic, encouraging critical thinking and discussion. Parents, carers and teachers welcome and students can complete the post-session challenge 'Letters to the Editor', selected entries receive a book token and certificate for their school. With "Can we choose to be healthy?" On Wed 26th November and "Can we believe the history books?" on Wed 17th December, explore the events and register [here](#).

Leaders of Tomorrow: Where can Accountancy take you? – 4th December 6:30-7:30pm



Want a career that offers stability and real growth? There will be three inspiring speakers at this event including Jeff Narweh: [Where can Accountancy take you? - 4th December 6:30-7:30pm](#). Jeff is an ACCA Chartered Accountant working within the Premier League, managing the financial planning and budgets for top match officials. Jeff uses unique football analogies to make finance relatable. Register [here](#).

Recommended Websites & Resources

TECgirls project – Cornwall and Southwest England



[Tecgirls](#) is a non-profit project based in Cornwall and the Southwest of England, providing educational programmes and community events to encourage young girls to explore and ignite a passion for Technology, Engineering and Creativity for girls across the Southwest. With [EVENTS | Tecgirls](#) such as community workshops, training sessions and large festivals, [RESOURCES | Tecgirls](#) and [Education Programmes | TECgirls](#) for Primary and Secondary Schools the project and website are a brilliant resource.

Career Matters – The CDI's magazine for Career Development Professionals



The latest edition of the CDI's Career Matters magazine, issue 13.4, October 2025 includes Penny McCartney's insights into the role of peer supervision in career practice, Ruth McAteer's 'Considering barriers to the careers sector for the deaf community' and Dr Hannah Blake and Tristram Hooley's 'Training Career Development Professions: 12 Steps to Renewal', all fascinating pieces to dip into. Find past copies of [Career Matters](#) on the [CDI's website](#).

NavigATE School and College newsletter launched



The new NavigATE newsletter for Teachers and Advisers launched this academic year and covers the latest news and information about Apprenticeships and Technical Education (ATE), signposting you to resources, webinars, articles and much more helpful information. Stay in the loop by subscribing at [NavigATE newsletter](#).

Higher and Degree Apprenticeships listing – October 2025, with Teacher resources



The [Higher and Degree Apprenticeships listing – October 2025](#) is a fantastic resource for supporting your students who are looking for Apprenticeship at Level 4, 5 and 6. Published bi-annually (with the next Edition due in January 2026) its created by the team at Amazing Apprenticeships, who have also created an accompanying teacher resource on how to use the listing in your lessons [2025 Higher and Degree Listing - Teacher resource](#).

Oxford Scholarships and Bursaries



In a recent edition of the online magazine 'Choosing Oxford', admissions teams looked at Scholarships and Bursaries for UK and International students: [Choosing Oxford](#). For UK-resident students in 2026 there are the [Crankstart Scholarship and bursary](#), the [Oxford bursary](#) and extra assistance programmes for those who live more than 80 miles from Oxford, those who are care-experienced or those who are estranged from family / carers. For 2026 International students there are also [Scholarships and Bursaries - international](#).

FutureSmart Careers November Blog: A Complete Guide to Careers in Nutrition, Health and Wellness



Are you interested in careers in nutrition and holistic health? This month's blog by FutureSmart Careers might be an insightful read. Discover how to turn your passion for healthy living into a rewarding career: [A Complete Guide to Careers in Nutrition, Health and Wellness](#).

Apprenticeship Opportunities

Apprenticeships at BP – applications open now



BP has opened applications to their range of [Apprenticeships - BP](#) at Level 3, 4, 5 and 6. They plan to train young people to help define their future strategy and innovate and challenge the way we make the most of technology and put the finances in place to meet the future demands of BP, so these teams will have an impact on the global stage. Find out more and apply at [BP opportunities](#).

EDF Apprenticeships webinar – Mon 17th November, 4-5pm



The EDF Apprenticeships webinar is taking place on 17th November 4-5pm: [Apprenticeships with EDF Webinar](#). With applications opening from Monday 26th January 2026, you can find out more about the range of options available from Nuclear Engineer to Project Management, Health Physics to Business Administration, Chemistry to Data/DevOps and more. Register [here](#).

Volkswagen Aberystwyth Parts Advisor Apprenticeship – deadline to apply 30th November



This [Anthony Motors Volkswagen Aberystwyth Parts Advisor Apprenticeship](#) is designed to train and develop apprentices to keep pace with advancing technology and high levels of customer service. An exciting and challenging opportunity to receive formal qualifications through product training whilst in full-time employment. Training will be delivered using a combination of virtual classroom remote learning and face-to-face block release weeks at our state-of-the-art training centre. [Apply](#) by 30th November.

