

BEYOND

CAREERS & PATHWAYS FOR LHA FUTURES

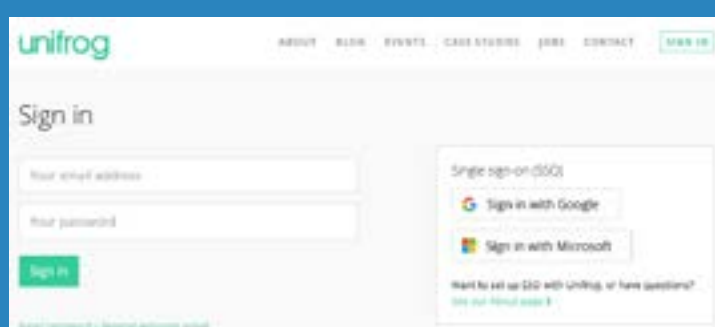


Welcome to our latest edition of our Beyond careers newsletter which focuses on the Yr 8 work placement days that took place at the end of March as well as the experiences of some of our recent alumni, who have been kind enough to keep in touch.



Within this edition, you will see a small selection of the many success stories where our students have had fantastic experiences of the workplace. Some students have had a nice surprise and really enjoyed what they were doing and others have had a realisation that working can be quite tough at times! Whatever their experience, it all helps to support future decision making and has been a great experience overall. Thank you to all the parents/carers of Yr 8 students who were able to source the 2 day placement for their child, and thank you to those parents/carers who were able to offer placements for other students; all of your help is much appreciated.

Thank you also to the parents/carers who took the time to give us feedback on their child's placement but also on our new careers platform, Unifrog. Should you wish to view information on your child's access to Unifrog, you can do this by accessing this URL (<https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in>) and signing up at the bottom right where it says "Are you a parent/guardian wanting to create an account?"



We are also pleased to receive updates from a number of our recent alumni, who have shared details of the courses they have pursued since leaving LHA. As you will see, their interests are both diverse and distinctive, underpinned by clear determination and a strong passion for their chosen paths. We wish them every success in their future endeavours.

Finally, in a recent student survey on employability skills our students told us that they would like to improve their oracy and verbal communication skills. Should any parents/carers work in a role where you specialise in verbal communication, e.g. lawyer, manager, sales, acting etc. and feel you could commit some time to support us, I would be delighted to hear from you. It does not have to be a regular commitment it could be a one off assembly or a lesson or short term/longer term lunch time club; any support is greatly appreciated.

Happy careers reading!

Mrs Tucker
Senior Assistant Vice Principal Careers Leader
Email: n.tucker@lostockhallacademy.org

COLE MITCHELL – ALUMNI

Cole Mitchell, prospective University of Cambridge (Human, Social and Political Sciences) Student.

I attended Lostock Hall from 2020-2025. My first couple of years were characterised by constant lockdowns, 2-metre spacing, online classes, and mandatory masks. It was only in Year 10 that I started to really enjoy learning. Being given more freedom to choose what you study is always refreshing, especially as LHA had GCSEs to offer that not many other high schools did, mainly photography and media studies, which have built up my passion for anthropology and the study of society.



My second-year EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) will be on how the impact of the AIDS crisis has been preserved through physical media, giving me the chance to visit multiple exhibitions and museums, a somewhat nerdy hobby of mine that started because of GCSE photography. I want to thank Mr Quinlan for his contagious passion for the arts and unwavering support that led me to this.

I received my results on the 21st of August 2025, somehow achieving all 9s and a 7 in maths. I wouldn't have been able to get these without the dedicated support from teachers both in and outside school, especially with Mrs Archibald's tutoring in maths, space to breathe from BfL, and Mr Hermida's amazing pastoral care. I was also awarded a large sum of money to help the transition to college through the Penketh Bursary. With this, I was able to kit myself out with brand new equipment (every student knows the amazing feeling this brings) and textbooks, as well as paying for a college trip to the Cambridge University North West conference to meet lecturers from the university itself and learn more about applying. None of this would have been possible without LHA and the generosity of the Penketh family and the board of governors, and for this I thank them.

