



Careers Newsletter

What's been happening.....



National Quality In Careers Standard 2025 – 2027

The Birley Academy are delighted to have retained the National Quality in Careers Standard using the Career Mark approach provided by Complete Careers.

Certificate of Completion



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

The Birley Academy

has been externally assessed and awarded the national Quality in Careers Standard for its careers education, information, advice and guidance provision



COMPLETED: 16.12.2025 EXPIRES: 15.12.2027



John Ambrose (Lead Director)

Complete Careers LLP trading as Career Mark

Y9 Inspiration Days

Monday 10 - Friday 14 November 2025

During the above Inspiration Days our Y9 students were given the opportunity to attend Assembly Presentations from representatives of Further Education, 6th form school / College and Apprenticeships. The sessions aim is to communicate information on subjects/courses, differences between 6th form school/college / Apprenticeships and different routes and pathways offered.

Our Inspiration Days also opens up the world of work by inviting employer volunteers into school, as part of our employer encounter sessions, to participate in careers talks. Volunteers from the Engineering, Fitness and Events Organising sectors kindly gave up their time to come along and talk to our students about the career sectors and their role in them. The RAF representatives provided a careers stall during lunch time sessions for students to collect further information.

The intention behind all of the session content is to inspire our Y9 students into thinking about the various possible career/post 16 choices and employment sectors available to them in the future enabling them to make informed decisions.

A BIG thank you to all the volunteers who participated in Y9 Inspiration Days.

Y11 Post 16 Evening

Wednesday 15 October 2025

All Saints 6th Form, Eckington 6th Form, King Edwards 6th Form, Meadowhead 6th Form, Notre Dame High school 6th Form, The Sheffield College, Thomas Rotherham College, SUFC Community College, SWFC Community College, Qualitas Sport and Opportunity Sheffield, Apprenticeship Ready.

The above providers attended our Y11 Post 16 Evening offering information, advice and guidance to our students and parents/carers. The event is aimed at providing students with information to make informed decisions on post 16 choices.

Thank you to all the provider representatives, students, parents/carers and staff who attended making the evening a very successful and well attended event.

Discover Creative Careers Month: November 2025 – linking curriculum learning to careers

Various school-based activities, throughout this month to raise awareness of the different career roles offered and pathways available. For more information: [National Careers Service](https://discovercreative.careers/) <https://discovercreative.careers/>

Creative Careers – **ART & DESIGN** – Organised and delivered by our Art Department, Y10, Y11 targeted lessons around connecting Art & Design to careers, pathways and the world beyond the classroom ran as part of Discover Creative Careers Month. Giving our students the opportunity to explore example roles and careers linked to Art & Design, for example, careers roles as a Graphic Designer, Digital Content Producer, illustrator, Jewellery Designer, Photographer.

Creative Careers – **MUSIC** – Introducing students to the various creative roles available in the sector eg. Musician/Songwriter, Music Director, Festival Producer/Programme Director, Acoustic Sound Engineer: [BBC Bitesize Careers in Music](#)

Some of our Y11 students were given the opportunity to attend work experience sessions at a local Music Studio offered in collaboration with Next Generation Creatives.

“We just wanted to say that all 3 boys did an excellent job on their work experience sessions with us last week. They were polite, and helpful and took to Studio work incredibly quickly, working professionally both with and without direct supervision. A real credit to the school” M Ritchie, Director Hybrid 3.

“Really enjoyed the experience that this opportunity gave, including an insight into careers possibilities in the future”. A Horner, student.



[Parents' Guide - Green Careers](#)



Green Careers – Green Careers Week - Monday 3 Friday 7 November 2025

What Are Green Careers? Students exploring Green Careers and what they are in tutor time...

A **green career** is any job that helps protect, improve, or restore the environment. While jobs like renewable energy or conservation are often seen as “green,” **almost every industry has green roles**. Green careers suit many interests and skills, from hands-on work to science, law, data, and design. What they all share is that they help make the world a better place, now and in the future. Examples of green careers include:

- **Farm Manager, Wind Turbine Technician, Solar Panel Installer Climate Change Specialist, Environmental Consultant, Ecologist, Architect, Engineer, Construction Worker (eco-friendly buildings), Data Analyst, Insurance Assessor, Environmental Lawyer**

What Are Green Skills? **Green skills** are the skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to live and work in a sustainable way. They help businesses and services reduce their impact on the environment and tackle climate change. People can develop green skills through: Apprenticeships On-the-job training College or University <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zfkd7v4#zfy4wsg>

As industries change to support a greener future, **new jobs will be created**, and existing jobs will change. Education helps young people understand their options and choose the right pathway. **What Does Net Zero Mean?** **Net zero** means reducing greenhouse gas emissions as much as possible, with any remaining emissions removed by nature, such as forests and oceans. The UK aims to reach **net zero by 2050**.



