

# FutureSmartCareers



## HALF TERMLY SEND NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 15 May 2025

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### News updates

#### New research shows higher interest in Tech careers amongst SEND pupils



**EngineeringUK**  
INSPIRING FUTURES TOGETHER

Research by Engineering UK and The Royal Society has found young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) have a higher interest in Technology careers than non-SEND pupils. Engineering jobs are expected to grow by a further 2.8%, adding 173,000 net new jobs. Engineering UK would like to see more opportunities for disabled young people who are currently under-represented. Read the full report [here](#)

#### BBC CAPE (Creating a Positive Environment) Explores Neurodiversity



Read various articles and listen to content and interviews exploring Neurodiversity, including ADHD, Autism and Dyslexia and neurological differences. Access the content [here](#)

#### UCAS - Empowering Neurodivergent Learners: A strengths-based approach to university applications



This informative guide by UCAS explores a strengths-based approach to university applications for Neurodivergent learners and provides tips and advice including checklists and guides for personal statement writing. You can read the guide [here](#)

#### UCAS – Project Next Generation



This in-depth study of 13-17 year olds, delves into how young people shape their futures, from subject courses to career paths. The goal is to empower universities, colleges and employers with the insights they need to deliver support and inspire young decision makers across the UK. Click [here](#) to read more.

## Bicton College launches new outdoor adventure education course



Bicton College's new **Outdoor Adventure Education course** is unlike any other in the region, encapsulating the unique essence of its stunning 200-hectare countryside campus. Taught at the college's countryside campus near Budleigh Salterton, the two-year Level 3 Diploma combines physical challenges with skill-building in leadership, communication and teamwork. The course, which includes activities such as climbing, paddle sports, navigation and expedition training, is ideally suited for school leavers looking to become outdoor instructors or pursue careers in the education or uniformed services sectors. It's designed to build confidence and resilience, alongside recognised qualifications that can lead to further study or employment in outdoor education, adventure tourism or the uniformed services. Click [here](#) to apply.

## Yeovil College Supported Internship opportunity – September 2025 start



This course is a one academic year specialised programme designed to provide individuals with an EHCP the opportunity to gain valuable work experience, develop employability skills, and transition into paid employment. It is a structured and personalised approach that aims to bridge the gap between further education and the world of work. The programme is run in collaboration with local employers and discovery disability support services. You can apply [here](#), by phoning 01935 423921 or emailing [info@yeovil.ac.uk](mailto:info@yeovil.ac.uk)

## Integrated Studies Course with St John's College, Brighton – recruiting for September 2025



This three-year integrated studies course delivered by St John's College in conjunction with co-located partner Brighton MET (part of the Chichester College Group) is designed to help young people who need extra specialist support in a mainstream college. Learners will have the opportunity to work towards achieving an accreditation in their chosen vocational area. The course is open to 16-25 year olds with an Educational Health & Care plan (EHC) who are autistic or have learning needs that can be met by an autistic provision. Find out more [here](#)

## The Bell Foundation – Post 16 Education Guidance for recently arrived EAL learners



This guidance is designed for schools and organisations to share with their students in key stage 4. It aims to support learners who have come from another country and are navigating the UK education system, particularly those aged 15 and above. It provides essential information for those studying at a UK school or preparing to enter college and may also be valuable for parents and carers who are helping learners make decisions about their education. You can access the guidance [here](#)

## NFTS (National Film & Television School) applications open!



This is a great opportunity for students looking to make it into the film, television, and gaming industry. Applications are now open for MFA, MA, Diploma and certification courses starting in September 2025/January 2026. Find out more [here](#)

## Volunteers' Week 2025



Volunteers' Week is an annual UK wide campaign held from the first Monday in June to celebrate and recognise the contributions of volunteers. This year's celebration is held from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025 and more information can be found [here](#)

## Careers Unwrapped Podcast



Careers Unwrapped is a podcast-led, multi-media initiative that HR professionals can use to deliver career and sector information to students. It offers a library of careers podcasts with successful professionals, backed by free National Curriculum-linked educational material. Lesson content is available through the [National Schools Partnership](#) (NSP), a portal that's been in UK schools for 20 years, with 100,000 teachers registered. You can access the Podcast via Spotify or Apple, or all other major podcast streams.

## Upcoming Events

### ICE (Institution of Civil Engineers) 'Let's Talk About Dyslexia' free webinar, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025



This webinar aims to highlight dyslexia, explore the impact of dyslexia on people living with it, and the support that might be available to them. Register for this webinar held online on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 12.30-1pm [here](#). You can also explore the webinar archives via the link.

