CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

Listen to this newsletter

OPPORTUNITIES

NAW2026 might be over but you can still access many resources, including this collection of short Apprentice Story films showcases the breadth and variety of apprenticeships, including Firefighting, Engineering, Broadcasting, Zookeeping and more. Apprentices are all around us, often working in surprising roles. Watch these Apprentice Story films to be inspired.

And did you know that the celebration of all things careers and futures doesn't stop there as National Careers Week 2026 (#NCW2026) runs from March 2nd–7th, 2026?! With the theme "Own Your Future," the week focuses on empowering individuals to take control of their career journeys through proactive skill-building and exploration.

You can get involved by taking part in the virtual careers fair, which will go live on day 1 of Careers Week (2nd March). You can watch the introductory video here.

You can match your favourite subjects to potential future jobs with the "Jobs that use..." collection on BBC Bitesize. You'll find hundreds of job profiles linking to specific school subjects, peer-to-peer advice through short films and information on entry requirements, salaries and pathways into job roles.

Universities are also getting involved in National Careers Week. Here's the information from University of Essex: "You can access our bank of resources to explore Higher Education, employability and career opportunities, as well as book onto an Insight Day, enrol onto an online course, or watch one of our Student Webinars."

The Green Sector is one of the fastest growing industries in the world as more and more companies are aiming to reduce their carbon footprint and increase their sustainability. This session on 10th March at 10am will feature a range roles and professionals who will open up the world of jobs in the green sector.

JOB OF THE WEEK

Art Conservator

An Art Conservator is a highly specialised professional responsible for the preservation, protection, and restoration of art and cultural artifacts. Combining science, art, and history, they analyse, stabilise, and repair damaged items to prevent further deterioration while maintaining the artist's original intent and historical integrity.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

The increases to the National Minimum Wage rates for 2026 have been announced by the Government, including the National Living Wage. These will be effective from April 2026. National Living Wage (21 and over) £12.71, 18-20 year old rate £10.85, 16-17 year old rate £8.00, Apprentice rate £8.00. Source

If you have any questions or need support, please email Janie_Stewart-Richardson@neatherd.org or teresa_hensellek@neatherd.org

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Young Game Designers, do you want to kick start your career in games? This is the place for you. Creating a space for imaginations to thrive, it's a chance for 10–18-year-olds to design, develop and present new game ideas to the world. You'll get a unique platform to showcase your talent as the competition opens up a world of creative opportunities and inspiration. Ever thought about making games when you leave school? The competition can help you start making those dreams a reality. Are you an aspiring designer? Get inspiration by reading about past winning games and testing out our game idea generator. Be in with a chance of receiving a BAFTA Young Game Designers Award and access to once-in-a-lifetime experiences with top game makers and industry professionals.

The Canon Young Champion of the Year Award is about rewarding young people who have campaigned for a good cause around a social or environmental issue. If you're passionate about supporting a local or global issue and are between 9-21 years old (at the point of the entry deadline), then you can submit an entry to this free-to-enter category, sponsored by Canon EMEA. All the information you need is here.

The Stephenson Harwood Scholarships are available for students looking to study law at university in the UK. The scholarships will provide up to five students with £15,000 per year of a three year undergraduate law degree, to cover the costs of university fees and contribute to living expenses. Recipients will also be given a mentor from the firm, invited to insight days and employment workshops, provided with work experience and guaranteed a place at an assessment centre for a training contract.

Catalyst Magazine is a free digital science journal for 14 to 19 year olds. Written by academics, scientists, engineers, and educators to illustrate scientific research and industrial developments from STEM professionals across the country, Catalyst Magazine brings STEM subjects to life, showcasing real world topics, issues, and solutions.

Next Tech Girls help students in Years 10 - 13 to find work experience placements with their network of employers.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"Playground Games is a multi-award-winning AAA video game studio based in the heart of the UK. Passionate about our craft, we are a team of game developers dedicated to creating unforgettable gaming experiences that define genres. Our north star is the relentless pursuit of excellence."

You can read more about careers at Playground Games here.

UNI SPOTLIGHT

"Your time at Essex will be full of opportunities to meet new people, try new things and develop new skills. Your success is at the heart of everything we do. Did you know The University of Essex is first in the East of England for overall positivity? Or that we're 12th in the UK in the Guardian University Guide 2026?"
You can read more about the University of Essex here.

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