I have been accepted onto the University of Warwick summer school for Humanities and Cultural Heritage, and the 2026 Pembroke College Arts and Humanities summer residential at Cambridge University, which had over 700 applicants for only 35 spaces (more competitive than actual Cambridge degrees!). My application to Cambridge will be submitted on the 15th of October this year, and I will know by January 2027 whether I have a place. I wish to use my degree to pursue a career in journalism, giving me the chance to travel, meet new people, and give voices to the voiceless. But I want to say that school isn't everything. Don't feel pressured into an 'academic' route once you leave LHA. A Levels aren't for everyone, and neither are GCSEs. If you're struggling with classroom learning, please don't be afraid to explore other options post-16.

My main message is this; prioritise yourself, your wellbeing, your education, and your future. Ignore what anyone else says about what you should do with your life- it's your life, after all. Use the support given to you and ask for more if ever you need it. Don't be afraid to ask for help, or to ask a 'stupid' question. And finally, know that whatever results you get, they do not define you. The work you put in to get them and what you do with them does.

I am happy to talk with any students interested in applying to Cambridge, Oxford, or any other competitive universities or Russell Groups, or anyone under academic or exam pressure who needs advice from a student with experience on dealing with this- please speak to Mrs Tucker and she will organise this. I also recommend the Sutton Trust Online service, which is free to all students and has helped me prepare my uni application.

CONNOR MCRORY – ALUMNI

My name is Connor McRory and I attended Lostock Hall Academy, leaving in 2021, before progressing to Runshaw College, where I studied in BTEC level 3 extended diploma in Sport. During this time, I developed a greater interest in health rehabilitation which helped guide me towards a career in physiotherapy. I am now approaching the end of my second year studying B.Sc. (Hons) Physiotherapy at the University of Lancashire and have really enjoyed the journey so far.

During my time at school, I knew I wanted a career where I could work with people and make a positive difference, but I was not



always certain which path to take. Studying sport at Runshaw helped me build confidence and gave me a better understanding of anatomy, exercise, fitness and the importance of supporting people to improve their physical health. From there, I decided physiotherapy was the right career for me because it combines healthcare, communication, rehabilitation and problem-solving.

Since starting university, I have developed both academically and personally. The course has challenged me to become more independent, organised and confident in professional situations. I have studied a wide range of subjects including anatomy, rehabilitation, musculoskeletal conditions, cardiorespiratory physiotherapy and neurological conditions. Alongside university learning, I have also completed clinical placements where I have worked with patients in healthcare settings and gained valuable real-world experience.

One of the most rewarding parts of the course has been seeing the impact physiotherapists can have on patients' recovery, mobility and confidence. Placements have helped me build communication skills, professionalism and confidence when working as part of a multidisciplinary team. I have particularly

enjoyed working in community and rehabilitation settings, supporting patients to improve their independence and quality of life.

The course can be demanding at times, especially balancing placements, assignments and exams, but it has been very rewarding. Through hard work and support from lecturers, placement educators and peers, I have achieved strong academic results and continued to grow in confidence throughout the degree. Looking ahead, I am excited to continue into my third year and progress towards qualifying as a physiotherapist. I hope to continue developing my clinical skills and eventually work within the NHS.

For any students considering physiotherapy or a healthcare career, I would encourage them to stay motivated, work hard and take every opportunity available. It is a challenging course, but also extremely rewarding and opens the door to a career where you can genuinely help people every day.

YEAR 8 WORK EXPERIENCE DAY

Year 8 students were encouraged to take part in a 2 day work experience programme.



Niamh visited St Joseph's Catholic Primary School - Brindle.

She helped with the day-to-day running of the classroom e.g. handing out books, listening to children read, preparing resources, interacting with the children etc.

Strongest skill; Creativity / Innovation: Niamh showed great initiative by offering to do things before they were asked of her e.g. handing out resources.

Conor - EAL teaching with LCC at 2 primary schools

The children took to Conor so well and chatted happily as they worked and he had a good rapport with them. Conor came into two different schools and worked with a variety of ages of children and really enjoyed his time on placement.

Strongest skill; Teamwork: Conor worked brilliantly as a part of the team, supporting the children if they needed help with tasks. Helping me in organising resources and worksheets to be used by students. We worked very well as a team together.



Sam visited Invincibles Studio Limited.

Sam spent time with different staff members across the business learning about marketing, game design, QA and game development.

Strongest skill; Teamwork: Sam really enjoyed testing and playing the games and gave some very good feedback/ideas to improve the product She worked to help build some stools up that were being loaded onto a van, she also helped by working making the headboards



Olivia - Southern Solicitors

During her time at the solicitors, Olivia was shown how to read a Will to obtain the necessary information required to add to a spreadsheet.