Y11 Mock Interviews - Thursday 27 November 2025

Y11 mock interviewing is an annual event at The Birley Academy aimed at helping our Y11 students prepare for the next stage of their careers educational journey. The event was organised and supported by Birley Staff and interviews were conducted by employers, who gave up their valuable time to participate. Over 190 Y11 students attended their mock interviews, which were delivered on site.

This year we welcomed 19 representatives from various employers into school to conduct Y11 mock interviews, including:

Aviva JCP - Department Works and Pensions Henry Boot Fortem Group

Our Y11 students approached their interviews, which for several was a challenge, with respect, courage, enthusiasm and commitment. **WELL DONE TO ALL STUDENTS WHO PARTICIAPTED.**

Employer quotes....

“just wanted to drop you a quick line to say how impressed I was today with the young students during their mock interviews, they are a credit to you. As a Regional Social Value Manager, I travel to many parts of the country to support schools and colleges with employability workshops and mock interview days and I have to say the students of Birley Academy that I saw today really did not only do themselves justice but the Academy too.” J Wilkes, Social Value Manager, Fortem Solutions Limited

“Thank you for organising a great day again with your Y11 student Mock Interviews – Great students, all very polite and some with great ambitions in life”. H Cliff Aviva.

“Student interviewed really well, asked questions, engaged throughout, and well prepared, in the real world they would pass this part of the interview process - well done! A Kay Aviva

“An absolute pleasure to interview, showed drive, ambition and passion about his career aspirations”. J Wilkes, Fortem Social Housing Manager.

“Really good impression, driven and single minded, would be a great fit for Aviva! But can see her 100% in her chosen profession”. J Wilson Aviva

Apprenticeship Information



Is your child considering an apprenticeship as their next step? Choices magazine is the ultimate parent and carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education! It is completely free of charge – access various editions here: amapps.uk/parent-magazine

Amazing Apprenticeships’ Parent and Carer zone is also a great place to explore apprenticeships and technical education: amazingapprenticeships.com/zones/parent/

Information Search:
<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/>

[The Parent/Carers Guide to Apprenticeships](#)





Apprenticeship Information

National Apprenticeship Week Mon 9 – Fri 13 February 2026

What is an apprenticeship? An apprenticeship is a **work-based route into a career**, designed to help you gain real experience while studying for a recognised qualification. You'll be employed and learn from professionals in your chosen field — developing practical skills alongside structured study.

Apprenticeships typically offer:

- A paid job with real responsibilities
- Training that leads to an industry-recognised qualification
- Opportunities in both traditional trades and modern sectors like tech or health
- A flexible length, often between one and four years
- A way to build your career straight from school or college

It's a direct route into employment, open to everyone over the age of 16 - ideal if you want to **earn, learn, and gain a head start in the workplace.**

LEVELS OF APPRENTICESHIPS:

Intermediate

Equivalent to:
5 GCSE passes at grade 9-4
(A*-C)

Required:
English & Maths
(Grade 1 and above GCSE)

Intermediate L2

Chef
Bricklaying
Barber/Hairdressing
Customer Service
Manufacturing Operative
Early Years Practitioner
Accounts assistant
Pharmacy assistant
Carpentry/Joiner
Junior estate agent

Advanced

Equivalent to:
2 A levels /
International Baccalaureate

Required:
**English & Maths (Grade 4
and above GCSE)**

Advanced L3

Business Admin
Digital Marketing
Electrician
Teaching Assistant
Dental Nurse
Plumber
Engineering Technician
Data technician
Vehicle Technician
HR Support

