



October 2025

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National news

Post-16 Education and Skills White Paper

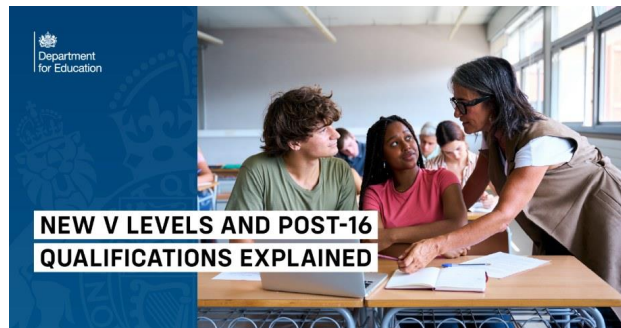


The government has published its Post-16 Education and Skills White Paper. Some key points include:

- There will be three types of Level 3 qualifications - V Levels, A Levels and T Levels. More information about this in the news item below.
- Two new pathways are being created to support students at Level 2, aged 16-18. These are The Occupational Pathway and The Further Study Pathway.
- New English and maths qualifications will be introduced for those aged 16-19 to act as a positive step towards achieving a GCSE grade 4 or above.
- The Government will work with employers to create sector-specific jobs plans to increase employer engagement.
- Identifying support for 16-18 year olds who are at risk of falling through the cracks in their final years of formal education. The Youth Guarantee will ensure every young person can access support to find a job, a training place, or an apprenticeship.
- Enhanced support for learners with mental health needs and SEND, and simplifying careers advice and guidance.
- Young people will take two weeks' worth of work experience during their secondary education, to help them become aware of the range of career opportunities available to them.
- Funding provision and focus will be given to the eight priority sectors that Skills England has highlighted will have the highest growth and skills shortages. These are advanced manufacturing, clean energy industries, creative industries, defence, digital and technologies, financial services, life sciences, and professional and business services.

[Read more](#)

New V levels and post-16 qualifications explained

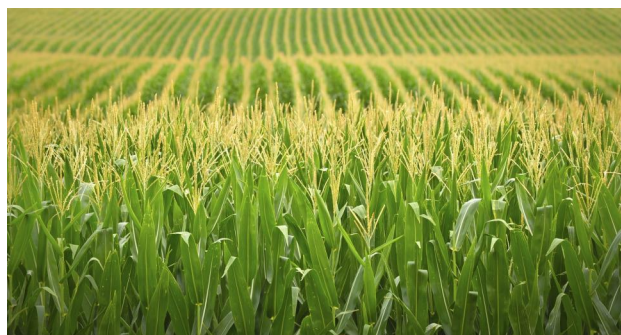


The Department for Education has announced that the UK's post-16 education system is set for a major shake-up with the planned introduction of V Levels, a new range of vocational qualifications launching from 2027.

These new Level 3 qualifications, which will sit alongside A Levels (academic) and T Levels (technical), are designed to replace the currently confusing landscape of approximately 900 existing vocational options, including many BTECs. V Levels will offer students a flexible, vocational pathway to explore different sectors broadly before choosing where to specialise. This streamlined approach aims to offer a clearer, high-quality route for young people interested in technical and practical careers, ensuring a strong path towards apprenticeships, skilled employment, or higher education.

[Read more](#)

Green goals driving teens towards farming careers



Research by Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF) found that 83.5% of young people surveyed believe that it is "very" or "somewhat important" that their future career helps protect the planet.

When asked what would make them most likely to explore a job in agri-food, over a third said "knowing it makes a difference for the environment" would be their biggest motivation.

The sector is facing an urgent need to attract more people into food and farming.

[Read more](#)

Retail is helping double the amount of young people into work than any other sector, new M&S research reveals



Research from Marks & Spencer has found that retail is helping more young people into work than any other sector.

M&S also runs a Marks & Start four-week employability programme. This has reached a five-year record high for the number of candidates completing the programme (91%), and those offered a permanent paid job (88%).