Strongest skill; Listening: Olivia listened very carefully to instruction and took notes which was impressive for her age and this enabled her to complete her task correctly and efficiently.

Two of our students had the fantastic opportunity to spend the day with the North West Ambulance Service. They gained lots of hands-on experience, including using training dummies, exploring emergency vehicles, and even getting up close to a helicopter. It was an exciting and informative experience that gave them a valuable insight into the work of emergency medical services.



Gracie-Lea - North West Ambulance Service



Harry - North West Ambulance Service





Emilia – Vintage Barbers

Emilia Sanderson recently enjoyed a hands-on work experience placement at Vintage Barbers, giving her a valuable insight into the day-to-day running of a busy barber shop. During her placement, Emilia had the opportunity to observe a range of barbering techniques, assist with preparing workstations, and learn about the importance of customer service within the industry



Brayden – PW Plastering

Brayden's strongest skill was his teamwork. He took initiative and noticed when tasks needed doing. Brayden was punctual and had a great attitude.

A huge thank you to all the parents, carers, family members, and friends who supported these work experience opportunities. Their encouragement and commitment help provide invaluable insights into a wide variety of careers and roles, allowing our students to develop important workplace skills, explore future career paths, and gain real-world experience that will benefit them in the years ahead. We are incredibly grateful for their continued support.



Evie – Clayton Contract Upholstery

Evie helped with the process of making things in the factory like headboards, stools and buttons for jobs going out

Strongest skill; Teamwork: She worked to help

build some stools up that were being loaded onto a van, she also helped me by working with me making the headboards

Student feedback; I made headboards for a hotel in Glasgow, and stools for a bar in London which I am proud of.

I think I have a good relationship with the people who work there so in the future if I am wanting to go into designing and making different things I can use this as an option.



Isaac – Bluebird Golf Centre

Isaac spent his two days work experience at bluebird golf centre. Isaac was very keen and excited.

Isaac went in a few weeks before his placement was due to start to ask details on time, what he should wear and what to expect.

Isaac's first day came and he went in so confidently, he took wellies as advised and also spare clothes.

I got a message around 11am from James that basically said Isaac was a credit to us and he was getting on brilliantly.



Isaac came home exhausted as he had a very well planned out day. Isaac was very excited to tell us all about what he had done in the day. Second day went very well. Isaac's dad collected him and they said he has worked very hard, and would be happy to have him back in the future and also when he is older maybe a part time job.

As a thank you, Isaac was given a loyalty card to use in the driving range.

Overall this was a very good insight into what employers expect from their employees.

Isaac's strongest skill was his independence. He was a really hard-working young man who listened and did all jobs correctly. Even to the point of doing skilled golf club fixing.

COLLEGE TASTER DAYS

This term, as part of our comprehensive Careers Programme, Year 9 and Year 10 students had the opportunity to visit local colleges to explore the exciting options available for their future education and career pathways. These visits gave students a valuable insight into college life, helping them to understand what their next steps could look like after school.

Students enjoyed taking part in a range of lessons, meeting college staff and students, and exploring the campus facilities. The visits provided an excellent opportunity to experience a different learning environment and begin thinking about their future aspirations.

College Visits:

- Year 9 – Preston College (photos)
- Year 10 – Cardinal Newman College
- Year 10 – Runshaw College

The students represented the school brilliantly and gained valuable experiences that will support them in making informed choices about their future.





Summer
STARTS
NOW!

RUNSHAW
Sampling Day 2026

Lostock Hall Academy

Thursday 2 July 2026

PRESTON COLLEGE PLUMBING AWARD

Well done to Phoebe and Esther, who received awards from the Preston College, Plumbing Department in the 'Pipe Snake Competition', which challenged learners to design, build and solder a series of plumbing pipes, showcasing their practical skills, precision, and craftsmanship. Phoebe received the 'Special Recognition Award' and Esther was named the Winner - well done girls!

It's great to see young women engaging with the trades and demonstrating that these career opportunities are open to everyone.