Higher

Equivalent to:
Foundation degree and
above

Required:
**A-Levels, T-Levels, or BTEC
Level 3 Qualification**

L4

Professional Accounting
Quantity Surveying
Sports coach
Software Tester

L5

Vet technician
Nursing associate
Rail engineer
Marine pilot
Nuclear technician

Degree

Equivalent to:
Bachelors or
masters degree

Required:
**A-Levels, T-Levels, or
BTEC Level 3 Qualification**

L6

Geoscientist
Accounting manager
Midwife
Social worker
Civil Engineer

L7

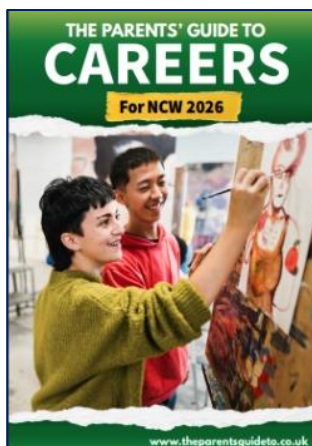
Doctor
Game programmer
Play therapist
Solicitor
Economist

<https://www.gov.uk/become-apprentice>
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>

<https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/>
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/study-and-training/nhs-apprenticeships>



National Careers Week 2026



[Parent/Carer Guide NCW-2026.pdf](#)

STEM Careers



Science Technology Engineering Maths - STEM Careers Altru Drama Presents an Educational Roadshow "The Material World Theatre Production"

This educational roadshow is delivered in partnership with The Royal Airforce, BAE Systems and the Royal Navy and to coincide with National Careers Week. The Birley Academy, were given the opportunity to host the above production which was delivered to our Y8 students.

Material Science and Engineering is the study of all substances, from the metals in a bridge to the plastic in a phone case – and the creation of new ones with specific properties. The aim of the STEM Theatre Roadshow is to inspire students to think about the various careers in Science and Engineering and to challenge stereotypes around these careers.

During this fun, interactive performance, our students followed Alex, Jody and Harry as they created a live TV show about the fascinating world of materials science. Through a highly interactive and energising performance, students discovered how the materials all around us connect to cutting-edge technologies in aerospace, marine engineering and beyond.

"very well received by both staff and students – we hope to welcome the Roadshow back next time" A Pemberton, Careers Lead

Science Week 6 - 15 March 2026 – Linking curriculum learning to careers

Organised and run by our Science Department, some of the Science week content helps to embed careers into the curriculum encouraging collaboration by bringing together teachers, employers and students to connect subject learning with the world of work and how learning and building different skills in science subjects link to a wide range of careers.

A busy week of lesson projects, included student sessions around AI technology, Renewable Energy (Green Careers), and possible career roles of the future in these areas. Guest speakers from CSI, West Yorkshire Police were welcomed into school to run sessions with various Y9 students. The sessions included activities around finger printing and various uses of CSI equipment in the field. Students were informed about routes into a career in CSI, required qualifications and given the opportunity to participate in a Q&A session.

We also welcomed the NHS, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals who are the largest employers in Sheffield offering a variety of 350 career opportunities. Employer representatives delivered assembly careers talks on the role of the ODP, Operating Department Practitioner, who specialise in perioperative care, working across anaesthetic, surgical and recovery phases. They work alongside nurses to ensure high standard patient care, managing theatre environments and equipment. The talk included pathways, qualifications required, routes and future progression into the career. The talk also touched on the many roles within the NHS that are non-clinical and the different skills, qualifications or interests that can be covered eg. Admin Assistants, Health Care Apprentices, Dental Nurse Apprentices. See website for more information www.sth.nhs.uk

[NHS Employability & Recruitment Information](#)



Y7 Inspiration Days - Monday 16 – Friday 20 March 2026

As part of our career's curriculum, we provide all students with broad and balanced CEIAG (Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance). The aim is to offer important relevant information to enable our students to make informed decisions on their future choices. The curriculum is delivered throughout the academic year in various ways, one of which is our Inspiration Days.

Y7 students participated in their Inspiration Days w/c Monday 16 March 2026. During tutor time over the week, we have delivered introductions on various future pathways including, information, on Apprenticeships, Further Education/6th form School/College and Higher Education, University/HEPP.

On Wednesday we welcomed Employer representatives into school to deliver career talks from career sectors including:

- South Yorkshire Police/Mounted Division
- NHS / Orthopaedic Arthroplasty & Trauma Team
- Entrepreneur Company Owner/Jazzy B Fitness
- Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity / Community Fund Raising Manager (Alumni)

Our Y7 students made our visitors very welcome and were very engaged during the sessions, asking numerous questions. We also had a surprise visit from THEO! the Sheffield Children's Hospital Mascot.

I would like to thank all our employer representative (and THEO!) for giving up their time to participate in our employer encounter sessions.



Careerpilot

START [HERE](#)

Explore Jobs by subject... Explore Jobs by sector... Explore Jobs by your values...