[Read more](#)

Government announces Clean Energy Jobs Plan



The Clean Energy Jobs Plan identifies 31 clean energy occupations, which will be most in demand to meet the government's clean energy ambitions and includes investment in supporting young people into priority sectors, and the establishment of five Clean Energy Technical Excellence Colleges. The clean energy occupations represent around 150,000 workers and approximately 39% of the estimated workforce in 2030, and include plumbers and heating installers, electricians and electrical engineers, engineering professionals and project managers.

[Read more](#)

Waste sector 'overlooked' in Government's green jobs plan



Utility company Suez has warned that the recent government's Clean Energy Jobs Plan failed to recognise the waste and recycling industry as a core part of the green economy.

Dr Adam Read, Chief Sustainability and External Affairs Officer, said: "Our optimism is tempered by an absence of waste and recycling in the Clean Energy Jobs Plan which focuses on generating clean energy via wind and nuclear – no mention of energy recovery – and also overlooks the foundational link that the resources and waste sector represents in securing secondary raw materials – the lithium, copper, and rare earth elements – needed to manufacture those very technologies."

[Read more](#)

Nearly 7,000 new UK jobs to be created as a result of Prime Minister's trip to India



Gov.UK reported that the UK's job market is set for a significant boost with the announcement that nearly 7,000 brand new jobs will be created following a series of major deals secured during the Prime Minister's recent visit to India.

64 Indian investors have demonstrated their strong confidence in the UK economy, committing a collective £1.3 billion in investment. This substantial capital will be directed towards a diverse range of UK sectors, including engineering, technology, and the creative industries. This

investment is a clear signal of the growing success and impact of the UK-India trade relationship, promising to drive economic growth and create new opportunities across the UK.

The number of jobs broken down by region are as follows:

- East Midlands 498
- East of England 120
- London 2591
- North West 1535
- Scotland 125
- South East 795
- South West 194
- Wales 175
- West Midlands 567
- Yorkshire and the Humber 201

[Read more](#)

BBC Apprenticeship applications are now open!



BBC Apprenticeship applications are now open. Wave 1 includes opportunities in business, digital tech and data, engineering and journalism. Deadline is 13th November. The second wave of apprenticeships open on 9th December.

[Read more](#)

Luton Airport expands education and skills programme



London Luton Airport (LLA) has been given a £90,000 grant by the Department for Transport and the Civil Aviation Authority to significantly boost its 'Classroom to Careers' education programme and support education, skills, and sustainability. This money will allow the airport to offer more opportunities for local people, including new apprenticeships, work experience, and skills workshops, with the goal of inspiring the next generation and making sure people from all backgrounds can get jobs in the growing aviation industry.

[Read more](#)

Amazon confirms 14,000 job losses in corporate division



Amazon has announced that it will be cutting 14,000 global corporate jobs, as part of a major restructure. Beth Galetti, a senior vice president at Amazon, said the cuts were needed because AI was "the most transformative technology we've seen since the Internet" and was "enabling companies to innovate much faster than ever before."

[Read more](#)



London news

London leaders launch Inclusive Talent Strategy to kickstart a skills revolution and support more Londoners into work

London Councils and the Mayor of London have launched an Inclusive Talent Strategy for the capital. The strategy will involve creating a direct link between the skills businesses need to grow and the opportunities for Londoners to learn them. There is a 'chronic skills mismatch' where businesses are struggling to find staff with the skills they need.

[Read more](#)

City of London Corporation launches new scheme to plug green skills gap



The City of London Corporation's Skills for a Sustainable Skyline Taskforce has launched its new skills industry pledge. It is aiming to boost recruitment and retention of young and diverse people entering the green jobs market. It also hopes to engage with young people to promote careers and training opportunities in the built environment.

[Read more](#)

West Thames College and London Borough of Hounslow to launch new Independence Hub for young people with additional needs



West Thames College has partnered with the London Borough of Hounslow to launch its Independence Hub at its Isleworth campus.

