



Free Careers Resources

January 2021

These resources have been selected to help Careers Leaders and others to create and maintain a high-quality careers programme in their school or college.

Whilst lists of careers resources could be endless, most of these sites have been recommended by others and have been used successfully in careers programmes hence promoting them in this guide.

Please be aware of the following:

- Check sites thoroughly yourself before deciding if the resource is suitable for your needs – you may need to look beyond this list
- Links change regularly and some listed here may have changed since this document was produced
- There are different target audiences for these resources, but some could easily fit into more than one category therefore approach each resource with an open mind and see how it could be used
- Some resources make reference to extended services at a cost

For Careers Leaders.....	2
For the young person	3
Corporate careers programmes.....	4
STEM	5
For the teacher or adviser.....	5
Higher Education resources for the Careers Leader/teacher	7
Visiting speakers to inspire students	7
National careers events	8
Information for parents and carers	
Labour Market Information – general sites	8
Labour Market Information – key datasets.....	9
Labour Market Information – the North East.....	10
Covid-19 resources 2020	
Careers and Enterprise Company	10





For Careers Leaders

Use these sites to gather all the information you need prior to creating a high-quality careers programme in your institution. Time spent researching these sites will enable both new and experienced Careers Leaders to fully appraise where their careers programmes currently sit and what needs to happen to turn them into outstanding provision.

National Careers Leader resources and links to further support eg, free Careers Leader training

<https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/schools-colleges/resources-careers-leaders>

The national strategy for careers work in schools published December 2017

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/664319/Careers_strategy.pdf

Statutory guidance for careers work in schools, based on national strategy, published Jan 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/672418/_Careers_guidance_and_access_for_education_and_training_providers.pdf

Handbook to help secondary schools create a careers programme based on the Benchmarks

https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/sites/default/files/uploaded/1051_send_gatsby_toolkit_updated.pdf

A range of research reports and series of 'what works?' resources

<https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/research/publications>

Recommended 2020 Careers Education framework (NB: being revised during 2021)

<https://www.thecdi.net/Careers-Framework>

List and description of all nationally accredited quality awards for CEIAG

<http://www.qualityincareers.org.uk/>

An A-Z of all 14-19 topics

<https://www.gov.uk/browse/education>

Benchmark 1 is the vital whole-school benchmark: check out the video on this toolkit

<https://www.northeastambition.co.uk/toolkits/secondary-benchmark-1>

Find references to careers guidance in the Ofsted handbook: P59, 61, 63, 83, 86 and 89

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/843108/School_inspection_handbook_-_section_5.pdf

For careers leaders to sign up to

Join a community of like-minded professionals to share ideas and resources

<https://www.thecdi.net/Community-of-Practice-for-Careers-Leaders>

Facebook has a hugely popular national Careers Leaders group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/CareersLeaders/>

Use Pinterest for SEND resources and a whole range of other career-related topics

<https://www.pinterest.co.uk/careersdefender/send-careers/>

Keep up to date via social media

Janet Colledge

<https://twitter.com/CareersDefender>

Tristram Hooley

<https://twitter.com/pigironjoe>

The careers blog with a whole range of up to date information produced by Russell George

<https://fecareersiag.wordpress.com/2020/04/20/free-careers-cpd-during-lockdown/>



For the young person

These websites are mainly for individual students in school or college, or those who may be studying elsewhere. They are designed to help young people navigate the world of education, training and career choices. Many will be equally useful for Careers Leaders, Careers Advisers, parents/carers and employers. Some sites require free registration for access to all functions.