When I first started college, I was worried about making the wrong decision with the subjects I had chosen as the only one I had previous experience with was English Literature and chose to continue due to my love for novels and analysis. However, when I took my first lessons in Psychology and Law, I knew these were the subjects for me as it combined education and passion all into one. However, with my Applied Diploma for Criminology after taking the first mock exam in the first year I was still unsure whether this was really the course for me as I found myself wanting to spend the time this extra course was taking on the subjects I enjoyed more. I dreaded being stuck with a subject I didn't like and didn't feel I enjoyed learning about but my tutor at Cardinal Newman College was happy to help which resulted in me deciding to stop the Criminology course in order to focus more on my other studies. Not only was this option available to me, but it really reassured me that for the first 2 weeks of college you were allowed to try out different courses than the ones you picked and swap them if there was space; this was really useful in case you did feel you made a mistake with the ones you had already chosen.

During my time at college, I was also given various opportunities to further my learning, for example I took part in 3 extra HE* law sessions for 2 hours after college which covered content beyond the specification and allowed me to explore other aspects of law that I wasn't aware of. In addition, I went on college trips such as a visit to the Shrewsbury Prison in which the history of the place was explained as well as a tour and elements of prison life, the University of Lancashire English Literature trip which explored the campus and the courses available and the Lancaster University trip which provided a creative writing class from a lecturer to represent university life. I also participated in the Psychology society which explored elements of psychology in our daily lives and activities in addition to what we learn in the curriculum. Due to the enjoyment of my time at college, I found myself volunteering in and outside of it. This was for events such as taster days and Newman Fest for Year 11s joining the following September. I also volunteered for Playscheme in 2025 as I had done previously in 2023 as a group leader. However, this time I was in the position of a key worker helping a child in need of additional support which also gave me hands on experience working with children with additional requirements which benefitted me as a psychology student learning about other's perspectives and experiences. Due to the flexible timetable, I have enough time for a part time job which has allowed me to achieve multiple CPL safety certificates and gives me extra experience in the job industry for the future.

This all leads me to today where I have completed all of my exams and now await my results to see what university I will go to. Thanks to the support of my friends, family and tutors, I have aimed higher than I ever thought I would regarding my education and look forward to what the future has to offer.

I am more than happy to chat with any students who are interested to find out more about the courses I took, the process of A-Levels or anything regarding college life. If so, please speak to Mrs Tucker and she will put you in contact with me.

Layla Baker.

LAYLA BAKER – ALUMNI

My name is Layla Baker, and I attended Lostock Hall Academy between the years 2019 and 2024. During high school, I explored various ideas about certain career paths ranging from teacher to architect based on the lessons I loved most, including Maths, Art and English. However, when choosing my courses for college in year 11, I knew based on my interests that I wanted to explore subjects outside of those found in high school. Therefore, I chose A-Level Law, A-Level Psychology, A-Level English Literature and an Applied Diploma for Criminology at Cardinal Newman College. Additionally, I also aimed to achieve a place on the HE* programme by achieving 5 grade 7s or more in my GCSEs of which I was successful. I found myself gravitating towards A-Levels as I was happy with the structure of the tests in high school and felt a path with a system similar to the one I was already used to would be more beneficial for the way I process and recall information.



MADISON HOWELLS – ALUMNI

My name is Madison Howells and I was a student at Lostock Hall Academy between the years of 2019 and 2024. For a while, I worried about what my future would look like, especially since I spent my first 2 years of secondary school in lockdown. However, after beginning my GCSE journey in Year 9, my aspirations began to change. I decided I wanted work in healthcare as a paramedic. During my final years at LHA, I really began to research into the role of a paramedic and what qualifications I needed to pursue this career. I learnt that I needed to gain at least 5 GCSEs with a minimum of a grade 4 including English Language, Maths and Science. I managed to achieve this by gaining 11 GCSEs with grades ranging from Distinction* to a grade 4. At this stage, I had applied to Cardinal Newman College and hoped to enrol on the BTEC courses Human Biology and Health and Social Care. Although, on results day I had my enrolment interview with the college and decided to change my courses and enrol onto the Level 3 extended diploma in Health and Social Care instead. Prior to this decision, I did quite a bit of research about the course, as I much preferred having the opportunity of work experience and more coursework. This decision was the best for myself as now I look back and see how much experience and knowledge I have gained just from studying 1 course alone.