Career Pilot is an award-winning, one-stop careers website designed by qualified career advisers and teachers. The careers platform includes the Student Zone, Parent Zone, Adviser Zone and Reporting Zone, as well as the Pathway Planner.

Careerpilot can be used by students aged 11-19 in schools and colleges. The site helps students to develop career skills to help students to manage career decisions as they go through life. The site does this through showing students the three-stages they can always follow whenever they make a career decision. 1..Start with you 2..Explore your options 3.. Plan your next step

The site includes tools and activities, information and advice on all progression pathways.

Parents can access to the [Careerpilot Parent Zone](#) - which has answers to questions parents are frequently asking with advice and additional useful links so they feel informed and able to support their young person.



LMI Labour Market Information

What is LMI?

Labour Market information is the facts and figures of the past, present and future work force. It informs us of national and local trends as well as what jobs are in demand and declining. It also gives an idea of who and how many individuals are employed at any given time.

Why is it important and how can it help students make informed choices?

- It can help you understand what jobs are in your local region.
- It can show you the skills are required for specific jobs.
- It can make you aware of jobs that are increasing and what jobs are declining.
- Make you aware of what qualifications you might need.
- An idea of what salaries are offered

LMI is changing all the time and it is important to explore and a great way to do this is through various information platforms such as Careerpivot /Icould

Term 3 Labour Market Information for Sheffield



South Yorkshire
CAREERS HUB

CAREERS &
ENTERPRISE
COMMITTEE

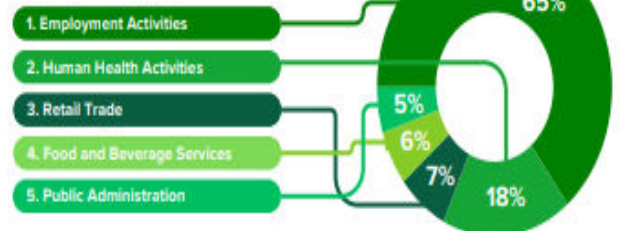
Total Advertised Vacancies



Top 10 Requested Skills

1. Communication
2. Management
3. Customer Service
4. Detail Oriented
5. Sales
6. Teaching
7. Problem Solving
8. Leadership
9. Planning
10. Operations

Top 5 Recruiting Industries



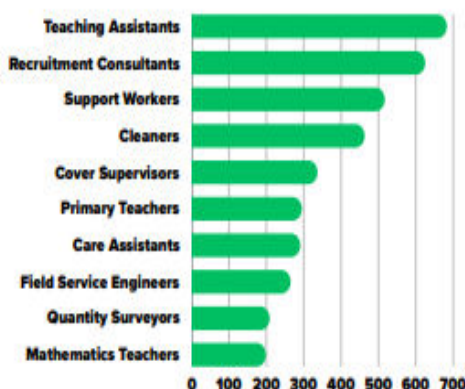
Top 5 Requested Minimum Education Levels**

1. Bachelor's Degree or Level 6 equivalent, such as a degree apprenticeship
2. Standard Secondary Education Grades, such as GCSEs
3. A-levels or Level 3 equivalent, such as an advanced apprenticeship or access to higher education diploma
4. Foundation Degree or Level 5 equivalent, such as a HNC/HND
5. Master's Degree or Level 7 equivalent, such as a PGCE or NVQ

Top 5 Recruiting Employers



Top 10 Advertised Occupations



Advertised Salaries

Role	Annual Median Advertised Salary
Quantity Surveyors	£53,888
Mathematics Teachers	£42,944
Field Service Engineers	£40,064
Primary Teachers	£38,272
Recruitment Consultants	£28,992
Cover Supervisors	£26,688
Care Assistants	£25,856
Support Workers	£25,024
Cleaners	£24,448
Teaching Assistants	£23,232





POST 16 Information....