Large selection of careers videos and broad range of articles including a fun personality test

<https://icould.com/>

Job profiles, skills healthcheck, and help to get a job. Sign up for an account

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

All-inclusive career planning tool. Can upgrade with payment. Includes teachers' area.

www.startprofile.com

Careers information on BBC Bitesize. Includes series of videos on relevant career/life topics

<https://www.bbc.com/bitesize/clips/zdqr87h>

Wide range of resources including school leaver schemes and sponsored degrees; mainly Y11+

www.studentladder.co.uk

Explore career zones, top employers and jobs, courses and advice

<https://successatschool.org>

General careers information including subject links and videos

<https://www.firstcareers.co.uk/>

A comprehensive information site on sectors, pathways and LMI

<https://targetcareers.co.uk/>

Information about courses, apprenticeships, finding a job and an 'easy CV' tool

<https://www.planitplus.net/>

Free subscription magazine as part of a wider careers website for young people

<https://careermap.co.uk/careermag-students>

Individuals sharing stories and advice on video about what it's like to be in work

<https://mywayin.campaign.gov.uk/>

Register for an account and start your own career journey

www.mycareerspringboard.org

Register for an account and find information on options, industries and job-seeking

www.allaboutschoollleavers.co.uk

Interactive site drilling down from labour market sectors to labour market information

<https://sacu-student.com/>

Careers information for graduates/postgraduates and those researching HE opportunities

www.prospects.ac.uk

The new website to replace Unistats: compare courses and check student satisfaction

<https://www.discoveruni.gov.uk/>

Interactive 'A Level Explorer' on the Uniguide website

https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/a-level-explorer?utm_source=presrelease&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=alevelchoices

Link job families-subjects-skills to find out how HE studies links to individual jobs and sectors

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs>

"The largest student community in the world"

<https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/>

A directory of university events including open days, lectures and tours

<https://www.unitasterdays.com/>

Online career planning modules

<https://yourgameplan.co.uk/>

Online CV writer for job seekers with a choice of twenty prominent CV designs available

<https://www.livecareer.co.uk/>

General support for young people

More than just careers information for young people – health, wellbeing and support

www.themix.org.uk

Support site for young people including employability toolkit and advice to join LinkedIn

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/>

Resources to help young people start a business, write a CV or build confidence

<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people>

If you are 16 or 17 years old check out the National Citizen Service

<https://wearencs.com/what-is-ncs>

Could go to university but might not want to...?

The website that looks at alternatives to university

<https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/>

A list of current and future higher level apprenticeship vacancies

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-and-degree-apprenticeship-vacancies>

Corporate Careers Programmes

Following these links will introduce you to multiple branded resources within each website, enabling you to create classroom-based sessions on a number of topics within your careers programme eg, a series of modules for Key Stage 3 from WorldSkills UK or a job-seeking programme from Accenture for 16-18 year olds looking for employment or training.

Jobsearch programme with self-help exercises and opportunities for work experience

www.barclayslifeskills.com

Job preparation programme developed by Accenture

www.s2sacademy.com/

Comprehensive planning toolkit updated to reflect latest developments; register for free pack

<https://www.worldskillsuk.org/directions/careers-advice-resources/career-planning-toolkit>

Careers duties, responsibilities and resources as presented by the BBC

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/teacher-support/careers-support/zh9t2sg>

An employability skills toolkit with lesson plans mapped against the Benchmarks

<https://www.pwc.co.uk/who-we-are/our-purpose/empowered-people-communities/social-mobility/employability-skills-toolkit.html>

Engaging careers content brought to schools by the British Army

<https://apply.army.mod.uk/base?cid=mail8147371213>



STEM

There are a multitude of STEM websites as one would expect and the selection here is merely a starting point with some of the key sites that provide useful generic STEM information.

Resources, CPD ideas and link to STEM Ambassadors

<https://www.stem.org.uk/>

Royal Society of Biology: reference guide, posters, degrees and careers, technician routes

<https://www.rsb.org.uk/careers-and-cpd/careers/career-resources>

Royal Society of Chemistry: 14+ options, 16+ options, going to university, job profiles, videos

<https://edu.rsc.org/future-in-chemistry/>

Institute of Physics: careers booklets, physics jobs, case studies, video/audio, Marvin and Milo!

<http://www.iop.org/careers/index.html>

A resource focused on making this career area appealing for young people

<https://www.tomorrowsengineers.org.uk/>

A toolkit for teachers illustrating 'the patient journey' through the NHS

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/offering-careers-iag/teaching-resources/patient-journey-toolkit-teachers>

For the teacher or adviser: resources for careers education delivery

The following sites contain resources to use in lessons, assemblies and small group delivery. They vary in format from careers activity worksheets to videos and webinars. A National Careers Service e-pack is also available by contacting the NCS on 0800 100 900 or emailing nationalcareersservice@serco.com.