The Independence Hub has been designed to support young people with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD) and Severe Learning Disabilities (SLD). Activities include developing independent living skills, gaining work-related experience in the college's on-site shop and charity shop, and taking part in creative, physical, and therapeutic programmes to support communication, interaction, and wellbeing.

[Read more](#)

H&F launches Pathway Bond at Parliament to transform young lives through inclusive economic growth



Hammersmith and Fulham Council recently celebrated a new initiative, Pathway Bond, that connects young residents with careers in science, technology, engineering, maths, medicine and media (STEM).

Nearly 100 businesses have expressed interest in the Pathway Bond, that brings together businesses and educators to create clear pathways from classroom to career.

Leader of Hammersmith & Fulham Cllr Stephen Cowan said: "The world is changing faster than ever before and we want our young people to go forth and shape it. That's why we are providing new pathways to the best possible careers in the industries of the future."

[Read more](#)

Living Wage backed by 100 local employers

Ealing Council has created a [Wall of Fame](#) on the Good for Ealing website to showcase employers in the borough who are paying the London Living Wage.

Ealing Council leader Peter Mason said: "Reaching 100 London Living Wage employers is a proud milestone for the borough, which reflects our ongoing commitment to help businesses to pay fairly, and supports our status as the first and only Living Wage Place in West London."

[Read more](#)

Most popular London boroughs: Full list of in-demand places to move to

CompareMyMove looks at the most popular London boroughs in 2025. The top 10 are:

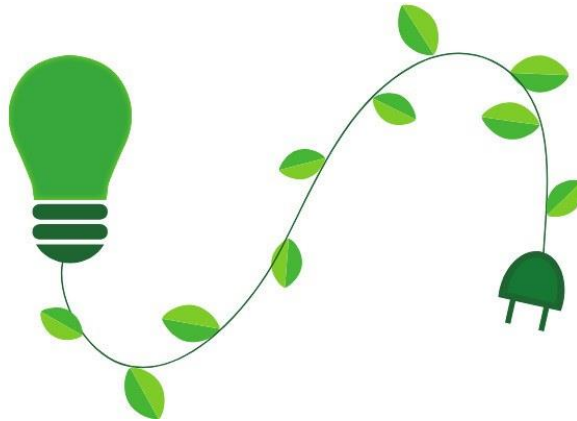
- Wandsworth
- Tower Hamlets
- Brent
- Southwark
- Croydon
- Lambeth
- Lewisham
- Barnet
- Greenwich
- Bromley

[Read more](#)



North East news

Port's 'green' terminal aims to create 12,000 jobs



The Port of Tyne has revealed plans to build a new port terminal focused on the green energy sector. The Tyne Clean Energy Park has been designed as a hub for offshore renewables, clean energy and advanced manufacturing. The move could create up to 12,000 jobs.

[Read more](#)

Local college launches a hydrogen refuelling training facility



A Teesside-based college is boosting skills in low-carbon transport.

Redcar and Cleveland College has launched a modular hydrogen refuelling training facility, believed to be among the first of its kind in the UK. The new facility enables students and delegates to gain hands-on experience with hydrogen as an alternative transport fuel, supporting awareness and practical skills in a rapidly evolving sector. The initiative aims to equip learners with the knowledge and confidence to work with hydrogen across transport and construction sectors.

[Read more](#)

Newcastle warning over surge in young people falling out of work and education



Latest government data shows a "growing concern" about the number of Newcastle young people out of work or education. 6.9% of 16 to 17 year olds in the city are NEET – the second highest rate in the North East, behind only Stockton, and a major increase from just 4.4% in 2020.

According to Newcastle City Council, 42% of young people involved with the Youth Justice Service are NEET, 30% of care leavers are disengaged, and 91% of young parents aged 16–18 are not participating in education or employment.