Over the 2 years studying health and social care at Newman I have completed coursework and exams in so many subject areas. Examples include Public Health, Nutritional Health, Infection and Response and Children's Development. My personal favourites were nutritional health and infection and response. This is because I was able to complete real-life scenarios where I could present my skills and knowledge as a demonstration rather than completing a written exam. In April 2025, I completed my first placement at Chorley Hospital. This experience really helped me develop my skills and knowledge about hospital care as well as the various roles that healthcare professionals have. I also was able to spend a week at New Longton All Saints Primary school and Barnardo's Include me 2. Both were interesting and fun as I gained further experience in working with children with additional needs. In October 2025, I completed my final placement block at Lostock Lodge Care Home. This week was extremely rewarding because I was able to support older individuals who have dementia and long-term chronic conditions. Completing this work experience was such an advantage when it came to writing my personal statement and applying for university. Having this experience also allowed me to stand out during group interviews as I was able to share my experience in the workplace and share how I have developed various skills. I soon applied for 5 paramedic science courses for various universities including Coventry University, Sheffield Hallam, and the University of Cumbria. After completing interviews with these 3 universities, I was offered places on their BSc (Hons) degrees in paramedic science.

I was over the moon after knowing that three amazing universities had offered me a place but, I decided to firm my choice of the University of Cumbria. I chose to do this because after

attending an open day, I felt so welcomed by the staff and the students. They showed me through the whole campus and even took their time to show me the facilities. This past April, I attended an offer holder day where I was able to meet some of my potential classmates. This really firmed my decision as I have never felt so at home and excited to begin university. Also, the University of Cumbria really stood out to me because of their teaching styles. The lecturers on the open day explained how they offer various learning styles to adhere to all students needs. They also have in place a 'theory to practice' method which involves spending the first half of the week learning the skills and then the rest of the week consolidating the knowledge through practical work. This makes me so excited to begin university and start my journey to becoming a paramedic.

I am happy to speak to students who are thinking of applying to university and would like some advice on interviews and writing personal statements as well as tips for work experience. If so, speak to Mrs Tucker and she will arrange this.

ETHAN YOUNG – ALUMNI

My name is Ethan Young and I attended Lostock Hall Academy from 2020 to 2025. I wasn't really sure what I would do after high school until I took Business Studies as an option in Year 10. I found that I enjoyed this subject and it inspired me to want to continue studying Business Studies further after school, so I applied to do a BTEC Level 3 Extended Diploma in Business at Newman College.



I'm almost at the end of my first year of college and am enjoying the mix of coursework and exams. The course covers understanding business, developing a marketing campaign, personal and business finance (understanding business financial performance), managing an event, how to be a successful leader, using data and research to solve business problems, and recruitment and selection processes. So far, I'm on track to achieve the Distinction* that I was aiming for at the start of the course, with Distinctions in all coursework that I've completed so far.

Outside of college, I have been working in a local café, which has been useful because it has allowed me to gain valuable work experience whilst also earning some money. This experience is allowing me to further improve my communication, problem solving and time-management skills. I also volunteer with a local football team once a week, which shows commitment to others. These skills will also be important to include in my CV and should put me in a better position when applying for apprenticeships after college.

In the future, I hope that by the end of college I will have achieved the Distinction* grades that I am aiming for in my BTEC course and plan to apply for apprenticeships linked to HR, Business Management and Finance. I feel that an apprenticeship will allow me to continue learning and gaining experience whilst also earning money straight away, which will help to improve my career prospects.

Thank you for reading, Ethan Young.

MADISON HOWELLS – ALUMNI

My name is Millie Angel, and I attended Lostock Hall Academy from 2019 to 2024. From Year 7, I knew I wanted to pursue acting as a career, and the school was very supportive of this goal. Teachers regularly shared information about upcoming opportunities, helped me prepare for roles, and provided consistent encouragement throughout my time there. When choosing my GCSE options, I selected Performing Arts, Spanish, and History. My final results covered a range from a Distinction to a Grade 3, reflecting my different strengths across practical, creative, and academic subjects. I often compared myself to my sisters, who found written work much easier, but teachers in English and History helped me develop my skills significantly. They focused on helping me improve my understanding, structure my work, and participate confidently in discussions, which helped me make solid progress in areas I initially found difficult.



