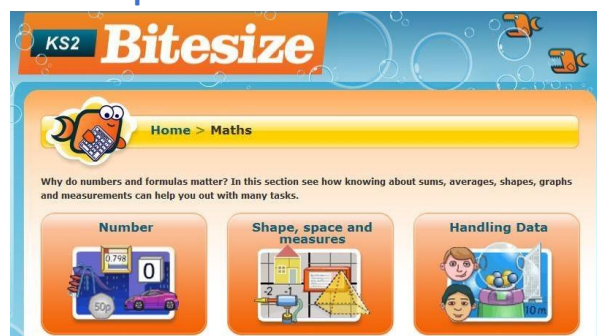




National news

BBC to invest £6m in AI to help transform its education services



The BBC is planning to announce a new £6m investment in BBC Bitesize to make it a more personalised learning platform. Using AI, the learning will adapt to the user and allow a deeper understanding of a subject.

[Read more](#)

New number one in top 10 jobs teens want



A BBC Bitesize Careers survey has found that almost one in 10 teenagers, aged 13 to 16 years old, chose doctor as their preferred career. Here are the top 10 desirable jobs for teenagers:

1. Doctor
2. Engineer
3. Teacher
4. Lawyer
5. Nurse
6. Vet
7. Footballer
8. Artist
9. Police officer
10. Building trade

When asked if they could work for any organisation in the world, here are the top 10 answers from the teenagers questioned:

1. NHS
2. Apple
3. Google
4. NASA

5. Microsoft
6. Police
7. Disney
8. Tesla
9. FIFA

[Read more](#)

How to get a job: Six expert tips for finding work



Some useful careers advice about searching for a job from the BBC site. Tips include expanding your geographical search due to more businesses offering hybrid and flexible working. Another point is to not wait for a job to be advertised. It is always worth sending an email to a business that you like the look of, as you never know if there might be a job available.

[Read more](#)

Diversity in automotive moving forward but remains stuck in the slow lane



The Institute of the Motor Industry has released its Driving Towards Inclusion report. Findings include:

- Females represent only 17.5% of the automotive sector workforce, and this percentage has declined in recent years.
- Individuals with disabilities make up 15.5% of the workforce.

- Non-White British individuals are 13% of the workforce, which is lower than the representation in the broader working-age population.
- Females and ethnic minorities have lower participation rates in automotive apprenticeships compared to those with disabilities.

[Read more](#)

Staff retention is the biggest challenge for UK employers in 2024



Some of the top challenges facing UK employers in 2024 include retaining employees/keeping top talent, meeting employees' pay expectations and providing a good work-life balance for employees - according to research by Ciph.

Over two-fifths of respondents working in the teaching and education sector (69%), hospitality (68%), and transport and logistics (67%) think that retaining employees is their organisation's biggest challenge.

Providing a good work-life balance was a key challenge for the transport and logistics, teaching and education and accounting, banking and finance sectors.

[Read more](#)

Recruitment processes are hindering the progress of neurodiverse individuals



A new report has found that those with autism sometimes face difficulties at the recruitment stage due to ambiguous interview questions. The current 'standardised approach' does not help 'unlock' the right skill sets and there should be more training in recognising candidates who need different types of support in the hiring process. It is recommended that hiring managers should consider the

strengths that many neurodivergent people have such as attention to detail, more efficient approaches to work and creativity.

[Read more](#)

Increases in minimum pay rates



The National Living Wage (for those over 21) increased from £10.42 to £11.44 on 1 April and the National Minimum wage for those at school leaving age or over, though under 21 also increased, as follows:

- Under 18/First year of apprenticeship from £5.28 to £6.40
- 18 - 20 from £7.49 to £8.60

[Read more](#)

LinkedIn Top Companies 2024



LinkedIn's 8th annual LinkedIn Top Companies looks at the 25 best large workplaces in the UK for a growing career right now.