[Read more](#)

Education Secretary tells North East business leaders that skills are Government priority



Education Secretary, Bridget Phillipson, told North East business leaders in Sunderland about the government's plans to roll out two new White Papers on schools and post-16 education. With the North East consistently showing some of the lowest attainment figures, the Secretary stressed that these forthcoming changes will aim to tackle deep-seated regional inequalities in school performance and better equip young people with the skills needed for the changing world of work. This will include a renewed focus on further education colleges and a new target to get two-thirds of school leavers into higher education or a top-level apprenticeship.

[Read more](#)

South Tyneside firm secures contract on Northumbria's major space skills, research and development centre



South Tyneside-firm, Castle has secured the contract from Sir Robert McAlpine to deliver the Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing (MEP) services for Northumbria University's North East Space Skills Technology Centre (NESST). This major development, backed by partners like the UK Space Agency and Lockheed Martin UK Space, is projected to create over 350 jobs and inject more than £260m into the North East economy over the next three decades, creating the conditions for the UK space sector to really take off, while also helping local people gain new skills.

[Read more](#)



South East news

Plans to be submitted for huge waste-to-hydrogen plant close to Manston Airport, creating 100 jobs



A planning application is expected to be submitted to Kent County Council for a £120m green waste plant close to Manston Airport. If the plans are agreed, the site will be the first in the UK to convert household and commercial waste into clean hydrogen. It will also create at least 100 full-time jobs.

[Read more](#)

Unleashing potential: a creative industries vision for Greater Brighton and coastal West Sussex



Greater Brighton and Coastal West Sussex are a major centre for the creative industries, currently supporting 10,225 companies and a combined workforce of over 54,000 people, plus more than 21,000 freelancers.

To maximise this economic potential, the Greater Brighton Economic Board (GBEB) and the Coastal West Sussex partnership have published a new regional strategy: '[Unleashing potential: a creative industries vision for Greater Brighton and coastal West Sussex](#)'

The vision is based on research commissioned from Fifth Sector consultancy and aims to support creative industries, strengthen career routes, and foster an inclusive economy. It sets out plans to retain talent, attract creative entrepreneurs, and provide residents with skills and opportunities. The ultimate goal is for the region to be recognised as the UK's best place for creative talent to succeed.

[Read more](#)

New tool from Southampton Solent aims to protect vulnerable youth



A new tool developed by Southampton Solent University could play a key role in safeguarding young people at risk of exploitation. The Mutual Information Sharing Tool (MIST) was created following gaps found in the justice, social care, public health and education systems. There was input from community members, including survivors and young people.

[Read more](#)

New £6,000 scholarships open doors for aspiring business students in the South East.



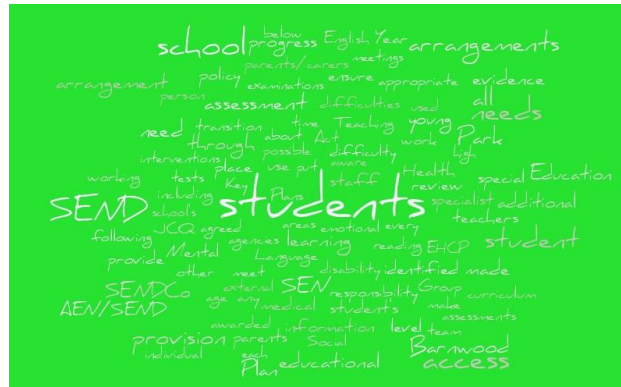
The University of Brighton School of Business and Law has partnered with The Jim Jackson Foundation to launch new scholarships aimed at supporting talented students facing significant barriers, whether financial, social, familial, or health-related, that may limit their ability to thrive in higher education.

The programme offers two £6,000 undergraduate scholarships (£2,000 per year over three years) to aspiring business students from the University's partner colleges in the South East.

The initiative is a key part of the University's Widening Access work to boost student success and opportunities.