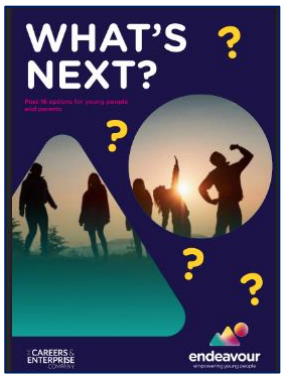
Qualification Levels Guide – GCSE to Degree Level

L6	University Degree (BA/BSc/BEng)	University Degree (BA/BSc/BEng)	Degree Apprenticeship (NVQ L5 + L6)
	Usually GCSE Maths/English at grade 4/5 and 2-3 A-Levels/BTEC L3 Extended Diploma (check first!)	Usually GCSE Maths/English at grade 4/5 and 2-3 A-Levels/BTEC L3 Extended Diploma (check first!)	Usually GCSE Maths/English at grade 4/5 and 2-3 A-Levels/BTEC L3 Extended Diploma (check first!)
L5	Foundation Degree (FdA, FSc)	Foundation Degree (FdA, FSc)	Higher/Degree Apprenticeship (NVQ L4 + L5)
L4	HNC (Higher National Certificate – L4)	HNC (Higher National Certificate – L4)	Higher/Degree Apprenticeship (NVQ L4 + L5)
Grades Needed:	Usually GCSE Maths/English at grade 4 and 1-2 A-Levels/ L5 Diploma/Extended Diploma	Usually GCSE Maths/English at grade 4 and 1-2 A-Levels/ L5 Diploma/Extended Diploma	Usually GCSE Maths/English at grade 4 and 1-2 A-Levels/ L5 Diploma/Extended Diploma
L3	A-Levels	L3 Diploma / Extended Diploma (BTEC or other) / Access to HE courses	Advanced Apprenticeship (NVQ L3)
	Usually 5 GCSEs at grade 5 or higher, including Maths and English	5 GCSEs at grade 4 or higher (usually including Maths and English)	Usually at least 3-5 GCSEs (but sometimes no formal qualifications)
L2	GCSEs (grades 9-4)	L2 National / BTEC Diploma / Functional Skills	Intermediate Apprenticeship (NVQ L2)
	None	3-4 GCSEs at grade 3 or higher (usually including Maths and English)	Usually none, although sometimes GCSE Maths and English and a skills test
L1	GCSEs (grades 3-1)	L1 Diploma / Functional Skills	Traineeship (preparation for apprenticeship)
	None	None (sometimes basic Maths and English)	None
Entry Level 3	Key Stage 3	E3 Diploma (Foundation)	–
Entry Grades Needed:	None	None	–
	School / 6th Form	College / Further Education	Apprenticeships

More Information:

Making choices after Y11: Sheffield Progress: <https://www.sheffieldprogress.co.uk/information/age-15-18/your-choices-after-year-11>

Know your Levels: <https://hurak.com/blog/qualification-levels-uk>



CEC Endeavour Booklet Post 16:

WHAT'S NEXT?

Y10 Work Experience 29 June - 3 July 2026

Y10 work experience block placement will run on the above dates students should be continuing their search for placement and returning all placement paperwork to Mrs Pemberton, Careers Hub, School Library.

Deadline for return of paperwork - 1 June 2026

1:1 Personal Careers Guidance

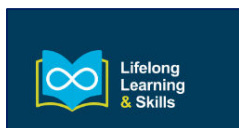
1:1 Careers Guidance Appointments are continuing to be offered. All students will be offered a 1:1 Careers Guidance appointment by the time they leave the Birley Academy. Please contact Mrs Pemberton, Careers Lead at school for further information.

SEND POST 16 Information....



Bloom Preparation for Adult Life at The Sheffield College:
[click HERE for more information](#)

Landmarks Specialists College:
[Landmarks information HERE](#)



Sheaf Training - Post 16 SEND Education
Lifelong Learning Sheffield
[Sheaf Training - click HERE](#)

Nacro Get Set! Courses:
[Further Nacro information click HERE](#)



Go Construct: Built Environment Civil Engineering
Surveyors Architects
<https://www.goconstruct.org/>

“BUZZ QUIZ” What personality type are you? Take the Quiz.... <https://careerswales.gov.wales/buzzquiz>

NHS Careers:
www.sth.nhs.uk
[NHS Employability & Recruitment Information](#)

Apprenticeships:
<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>
<https://www.ucas.com/apprenticeships>

Explore Future Career Options:
<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors>

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers/job-sector/digital>

<https://www.mypathcareersuk.com/a-z-of-jobs>

Higher Education - University:
<https://www.ucas.com/explore/subjects>

National Careers Service
<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

SEND Post 16 information:
[SEND Preparation for Adulthood - HERE](#)

SEND Preparation for Adulthood Transition Guide:
[SEND Transition Guide HERE](#)

SEND Planning your Post 16 Journey
[Post 16 Guide - Here](#)

Thank you to all stakeholders involved for their collaboration towards the content, running and delivery of the Careers Programme

