
Year 9 Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance 2025/2026





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As part of our Careers Education programme, pupils will experience several different lessons, presentations and events all aimed at helping to make informed choices about their future.

Learning for Life Programme - PSHE, Citizenship and Careers Education covering a wide variety of topics including: -

• Target & Aspirations	• Intimacy & Relationships
• British Values	• Dangerous Substances
• Careers	• Wellbeing

Year 9 have recently completed their unit of work on careers education, during which they explored the wide range of options available to them post-16. Throughout the unit, pupils investigated different career pathways, the qualifications and skills required for various roles, and the routes they can take to access them. As part of their learning, pupils also developed an understanding of employment law, including their rights and responsibilities in the workplace. They learned what employers can reasonably expect from them, as well as what they should expect from an employer in terms of working conditions, support, and fair treatment. This unit has equipped pupils with greater confidence and knowledge to help them start planning their future, make informed choices, and understand the world of work more clearly.



Unifrog is designed to centralise careers guidance, work experience, and Learning for Life provision, helping to improve pupils' outcomes. The Unifrog platform also empowers pupils to make informed decisions about their next steps. They can broaden their horizons and discover the right pathway through personalised quizzes, psychometric testing, engaging video content on careers and subjects, interactive courses, and webinars. Pupils can then compare and rank opportunities using our comprehensive database of pathways, including apprenticeships, university courses, colleges, T Levels, and other training routes.

Independent Careers Advice

In school, we have an independent careers adviser who delivers professional, quality, independent careers / options advice and guidance to selected Year 9's. Claire Baker has 22 years of experience working with young people and adults in a guidance capacity in schools, private industry and further education. She is fully qualified and holds a Level 6 Diploma in Careers Guidance and Development. Claire is very passionate about supporting our young pupils to make well-informed, realistic decisions about their future based on their own skills, strengths, interests, and abilities. Each selected pupil gets a 20-minute appointment where pupils can talk about their options, subjects, and post 16 options to ensure they make an informed decision about their future.

National Apprenticeship Week

During National Apprenticeship Week, Dan Crumblehulme from Preston College came to talk to the pupils about the different pathways and focused on the apprenticeship route, informing pupils on what an apprenticeship is, how to get on to one and the different apprenticeships available through Preston College.

Year 9 Passenger Safety Theatre Presentation

The Passenger Safety & The Importance of Wearing Seatbelts project, fully funded by Lancashire County Council, explores the serious consequences of failing to wear a seatbelt and the broader issue of poor passenger safety. Through the YOLO performance, pupils followed the emotional story of Sam's sister and father as they struggled to deal with the trauma of losing a family member in a fatal traffic accident, while trying to piece together what happened in the final moments of Sam's life. The programme focuses particularly on the risks associated with being a passenger in a car driven by a young driver. Throughout the project, pupils examined the responsibilities of passengers and challenged the misconception that being "just a passenger" means having no influence over how a car is driven. They investigated the consequences of negative attitudes and unsafe behaviours, explored strategies to manage their own conduct, and learned how to challenge anti-social driving effectively. The project also encouraged pupils to take personal responsibility, recognise and address peer pressure, and understand the vital importance of wearing a seatbelt at all times. Additionally, pupils were asked to consider the long-lasting trauma and suffering experienced by family and friends left behind after a fatal road incident.

National Careers Week (NCW)

NCW is a celebration of careers guidance in education across the UK. The aim is to help support young people leaving education to make informed decisions about their futures and to promote careers to younger pupils, which will hopefully help them to start thinking about industries and jobs that they may want to pursue in the future.

Y9 Careers Day

Pupils took part in a one-hour 'Bridge the Gap' challenge delivered by Preston College, where they engaged in hands-on STEM activities designed to spark their interest in engineering. Acting as engineers, they used Lego to design, build, and evaluate their own bridges, which helped them gain a deeper understanding of the different roles and pathways available within the construction sector.

They also attended an online safety and cyber security workshop run by two members of the Army's Specialist Cyber and Intelligence Corps Engagement teams. This session provided valuable insights into the rapidly growing cyber and intelligence sectors and highlighted the career opportunities available within these fields.