[Read more](#)

Hampshire County Council continues to grow SEND provision with more specialist places and inclusive support



Hampshire County Council is continuing its long-term investment in SEND provision. It has revealed plans to deliver 1,000 additional specialist school places between 2025 and 2030. This includes a mix of new places in both dedicated special schools and Resourced Provisions (RPs), which are specialist environments based within mainstream schools

[Read more](#)



South West news

Dorset town jobs boost as two schemes are agreed



Dorset Council has approved planning application for a new builders' merchant in Ferndown and also proposals for 28 industrial units nearby.

The builders' merchant store, next to the existing Travis Perkins site, is expected to create 25 jobs.

[Read more](#)

Map reveals Bristol and Somerset areas set for major growth, jobs and better transport



Over the next decade the West of England's regional economy could add an extra 72,000 jobs across a few key sectors. Growing sectors include advanced manufacturing, digital and technologies, clean energy, and creative industries.

A few areas will get extra focus as "growth zones", such as:

- The middle of Bristol and Bath
- The Severnside industrial area
- The Somer Valley including Midsomer Norton and Radstock
- The "West Innovation Arc" which includes the new Brabazon district and Bristol's North Fringe
- The North Somerset Growth Gateway between Weston-super-Mare and Bristol Airport.

[Read more](#)

Cornwall's largest solar farm will be built near Carland Cross



Planning had been approved for Fair Park solar farm in the Hendra valley. It will be Cornwall's largest solar farm and will operate for 30 years. The project will create jobs during construction while supporting local businesses.

[Read more](#)

Jobs push takes off in South West



The Jobs Foundation has launched in the South West, which is a new initiative to encourage businesses to support new jobs, training and skills development in the local area.

Regional chairman Simon Boyd said: "The Jobs Foundation is a fantastic vehicle of opportunity for young people, disabled people, older people, those out of work and for businesses to come together to share good ideas and do what's right for our community, our people and our country."

[Read more](#)

Thousands of jobs set to be created in South West



Two global renewable energy developers, Equinor and Gwynt Glass, have secured rights to build floating wind farms in the Celtic Sea off the coasts of the South West and South Wales.

The Offshore Wind Leasing Round 5 project could support more than 5,000 new jobs.

[Read more](#)

Bristol theatres lead the way in South West Creative Careers initiative



Some of Bristol's most iconic arts and music spaces are teaming up this November to launch a major initiative designed to inspire the next generation of creative talent.

As part of the national Discover! Creative Careers programme, venues like the Bristol Old Vic, Bristol Hippodrome, and Bristol Beacon will open their doors to young people aged 11–18 for exclusive, behind-the-scenes experiences. Led regionally by the charity Get Into Theatre, the project will connect students directly with industry professionals through workshops and tours, offering a real look at the vast array of jobs that bring live performance to life. This collaboration aims to break down barriers and showcase the exciting career pathways available right on their doorstep across Bristol and the wider South West region.

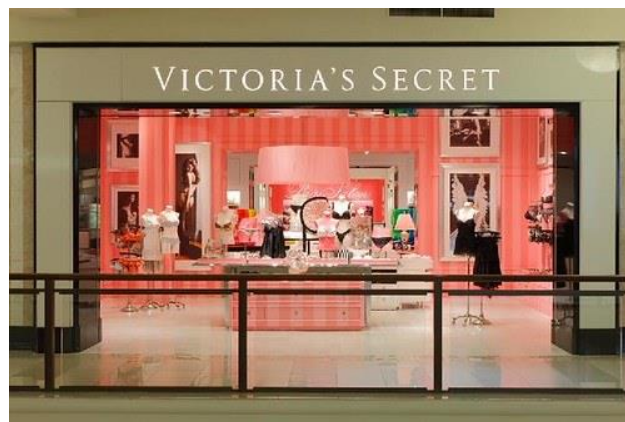
Teachers and young people can find out more and sign up for free events at discovercreative.careers/opportunity-finder or visit getintothetheatre.org for year-round theatre opportunities and advice.