### Devon County Council – Transition Support sessions (Preparing for Adulthood)



Devon County Council are hosting a series of online support sessions providing an opportunity for young people, parents/carers and professionals to hear about the support and advice available for young people who are transitioning into adulthood and those who support them. The monthly sessions will be led by industry experts, covering topics such as independent living, money management, training and employment opportunities and support for parents, carers and young carers. Upcoming sessions can be booked [here](#) :

- Aspirations, Mental Capacity and Decision making: 17<sup>th</sup> June 2025
- Money Management: 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025
- Good Mental Health and Resilience: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## GL Assessment SEND Searchlights: 30 minute Webinars



Explore 'SEND Searchlights', a monthly webinar series, where each episode takes no longer than a coffee break to address your pressing identification and assessment questions. Facilitated by experienced colleagues and external experts, these informal sessions provide a forum to share knowledge and experience with colleagues from across the globe! Click [here](#) to access the webinar series.

## Empowering Neurodiversity event at Taunton Racecourse, Somerset - Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2025



Join the Somerset Parent Carer forum for a day of celebrating Neurodiversity. There will be inspiring talks on a variety of neurodiverse subjects, informative stands from groups and services and interactive experiences. This will be a welcoming space for parents, carers, staff and anyone interested in learning more about neurodiversity. The cost of a ticket is £5 which includes drinks and a buffet lunch. Find out more [here](#) or book your ticket by completing this [form](#)

## Speakers for Schools – Upcoming Talks in June 2025



Speakers in Schools are offering a range of online talks including the following:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June: 'Cache' up on Cyber Careers
- 4<sup>th</sup> June: Responsible Business – Building a better future
- 17<sup>th</sup> June: Careers in the Gaming Industry
- 24<sup>th</sup> June: Who works in HR and why are they called 'people pro's'?

To find out more or book onto sessions click [here](#)

## Amazing Apprenticeships - Time for Change: Autism and Apprenticeships webinar: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025



Join this webinar on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025 at 1pm to hear from apprentices and those working with them to learn about different ideas and strategies for 'what works' when it comes to autism and apprenticeships. Register [here](#)

## Residential Summer School at Cardiff University for students with Neurodiversity: 1<sup>st</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025



Cardiff University are offering a residential summer school under the Discovery project from 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 for neurodiverse students. Follow this link for more information: [Cardiff University Discovery Project](#). Students can apply here: [Discovery Summer School 2025: Application Form](#)

## Gradcracker – Upcoming webinars related to STEM careers



Check out these upcoming webinars with guest speakers from a range of employers to explore graduate careers in Science, Tech, Engineering and Maths (STEM). The sessions are one hour in duration and start in September 2025. Click [here](#) for more information.

## Recommended Websites & Resources

### The Neurodiversity Practice



The Neurodiversity Practice support parents, practitioners and organisations in navigating neurodivergence through training and community. You can explore the Neurodivergent Parent Space, a safe space to learn, share and grow. Explore free resources and access on-demand webinars and scheduled events. Specialist neurodivergence training is available for practitioners. Visit the website [The Neurodiversity Practice](#)

### Special Needs Jungle



Check out the 'Special Needs Jungle' for parent-led information, resources, news articles and informed opinion about children and young people aged 0-25. Click [here](#) to find out more.

### Uptree – a free online platform for students, employers and schools



Uptree is a free online platform founded by teachers to help talented students aged 16-21 to connect to professional networks and career pathways while still at school, broaden their knowledge of career routes and meet with leading employers. Get work experience, find apprenticeships and job opportunities, access free online courses and support for career development. Access the platform [here](#)

### NSPCC partner with Ambitious about Autism to support SEND children online



The NSPCC have partnered with Ambitious about Autism to provide online wellbeing tips, specifically for parents/carers of children with SEND. Explore tips, resources and activities to help support children online [here](#)

### Evenbreak: Job site for disabled people



Evenbreak is the only global disability job board run by and for people with lived experience of disability. Explore jobs, get career advice and read the blog [here](#)

### Somerset Education Business Partnership – resources for SEND learners



**Imagine the Possibilities** is an innovative range of new post-16 options resources that will help families, teachers and students understand and navigate the processes involved in moving from school into the many different post-16 options that are available - especially for those with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities. Download a Skills Map, a 'day in the life' leaflets, Job Roles explained, Video Vault and lesson plan examples. Access the resources [here](#)

## Futuregoals SEND support resources

### FUTUREGOALS

If you're working with young people with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND) then this SEND Support Careers hub is a valuable resource. In conjunction with schools, employers and local partners, the Hub has developed two toolkits and some virtual work experience resources to address challenges for pupils with SEND. You can access the resources [here](#)

## FutureSmart Careers Blog: Demystifying University Degree Choices – MOOCs & University tasters



This month's FutureSmart Careers blog focuses on "Free online MOOC courses and University tasters". Explore the different courses and opportunities available and gain access to useful links, advice and guidance. Read the blog on our website: [FutureSmart Careers](#)

## Get in touch

### FutureSmart Essentials Package



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

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

### Contact us



For all enquiries, please contact our team at [enquiries@futuresmartcareers.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@futuresmartcareers.co.uk) or give us a call on Tel: 0330 311 9509  
We'd love to hear from you!