Throughout school, I was managing Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS), a chronic condition that affects energy levels, concentration, and physical comfort. This made sitting for long periods or writing by hand very difficult and painful. Alongside this, living with a long-term health condition also brought mental challenges, including days where I felt exhausted, overwhelmed, or anxious about keeping up. It is important to know that experiencing these kinds of physical or mental struggles is completely normal, and it does not mean you cannot succeed. The most important thing I learned was that you do not have to go through it alone; as long as you are willing to talk to the people around you, things can be put in place to help. At Lostock, I spoke up about what I needed, and the school put access arrangements in place to support me, the most significant being permission to use a laptop in all exams and assessments. This adjustment removed a physical barrier that had nothing to do with my ability or knowledge and meant I could fully demonstrate what I had learned. Because this support was set up during school, Runshaw College adopted the same arrangements automatically when I moved there. I am very proud that I achieved Grade 7s in both English Literature and History, which shows how much you can achieve when you have the right adjustments and understanding from those around you.

I am currently studying the Professional Performance Programme (PPP) at Runshaw College, which is a full-time, practical acting course designed for students aiming for higher education or work in the industry. The training is intensive and covers a wide range of techniques from practitioners including Stanislavski, Laban, Berkoff, and Artaud. You learn about voice, movement, character development, and different performance styles, alongside building the discipline and routine needed for professional work. A major part of the course is dedicated to audition preparation; we did not just learn monologues, but practised how to perform under pressure, make strong creative choices, and understand exactly what drama schools are looking for. This preparation helped me secure a place at Bristol School of Acting — one of the top drama schools in the UK — on the Cert HE in Acting for Stage and Screen, which I will begin next year.

This path has involved real ongoing challenges. My condition has progressed over time, requiring frequent hospital appointments and, last December, double jaw surgery. I spent 15 weeks on a liquid diet and had a long, slow recovery period where I felt physically drained and mentally exhausted. During these times, having a strong support system and being open about how I was feeling made all the difference. My family, friends, and tutors knew what I was going through because I told them, and they were able to adapt expectations or give me extra help when I needed it. The structure and routine of my acting training also helped, as it gave me something to focus on and work towards, even on days when I was struggling physically or mentally.

To the departments at Lostock: thank you to the Performing Arts team for providing a space to develop my skills and for taking my ambitions seriously. To my English and History teachers, thank you for helping me improve my reading, writing, and speaking skills — all of which are essential tools for acting. To the support staff who organised my access arrangements and medical plans, thank you for your patience and care; these changes made a massive difference to my experience and my results.

If you have questions about acting courses, drama school applications, what the PPP at Runshaw involves, or how to manage health conditions and difficulties through school and college, please contact Mrs Tucker at Lostock Hall Academy, and she will pass your message to me. I am happy to share more details or talk through my experience with anyone who would find it helpful. Next year I will be moving to Bristol to begin my professional training, and I am excited for what is ahead, knowing that the support I accepted and the lessons I learned at Lostock have given me a strong foundation to build on.

Millie Angel, Lostock Hall Academy, Class of 2024

RUNSHAW COLLEGE – MY FUTURES DAY

On Friday 27th March, a number of Year 10 students attended “My Futures Day at Runshaw College. This opportunity allowed students to gain an insight into the vocational opportunities offered by the college and help inform post 16 options. They participated in a number of tasks and activities based around careers in Health & Social Care, Public Services, Engineering and Business.

The students behaved impeccably during the event; it was wonderful to see them engaging so positively with the college staff, taking part in the activities, and interacting so well with one another throughout.



SHANNON KERRIGAN – ALUMNI

My name is Shannon Kerrigan, and I attended LHA for only a short period (2023-2024) as I had many previous struggles in my home and school life. Nevertheless, LHA supported me through my GCSEs, and I came away with passes in all my subjects.

I progressed to Blackburn College and applied for A-level subjects; Law, Politics and English Literature. At this point, I had little direction or ambition when considering future career prospects. During my first few months, I struggled to settle in and make friends etc, but I thoroughly enjoyed my subjects. A top tip I learnt is not to put pressure on yourself to get high grades when you're just starting to settle in - you have plenty of time to reach those goals.

Two years on, I am flourishing in my academic achievements, and I also head my college debate team. I have led the team through competitions at Manchester's University of Law, with one upcoming in the same city. Being at Blackburn College hugely boosted my confidence and social skills. At school, I couldn't put my hand up to answer questions, but now I lead contentious debates and discussions at national levels. I've run for student governor and frequently represent my subjects at open evenings.