[Read more](#)



Yorkshire and the Humber news

Jobs boost as Victoria's Secret Leeds set to open its doors this autumn



Lingerie brand Victoria's Secret is to open its new store at the former House of Fraser site in Briggate this autumn. The news comes after Japanese clothing form Uniqlo announced it will open a store at the same site next year.

[Read more](#)

The Sheffield College is a finalist in the Green Gown Awards 2025



The Sheffield College has been shortlisted as a Green Gown Awards finalist. The college has been shortlisted in the Tomorrow's Employees category for its Green Careers Inspiration Project which ran during Green Careers Week last year.

The Green Gown Awards UK and Ireland recognise exceptional sustainability initiatives being undertaken by colleges and universities.

[Read more](#)

University of Sheffield welcomes ambitious plan for growth in South Yorkshire



The University of Sheffield has welcomed the publication of the South Yorkshire Growth Plan. This plan shows the region's economic priorities for the next 10 years and is designed to boost job creation, private sector investment, productivity, and the skills base in South Yorkshire. It hopes to maximise the potential of the region's existing strengths, focusing on key growth areas where new career opportunities will emerge including:

- Advanced manufacturing
- Clean energy
- Defence
- Life sciences

The University of Sheffield is positioned as an anchor institution and key strategic partner in delivering this plan.

[Read more](#)

RNN Group opens South Yorkshire's first logistics training hub to boost regional skills and employment



The RNN Group has launched South Yorkshire's first logistics training hub to address regional skill gaps and boost employment in the sector. This new facility will provide specialised training that aims to equip local residents with the skills needed for careers in the growing logistics industry to strengthen the local workforce and support regional economic development.

[Read more](#)

Free laptops scheme to tackle digital exclusion in West Yorkshire



The West Yorkshire Combined Authority is launching a new initiative offering free laptops, Wi-Fi access, and digital skills training to residents, starting in Leeds and rolling out across the region. This project is backed by a £250,000 grant from the Department for Work and Pensions. It follows the fact that 20% of the county's working-age population lack the digital skills required for employment, and aims to help people secure jobs, access training, and engage with essential online services.

[Read more](#)



Useful resources and websites



[Green Careers Week 2025](#)

Discover green careers, job roles and career pathways with the free resources available.

[The Green Buzz Quiz](#)

Match your natural strengths to the green career options available to you.

[Morrisby Green Careers posters](#)

Download for free and find out about green career roles.

[The Parents' Guide to Green Careers 2025](#)

Learn more about green careers, the routes available and work experience options.

[Gatsby Benchmark 3: What you need to know now](#)

Caroline Green, a registered careers development professional, shares practical tools to help advisers confidently meet Gatsby Benchmark 3 – 'Addressing the needs of each pupil'.

[Octopus Energy - jobs that matter](#)

Website from the King's Trust and Octopus Energy 'connecting young people to the wealth of steady, well-paid careers that accelerate the transition to net zero, and connecting climate-committed companies to the talent they need.'

[Horticulture Week - Careers & Training](#)

Information from Horticulture Week to help you start or develop your career in horticulture, including qualifications and skill requirements for a range of jobs in landscape creation, production, retail and landscape management.

[Amazing Apprenticeships - Green Sector-led Posters](#)

Download these sector-led posters and discover the many apprenticeship opportunities linked to Green Careers.

[Amazing Apprenticeships - Higher & Degree Apprenticeships](#)

Explore 1,600+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the October 2025 edition of the Higher & Degree listing.

[Crest Discovery - sustainable solutions - teacher pack](#)

Opportunity for students to work in teams to use digital tools and new technologies to tackle climate change in their local area.

[Skills for Careers - Teacher resources and information](#)

Get help to discuss education, careers and next steps with your students if you're a teacher or the careers lead at your school.