Here is the top 5 with the most notable skills in demand:

- Mastercard - FinTech, Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC)
- Bain & Company - Economics, Maths
- AstraZeneca - Oncology, Clinical Trials
- Deloitte - Tax Accounting, Economics
- Eli Lilly and Company - Pharmaceuticals, Clinical Trials

[Read more](#)

London news

London-based Huzzle secures €1.67 million pre-seed to help students land their dream graduate job



London-based startup [Huzzle](#), which connects students and employers with entry-level career opportunities, has raised significant funding to transform the early careers space. Huzzle is currently used by more than 80,000 students and generates over 1,000 job applications and event registrations per day.

[Read more](#)

Aldi names top priority London store locations, with 3,500 new jobs planned



Aldi is looking to open 100 new stores across London, which could create 3,500 jobs. Some priority locations include Barnet, Hackney, Chelsea, Richmond and Notting Hill.

[Read more](#)

Sadiq Khan launches 'London growth plan' for 150,000 jobs

London Mayor Sadiq Khan has launched a 'London growth plan' to create 150,000 high-quality new jobs by the end of his potentially third term in office. These jobs would be in sectors such as finance, retail and hospitality - with new opportunities in health and life sciences and fintech.

[Read more](#)

London colleges inject £6.5m into green & digital skills training for up to 4m Londoners



Roll-out has begun to 23 FE providers in parts of London to deliver improved green and digital skills training. The £6.5m funding will see modern facilities, new course and qualifications and new approaches for collaborative teaching.

[Read more](#)



North East

Learning centre sees success in supporting young people into higher education



The IntoUniversity Newcastle East Centre, established in 2021, partners with Newcastle and Northumbria Universities, helping young individuals to access higher education. Serving 1,283 students aged 7-18, it boasts a 74% progression rate to higher education, surpassing national averages. The centre fosters academic, soft skill, and career development, addressing pandemic-related educational challenges.

[Read more](#)

University of Sunderland supports local film studio project as 8,000 new jobs created



The University of Sunderland has affirmed its support for the Crown Works Studio project, following the Government's backing. The collaboration between Fulwell 73 and Cain International aims to create over 8,000 jobs in the North East. Sir David Bell, the University's Vice-Chancellor, highlighted the project's potential to shape Sunderland's future by establishing it as a hub for filmmaking. This endeavor offers opportunities for graduates in film production and related fields, contributing to regional growth. Lee Hall, Head of School for Media and Communications, emphasized the project's broader impact, requiring expertise across various disciplines beyond film production.

[Read more](#)

Reducing stigma of poverty in schools improves maths and reading



Researchers at Newcastle University discovered a connection between reducing poverty stigma in schools and students' academic performance in reading and math. The study, examining the impact of Poverty Proofing® the school day, showed that after implementing measures to address poverty-related barriers, all students, regardless of their financial backgrounds, saw improvements in scores by approximately 5% over two years. The program, which works to remove obstacles for students in poverty, aims to create a more equitable school environment. This research highlights the importance of supporting disadvantaged students to enhance overall educational outcomes.

[Read more](#)

Industry-focused apprenticeships pave the way for a bright future in science manufacturing



East Durham College introduces industry-focused apprenticeships catering to science manufacturing employers' requirements. With a state-of-the-art cleanroom laboratory recently installed at the Peterlee campus, apprentices engage in hands-on learning experiences. Collaborating closely with employers, the college identifies training gaps to nurture future talent and address industry demands. Apprentices gain practical skills, including SOP and COSHH procedures, risk assessment, and lab techniques, ensuring readiness for the science manufacturing sector. Led by experienced professionals, the program emphasises real-world experience and offers flexibility to meet business needs, promoting a win-win scenario for employers and apprentices alike.