In addition, pupils participated in the Pillar of Growth Health Workshop with Future U, where they learned about the wide range of careers within the healthcare sector and the various pathways into these professions. A key part of the session involved an emergency-response themed board game that required them to answer questions and complete tasks based on the skills, qualities, and knowledge needed in healthcare roles.

Finally, pupils took part in the North West Ambulance Service workshop led by Dave Gilmore, a firefighter from Preston Fire Station, who taught them essential life-saving skills for responding to cardiac emergencies. During this beginner-friendly session, pupils learned how to perform effective chest compressions and how to place someone in the recovery position. Dave provided clear, engaging explanations of each technique and emphasised that anyone can learn and apply these vital skills in real-life emergency situations.

Options / Parents' Evening - Thursday 5th March

Local colleges and apprenticeship providers attend school during the Options and Parents' Evening, giving pupils, parents, and carers the opportunity to ask questions and receive tailored guidance. Representatives are available to discuss course content, qualification levels, entry requirements, transport options, financial support, and progression routes. They also provide advice on university pathways, post-18 opportunities, and subject choices, helping families make well-informed decisions throughout the options process.

Y9 Options Deadline - Thur 19th March 2026

Future U Assembly - Introduction to University

Future U is a collaborative project bringing universities, colleges, schools and businesses from across Lancashire together to work with pupils. Future U is all about empowering young people with the knowledge and opportunities to succeed, with the aim of overcoming barriers to progress. An Outreach Officer from FUTURE U delivers an assembly to all our Year 9's annually. The aim of the assembly is to help pupils realise that university is a realistic goal by highlighting the range of courses both academic and more vocational that may suit different types of people.

The logo for FUTURE U, featuring the word 'FUTURE' in a stylized, blue, blocky font with a small blue cube icon integrated into the letter 'U'.

Opening Doors to the Future: Year 9 University Visit



All Year 9 pupils will have the opportunity to visit a local university, where they will be able to explore the campus, learn about different courses, and gain a firsthand understanding of what university life is like. During the visit, pupils will take part in guided tours, speak with current students and staff, and learn about the academic and extracurricular opportunities available to them. This experience is designed to broaden their aspirations, help them make informed decisions about their future pathways, and inspire them to consider higher education as a realistic and exciting option.

KS4 Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance YEAR 10

Learning for Life covering a wide variety of topics

Unifrog Careers programme which helps simplify and improve careers guidance.

Careers Assembly with JSW

Importance of CV Writing

Preston College Workshop (Prefect Training)

Introduction to Work Experience Assembly with Education Business Partnership

Apprenticeships Assembly as part of National Apprenticeship Week with Preston College

Ask Apprenticeship Assembly

Work Experience Workshops with Future U

Water Safety Assembly TBC

Careers Day - CV Workshop, Basic First Aid, Road Safety Awareness & University of Lancashire Exam Positivity
as part of National Careers Week

1:1 Careers Interviews with Independent Careers Adviser

Blackburn, Runshaw, Cardinal Newman & Preston College Taster Day Assembly

Blackburn, Runshaw, Cardinal Newman & Preston College Taster Days

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award TBC

The Army (Outreach Team) TBC

Work Experience (1 Week Work Placement)

Careers Corner

**Every week, we produce a newsletter; on the newsletter we share information to pupils/parents/carers
information with regards the College Open Events, Apprenticeship Vacancies and
Job of the Week.**

KS4 Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance YEAR 11

Learning for Life covering a wide variety of topics

Unifrog Careers programme which helps simplify and improve careers guidance

Careers Assembly with JSW

1:1 Careers Interviews with Independent Careers Adviser

Blackburn, Runshaw, Cardinal Newman, Myerscough & Preston College Assembly

Colleges in school to help pupils with the Application Process

Preston's College - Runshaw College - Newman College - Blackburn College

Year 11 Careers Day Careers Advice from Colleges & Employers &
Apprenticeship Workshop with Preston College & University of Lancashire—*The Power of the Mind*

FUTURE U Workshop

Ask Apprenticeships Assembly / Ask Apprenticeships Lunchtime Drop In

T2000 Apprenticeships Assembly / T2000 Apprenticeships Lunchtime Drop In

Blackburn, Runshaw, Cardinal Newman, Myerscough & Preston College Lunchtime Drop In

Motivational Assembly

Future U Revision Assembly

Year 11 Personal Interviews with Colleges

Careers Corner

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