Dates for your diary



National

- [Green Careers Week 2025](#) - 3rd - 8th November
- [Green Careers Week - Should every job be a green job?](#) - panel discussion online - 3rd November, 4.30pm
- [Green Careers Week webinar: Green jobs on the rise: spotlighting key sectors](#) - 4th November, 4pm - 5pm
- [The Careers Leader Handbook – Trotman Digital](#) - 4th November, 4pm-5pm
- [Women in STEM at bp: Your STEM career starts here!](#) - 4th November, 6:30pm - 7:30pm
- [The CDI: Green jobs on the rise: spotlighting key sectors](#) - online - 4th November, 4pm - 5pm
- [Green Careers Week webinar: The future is circular: green jobs of the waste and resources sector](#) - 5th November, 2pm - 3pm
- [The CDI: Green Jobs: Why is the horizon vanishing and what does it mean for the CEIAG community](#) - online - 6th November, 4pm - 5pm
- [IGD Green Careers Workshop](#) - designed to give students a real insight into careers within the food and consumer goods industry - 6th November, 11.15am and 2pm
- [The National School & College Leaver Festival](#) - NEC Birmingham, 11th - 12th November
- [Understanding T Levels](#) - Amazing Apprenticeships webinar - 20th November, 3.30pm - 4.15pm

London

- [Green career session for Hounslow young people tickets](#), Hounslow Library - 4th November, 3pm- 5pm
- [Royal Aeronautical Society - Careers in Aerospace & Aviation Live](#) - Hamilton Place, London - 5th November
- [Barnet & Southgate College, Barnet Campus Open Event Tickets](#), Wood Street, Barnet, 5th November, 3:30pm - 6:30pm
- [Build the Future: Sustainable Construction and Energy Efficiency Jobs Fair Tickets](#) - West London Retail Skills Hub - 6th November, 10am - 1pm
- [London Charlton Jobs Fair](#) - The Valley - 7th November, 10am - 1pm

- [City of Westminster College Open Day](#), Paddington Campus - 8th November, 10am- 1pm
- [National Apprenticeship and Education Events \(South London\)](#) - 13th November, Kia Oval, 9.30am - 3pm
- [What next?](#) - 14th and 15th November, Olympia London

North East

- [Sunderland Jobs Fair](#) - Stadium of Light, 19th November, 10am - 1pm
- [Work Experience in Pharmacy - North East, North Cumbria & Yorkshire](#) - online - 10th November, 4:30pm to 5:30pm
- [Allied Health Professional Support Worker Careers Webinar](#) - 13th November, 1pm - 2:30pm
- [South West Durham Training - Employer-Led Open Event](#) - 18th November - 5pm – 7:30pm
- [Sunderland Jobs Fair](#) - Stadium of Light - 19th November, 10am - 1pm

South East

- [Green and Creative Careers event for students](#) - SoundRooms, Brighton - 5th November, 3pm - 5pm
- [Southampton Jobs Fair](#) - St Mary's Stadium - 26th November, 10am - 1pm

South West

- [Introducing Green Jobs](#) - Webinar for schools in Bristol, South Gloucestershire, Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset - 19th November, 3.30pm
- [Discover Creative Careers - Virtual Showcase Evening for Devon & Cornwall Tickets](#) - 19th November, 6pm-7:30pm

Yorkshire and the Humber

- [More than Medicine: Employability Day](#) - Northern General Hospital, Sheffield - 5th November, 10am - 12pm
- [Work Experience in Pharmacy - North East, North Cumbria & Yorkshire](#) - online - 10th November, 4:30pm to 5:30pm
- [Sheffield Jobs Fair](#) - Bramall Lane Stadium - 12th November, 10am - 1pm
- [Allied Health Professional Support Worker Careers Webinar](#) - online - 13th November, 1pm to 2:30pm
- [Psychology Unveiled: Fields and History - Virtual Work Experience](#) - online - 17th November
- [Institute of Hospitality North - Hospitality Sets Sail 3 - Careers at Sea](#) - MV Pride of Rotterdam in Hull Docks - 18th November, 10:30am - 2:30pm
- [Leeds Job Fair](#) - First Direct Arena - 27th November, 10am - 1pm



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