Resources to complement careers videos and articles

www.icould.com/teachersresources/

An insight into the world of business, food technology and careers with McDonalds

https://www.mcdonalds.com/gb/en-gb/teachers.html?dm_i=51NC,2LN,7SX00,556,1

An interactive website with knowledge and skills-based activities as well as a teachers' area

<https://www.panjango.online>

Ideas for each year group about how to plan encounters with ItF volunteers – must sign up

<https://www.inspiringthefuture.org/schools-and-colleges/resources-and-guides/>

Detailed frameworks for all new apprenticeships – great to use as job descriptions

<https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/apprenticeship-standards/>

Apprenticeship resources from KS3 to 16-19

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/>

A range of resources to support SEND schools and students

<https://get-help-with-remote-education.education.gov.uk/send.html>

A classroom lesson plan on LMI

<https://www.nesta.org.uk/toolkit/future-of-work-lesson/>

Downloadable subject posters and lots of useful information for Teachers/Careers Leaders

<https://www.planitplus.net/Schools/SubjectCareerPosters/>

A series of videos showing how prominent speakers have inspired school pupils

<https://www.founders4schools.org.uk/videos/>

A free financial education programme for 5-18 year olds

<https://natwest.mymoneysense.com/home/>



Supporting Benchmark 4: careers in the curriculum

Ideas on how teachers can incorporate career learning into their subject

A short report exploring how careers can be delivered in the curriculum

<https://files.futurefirst.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/images/20170112163923/Collaboration-in-the-Classroom-The-Teacher-Toolkit.compressed1.pdf>

Guidance for schools and businesses on how to work on joint curriculum projects

<https://www.bitc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/bitc-education-toolkit-playingfairguidanceschoolsbusinessescollaboratingcurriculumprojects-may2019.pdf>

Case studies of effective employer links in the school curriculum. Sign up for a free MOOC 'Meaningful Learning Experiences'. Free materials; though costed service for project work

www.forum-talent-potential.org

Selected subject resources to support the apprenticeship route

[Apprenticeship resources for schools, teachers, parents \(amazingapprenticeships.com\)](http://amazingapprenticeships.com)

Higher Education resources for the Careers Leaders/teacher

A sample of sites to support schools and colleges raise awareness of the huge number of opportunities available by entering Higher Education in universities and colleges.

A number of free services for all state schools

<https://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/overview-for-schools>

Cutting edge resources for pre-16 and post-16 students thinking about university

<https://myheplus.com/>

CPD and links to online events for staff to support students' progression to leading universities

www.advancingaccess.ac.uk

For a list of degree apprenticeships and other useful information about alternative routes

www.thescholarshipclub.org.uk

North East universities

HE support from combined NE universities – North East Raising Aspirations Partnership

<http://www.nerap.ac.uk/outreach/nerap-outreach-activity/teachersguide/>

A single point of contact for teachers and advisers to provide HE information to all students

<https://www.outreachnortheast.ac.uk/>

Newcastle University resources – over 400 free resources and activities

<http://toolkit.ncl.ac.uk/>

Durham University resources – Spend a night in one of Durham's colleges!

<https://www.dur.ac.uk/forteachers/>

Teesside University resources – how to prepare for the university application process

<https://www.tees.ac.uk/sections/schoolscolleges/post16.cfm>

University of Sunderland – Pre and Post 16 activities for schools and colleges

<https://www.sunderland.ac.uk/more/schools-colleges/>

University of Northumbria – check out the university's Evolve programme

<https://www.northumbria.ac.uk/study-at-northumbria/information-for-schools-and-colleges/>