[Read more](#)



South

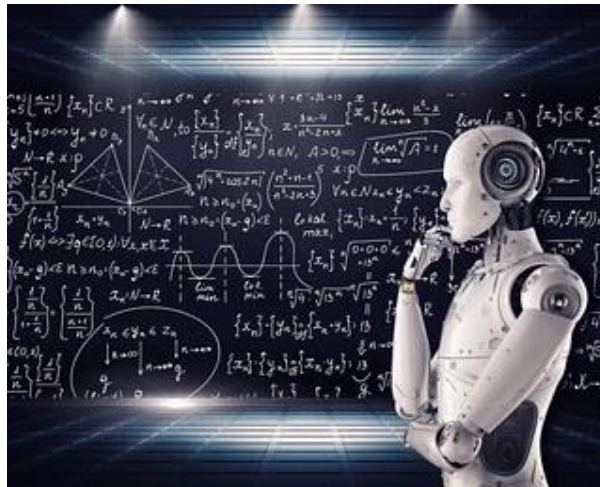
South Devon College launches new childminding course to help with shortage of early years provision



South Devon College introduces a new Childminding qualification to address the childcare sector's skills shortage. With a declining number of childminders nationally, the college responds to the demand by offering courses aligned with industry needs. Government plans for free childcare further strain the sector. The initiative aims to train more staff, with courses starting in April, offering flexibility and financial support for aspiring childminders. The college's comprehensive childcare provision includes apprenticeships and T Levels, ensuring a talent pipeline for local providers.

[Read more](#)

AI training hub coming to Surrey



Surrey is establishing a premier training hub in AI, led by the University of Surrey and Royal Holloway, University of London. The UKRI Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in AI for Digital Media Inclusion aims to advance responsible AI and inclusive design, creating 80 PhD positions. Surrey County Council supports the initiative to improve public service accessibility, especially for vulnerable residents, aligning with its innovation partnerships with universities and regional gaming projects.

[Read more](#)

New youth club in Littlemoor, Dorset, offers safe space and life skills for local youth

Residents in Littlemoor, Dorset, are eagerly anticipating the launch of a new youth club at the community centre on Canberra Road. Aimed at children aged 11 and over, the club will provide a safe space every Tuesday evening, offering warmth, food, and various life skill activities including cooking. Organisers, led by Ruth Mills, recognize the community's need for such a facility and have rallied support through fundraising efforts and backing from local organisations.

[Read more](#)

Surrey Festival of Skills returns showcasing opportunities for youth education and career paths



Businesses and training providers in Surrey can now register for the 2024 Festival of Skills, following the success of the inaugural event in November 2023. With over 1,300 attendees from schools and colleges engaging with 80 exhibitors, including major companies like Samsung and British Airways, the festival offers young people aged 14 to 18 insights into various sectors and career paths. Organized by Surrey County Council, supported by ALPS and Surrey Event Professionals, the festival

aims to inspire and connect youth with potential opportunities, contributing to the region's skilled workforce and economic growth.

[Read more](#)



Useful websites and resources



[Infographic: Why Space Matters](#)

Infographic by the UK Space Agency showing how the sector has grown and its importance to the wider economy.

[The best job sites for kicking off your career](#)

Website Luxegen compiles a list of some job sites if you are looking to start your careers in a specific field such as fashion, tech, finance and media.

[Careermap TV](#)

A selection of videos to watch ranging from information about apprenticeships to understanding sectors, work experience and careers advice.

[Morrisby resources - Getting a Job](#)

Top tips for interview preparation, insights into job opportunities and current employer trends.

[Skills for Careers](#)

The young people section on the Skills for Careers website offers information and advice on careers, work and training opportunities.

Dates for your diary



National

- [The Big Bang Fair](#), NEC, Birmingham - 19 to 21 June 2024
- [Skills London](#), ExCeL - 22 and 23 November 2024

London

- [West London Jobs Fair](#), Twickenham Stadium - 24 May 2024
- [Health & Social Care Job Show](#), Westfield, London - 10 and 11 June 2024

North East

- [Newcastle Careers Team](#) Advice Drop in Sessions in Newcastle for 16-19 year olds - multiple dates throughout May and June
- [Middlesbrough Jobs Fair](#), Riverside Stadium - 3 May 2024

South

- [Bournemouth Jobs Fair](#), Pavilion Theatre - 8 May 2024

- [Crawley Jobs Fair](#), K2 Crawley - 10 May 2024
- [Surrey Festival of Skills 2024](#), Surrey Sports Park - 15 October 2024

Feedback



Please let us know how useful you found this bulletin by clicking on the link [here](#).



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