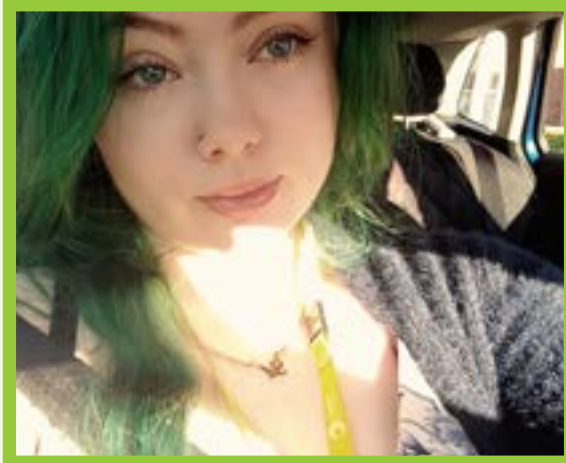
When applying for university, I was told my choices were too ambitious. But, after months of waiting (and a few prayers) I got 5/5 offers, and was accepted to my dream university LSE (London School of Economics and Political Science) alongside King's College London, both top Russell Group universities in the world to study Politics and International Relations. The course has relevant core content, but you can also pick your own units, which is what I am most excited for. Examples include philosophy, social theory, and wider Europe. Also, it is in the centre of London, and Buckingham Palace is only a short walk away!

Unfortunately, I suffered a medical setback, and I am now repeating my second year at college. This was to ensure I was on top form for my A-level exams, as obviously, these universities have competitive grade entries. I'm a qualified young carer, and don't come from a place of comfort financially, but I'm speaking to anyone in the same or similar situation – you can do it! Put your mind and effort into building your dreams and you will make it; there is help out there.

I branch out and meet frequently with local politicians and have attended political rallies. I've met local councillors and MPs who I keep in contact with about local and national issues. I have become a voice for my ward, for young people, women and carers.

If any students have questions about my academics or politics or want to discuss young carer support, then please refer to Mrs. Tucker and she will put me in contact with you.

Best of luck to all LHA students in their future ambitions.



FINDING APPRENTICESHIP VACANCIES



There are lots of ways you can search for apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are advertised throughout the year, on different websites and platforms. There are many ways you can search for apprenticeship vacancies, set out in this short guide.

Find an apprenticeship

Find an apprenticeship is the Government apprenticeship vacancy portal, providing free access to a large number of apprenticeship vacancies from across England at all levels. Anyone aged over 14 can create an account on this secure platform, enabling you to set up alerts for when new jobs are added that you might be interested in.

[Findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](https://findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)



Use the step-by-step guide to setting up an account on Find an apprenticeship. amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/how-to-register-on-find-an-apprenticeship-guide

Company websites

Most employers will add new apprenticeship vacancies to their company website. Search in the 'careers' section of the site to find information about current vacancies, and potentially future opportunities too.

Many employers will offer a signup service to keep you informed as soon as new positions are open, and others may advertise when the next recruitment window will be, so you know when to check back. Application processes and timelines will vary between different employers.

SIGN UP

When should you start applying?

Some employers could start recruiting as early as one year before they want the apprentice to start, others will have a shorter recruitment window. Employers will recruit apprentices at different times of the year and there is no set time or deadline to apply for apprenticeships like there is for university applications.

Look out for other ways to stay connected to employers and take advantage of the different ways you could learn more about their organisation through virtual work experience, open days and webinars.

amazingapprenticeships.com/workshops-webinars

Learn more about apprenticeships and technical education
amazingapprenticeships.com

EVENTS FROM SEPTEMBER

Over the coming months, look out for open events, experience days and taster sessions from local colleges being added to their calendars. Please visit the colleges' websites regularly for the most up-to-date information and additional event opportunities.

College	Open Event(s)	Website
Runshaw College	26 Sep 2026 (10am-2pm); 14 Nov 2026	https://openday.runshaw.ac.uk/
Cardinal Newman College	10 Oct 2026; 14 Nov 2026; 6 Feb 2027	https://www.cardinalnewman.ac.uk/apply-now/open-events
Myerscough College	3 Oct 2026 (10am-1pm); 21 Nov 2026; 6 Feb 2027; 17 Apr 2027	https://www.ucmyerscough.ac.uk/college-liaison/open-mornings-and-events-202627/
Preston College	No 2026/27 school leaver open events currently published	https://www.preston.ac.uk/
Blackburn College	Check events page for latest announcements	https://blackburn.ac.uk/event
Hutton Grammar Sixth Form	Individual visits available by appointment	https://www.huttongrammar.org/sixth-form/applicant-information/

LHA CAREERS FAIR 2026



THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER

Miss L Allan

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