North East FE colleges: Higher Education/access to the courses

Bishop Auckland

<https://bacoll.ac.uk/HE>

Derwentside, Consett

<https://www.derwentside.ac.uk/adults/access-to-higher-education/>

East Durham, Peterlee

https://www.eastdurham.ac.uk/higher_education_courses

Gateshead

<https://www.gateshead.ac.uk/access-higher-education>

New College, Durham

<https://www.newcollegedurham.ac.uk/higher-education/>

Newcastle

<https://www.ncl-coll.ac.uk/higher-education/welcome-to-newcastle-college>

Northumberland, Ashington/Kirkley Hall

<https://www.northumberland.ac.uk/courses/higher-education/>

Sunderland

<https://www.sunderlandcollege.ac.uk/courses/higher-education/>

Tynemet College, Wallsend

<https://www.tynemet.ac.uk/higher-education>

Tyne Coast College, South Shields

<http://tynecoast.ac.uk/higher-education>

Visiting speakers to inspire students

There is a vast amount of evidence to show how encounters with employers and employees can have a profound impact on young people, whether these are physical visits to a school (eg, delivering an assembly) or an online presentation via a webinar. These sites enable you to search through volunteer databases and find inspiring speakers for your students.

Register and invite local volunteers into schools for a variety of activities from lessons to events. Includes a guide of how to make the most of your volunteers

www.inspiringthefuture.org

Job seeking workshops, money skills and other activities delivered by Barclays volunteers

<https://barclayslifeskills.com/educators/workshops/>

Book a STEM ambassador to deliver STEM activities/talks in school. Sign in to STEM portal

<https://www.stem.org.uk/stem-ambassadors/>

Invite high profile national speakers into school to give inspirational talks

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/>

Request role models for events, workplace visits, speakers, mock interviews, careers fairs...

wwwFOUNDERS4SCHOOLS.org.uk

Apprenticeship resources and request form for Young Apprentice Ambassador Network

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/request-support/>



National careers events

Running your careers activities alongside national events can give your careers programme focus and kudos. It shows other staff in schools and colleges that careers activities are an important part of the academic year and often come with branded resources to be used for the occasion. Other national days or weeks can also be used as a theme to which careers education is attached eg, sporting events, music festivals, health weeks or historical occasions.

National Apprenticeship Week 2021 (8-14 February 2021)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/939877/National_Apprenticeship_Week_2021_toolkit.pdf

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/naw2021/>

National Careers Week (1-6 March 2021)

<https://nationalcareersweek.com/>

British Science Week (5-14 March 2021)

www.britishtscienceweek.org (5-14 March 2021)

Information for parents and carers

Parents and carers are known to be the single biggest influence on most – though by no means all – young people's lives. Parents and carers, if they have the right information, can help schools and colleges reinforce important messages about their children's future decisions. Parents and carers need to keep up to date with changes in education and training, however, and this is where these websites can help.

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/tag/careers-advice-for-parents/http://www.parentadviser.co.uk/advice-for-parents.aspx>

<http://www.parentadviser.co.uk/>

<http://www.parentalguidance.org.uk/>

Parents' guide to engineering careers

<https://tomorrowseengineers.org.uk/media/95293/leaflet-parents-guide-to-engineering-careers.pdf>

Parents' guide to science careers – including job suggestions

http://www.ingenious-science.eu/c/document_library/get_file?uuid=ff04ce70-ec5f-48c6-9b66-960ef9b3bba0&groupId=10136

Labour Market Information (LMI) – general sites

Labour Market Information is vital in a careers programme so that young people are familiar with the world of work around them. Through the careful and targeted use of LMI in an institution the careers programme can give both important information about industry sectors, jobs forecasts and the skills and qualities employers look for in their workforce. Simple and useful LMI can also be found in some of the young people's sites above such as <https://icould.com/>, <https://www.firstcareers.co.uk/>, and <https://www.startprofile.com/>

A simple-to-use snapshot of key industry sectors in all areas of the UK

www.wheretheworkis.org

The latest 'Working Futures' survey covering labour market forecasts from 2017-2027

<https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/ier/wf7downloads>

Two interactive tools to compare basic statistical information about jobs and assess your skills at the same time. Both Careerometer & Skillsometer can be embedded into 3rd party websites

<https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/widget/>

The UK's largest independent producer of official statistics and the recognised national statistical institute of the UK; collecting, analysing and disseminating statistics about the economy, society and population.