Dunelm Apprenticeships webinar – Mon 1st December, 4-5pm



Discover more about apprenticeships with Dunelm on Monday 1st December at 4-5pm: [Apprenticeships with Dunelm Webinar](#). With apprenticeships available from Retail, Supply Chain & Logistics, Commercial, Fitting Management and more, Dunelm invites students, teachers/careers advisers, parents/carers and anyone else interested in an apprenticeship to hear more about the exciting career opportunities available. Register [here](#).

Accountancy Apprenticeship Application Masterclass with ACCA – 9th December 6:30-7:30pm



Hosted by ACCA, the world's leading accountancy body, this interactive [Accountancy Apprenticeship Application Masterclass](#) workshop is your step-by-step guide to acing the apprenticeship application process and standing out while doing it. Gain insider tips on how to impress during interviews and at assessment centres, put yourself ahead of the competition and learn what a strong application looks like. Speakers are Ria Bush (HM Treasury) and George Tsounias (ACCA Global). Register [here](#).

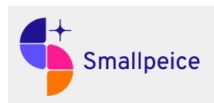
Space Systems Engineering Degree Apprenticeship Babcock – deadline to apply: 18th December



This [Space Systems Engineering Degree Apprenticeships | Babcock](#) offers a BEng in Space Systems Engineering from the University of Portsmouth. The global industry is expected to triple in value by 2035, this is your chance to gain in-demand skills and shape the UK's future in space. Apprentices work 4 days a week at either Hawthorn (Corsham) or Oakhanger (Bordon), studying one day a week. Find out more and apply [here](#).

For Careers Leaders/Heads of Careers Department

Discover Coding Success with Smallpeice Trust – for teachers



[Coding Success with Smallpeice Trust](#) is a FREE programme designed to bring coding and robotics into your classroom. Aimed at teachers in England, Wales and Scotland to help engage students aged 8-14 and prepare for the future. For teachers there are coding resources, Lego Education SPIKE Prime kits and professional development; for students there are exciting challenges, opportunities for creativity and innovation and critical STEM skills. Find out more and apply [here](#).

UCAS Teachers & Advisers Conference 24 – 25 February 2026 – agenda announced



REMINDER: of the [Teachers and Advisers Conference 2026 | UCAS](#) 24th to 25th February 2026, at the Eastside Rooms, Birmingham, as the agenda has been announced. Aimed at UK Heads of Sixth Form, Careers Advisers, Assistant Head Teachers, Heads of Careers, UCAS Advisers, Heads of Year, Career Leaders, the [Agenda](#) for each day covers Strategic planning for Careers and Progression, Adviser Roundtables and a UCAS clinic. See [Costs and Booking](#).

Apprenticeships & Technical Education (ATE) resources for schools and colleges



[Amazing Apprenticeships](#) is partnering with [The Careers & Enterprise Company](#) to launch an exciting new suite of digital, adaptable Apprenticeships & Technical Education (ATE) resources to help schools and colleges expand and enrich their careers education activities. Future resources will be released in the coming weeks and months. Find out more at [Enhancing Careers Education - Amazing Apprenticeships](#).

National Apprenticeship Week 2026 – 9th to 15th February



The latest edition of the Higher and Degree listing is due to be published this month, displaying vacancies from over 80 employers. A bi-annual publication, you can download the January 2025 listing at: [Higher & Degree Apprenticeships | Amazing Apprenticeships](#). To receive the October listing from Amazing Apprenticeships, [register 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

Many schools upgrade to **FutureSmart Pro** which includes all of the benefits of Essentials plus additional in-school support from our team of qualified advisers for workshops, personal guidance sessions, talks and other activities tailored to the schools' exact requirements.

FutureSmart Careers Apprenticeship Support



FSC now offers an Apprenticeship Support Package to schools and colleges. We have produced a suite of workshops and talks to include the best bits from the ASK programme, but with the added extras we feel are needed. The Apprenticeship support we are offering is a paid for service, but we are working hard to make it cost effective and flexible to help you support your students. We are also able to work in all geographic areas we cover.

If you would like to find out more about this service or book in a meeting to discuss further, please click on the link to complete the form: [Apprenticeship Support - Expression of Interest Form](#)

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!