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/>



A service provided by the Office for National Statistics, ONS, giving free access to the most detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics from official sources. Provides access to a range of data including industry classifications, area profiles, earnings and travel to work.

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>

Labour market statistics based on millions of up to date vacancies

<https://www.adzuna.co.uk/jobs/salaries>

Labour Market Information (LMI) – key datasets

This is the 'hard core' statistical information for people who are looking for specific information on the labour market. Used in the right way these data can add credibility to any teaching about the labour market and emphasise key points about the world of work in careers discussions, class or homework or even within certain curriculum subjects.

See 'list of occupations' for examples of different job roles at all levels

<http://www.skillssurvey.co.uk/jobs.htm>

Standard Industry Codes: SIC (2007 latest)

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/ukstandardindustrialclassificationofeconomicactivities/uksic2007>

Industries relate to the sectors people work in; there are 19 coded A-S

Standard Occupational Classifications: SOC (2020 latest)

These are the individual jobs within the industries; there are over 850 occupations

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/soc2020>

Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings: ASHE (every year)

Data on time worked, and pay, for FT/PT employees in all industries/occupations

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/bulletins/annualsurveyofhoursandearnings/previousReleases>

Annual Population Survey: APS (every year)

Covers employment, housing, ethnicity, religion, health and education

https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/home/release_group.asp?g=16

Business Register and Employment Survey: BRES (every year)

Official source of employee/employment estimates ie, who works in what industry

[Link](#)

Labour Force Survey: LFS (every three months)

Data on employment/unemployment/claimant count in the UK

<https://www.ons.gov.uk/releases/uklabourmarketstatisticsjan2019>

Employer Skills Survey: ESS (every two years)

Skills needs, training and business strategy

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/746493/ESS_2017_UK_Report_Controlled_v06.00.pdf

For Higher Education statistics: HESA

Student numbers by course/institution/criteria, destinations and more

<https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis>

Labour Market Information (LMI) – the North East

These sites relate to LMI specifically for the North East. Exploring them will highlight the differences in the economies of the seven local authorities in the North East Local Enterprise Partnership area and help schools and colleges adapt their careers programmes to suit the needs of their local labour market.

North East Strategic Economic Plan 2014-2024. Summary version available

<https://www.northeastlep.co.uk/the-plan>

The latest North East economy data which can be downloaded, exported and compared

<https://www.northeastdatahub.co.uk/>

North East LMI including factsheets and weekly bulletin – sign up for the weekly bulletin

<https://www.supportinginspiration.org.uk/ne/lmi-bulletin-issue-457>

North East Chamber of Commerce ‘Great reasons to build your career in the North East’ pack

<https://www.neechamber.co.uk/policy/greatreasons>

Covid resources – made available during the pandemic 2020

An assortment of key websites offering something new, different and/or free during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some of these resources may only be temporarily available eg, for 12 months from the point of posting (from April 2020).

Previously costed student careers materials now available free of charge

<https://try.optimus-education.com/steps-free-resources/>

Previously costed student/parent careers materials now available free of charge

<https://successatschool.org/advisedetails/1221/coronavirus-gatbsy-subject-guides-free-to-access-from-home>

Online learning resource to support Y6 students making their transition to secondary school

<https://bereadygroup.org/>

Register with Future First for free resources on learning pathways, skills and more:

<https://futurefirst.org.uk/product/free-remote-learning-pathways/>

Free home learning kit from ages 4-20+ including regular skills challenges

<https://www.skillsbuilder.org/homelearning?newsletter>

Careers and Enterprise Company

Set of 20 careers lessons about the world of work

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/my-week-work>

Resources designed to support Y11 and Y13 during a time of transition

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/browse-category/my-choices>

How to embed career learning in primary schools

<https://primary-careers.careersandenterprise.co.uk/>

Using youth social action to support careers education

<https://www.youth-social-action.careersandenterprise.co.uk/>

Careers in the curriculum modelling tool

https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/sites/default/files/2020-10/Careers%20in%20the%20Curriculum%20Modelling%20Tool%20Guide_FINAL.pdf