



North East
Learning Trust

CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Issue: July 2026

May Edition | For Students, Parents & Educators Across Our Trust Schools

Career Spotlight of the Month

Teacher

Teachers inspire, educate, and support young people to achieve their full potential. They help students develop knowledge, skills, and confidence for future education and careers.

Top Roles:

- Primary School Teacher
- Secondary School Teacher
- SEND Teacher
- Further Education Lecturer
- Early Years Practitioner

Routes In:

- A Levels and University Degree + Teacher Training
- Degree Apprenticeships
- Teaching Assistant qualifications leading to further study
- Further Education routes through colleges and universities

Regional Need:

Schools across the Northeast continue to recruit teachers, particularly in subjects such as Maths, Science, Computing, and Design Technology.

SEND Focus – Looking Ahead to September

As students prepare for the next academic year, careers education and guidance continue to be adapted to meet individual needs, interests, and aspirations.

What This Looks Like:

- Personalised careers guidance
- Support with transitions between year groups and settings
- Tailored workplace experiences
- Collaboration between Careers Leaders, SENCOs, parents, and external providers

For Students:

- Think about what you are looking forward to next year.
- Set yourself one career-related goal.
- Ask for support if you're feeling anxious about change.

For Parents:

- Encourage discussions about future aspirations.
- Celebrate achievements from this academic year.
- Work with school staff to plan any support needed.

Key Message:

Every student's journey is different—and that's okay. Encourage discussions about future aspirations.

Provider Focus: Sunderland College

Sunderland College offers a wide range of pathways for students progressing after Year 11 or Year 13.

Courses & Areas Include:

A Levels
T Levels
Engineering
Construction
Health and Social Care
Digital and Computing
Creative Industries
Sport and Public Services

Why Choose Sunderland College?

Modern industry-standard facilities
Strong links with employers
University-level courses available
Excellent progression into apprenticeships, university, and employment

Summer Tip:

Many colleges run enrolment, induction, and transition activities during the summer term and holidays. Make sure you attend and ask questions to help you prepare for September.

Labour Market Information

Labour Market Insight: Future Skills for Future Jobs

While jobs continue to evolve, employers consistently tell us that certain skills are becoming increasingly important regardless of career sector.

The Skills Employers Want:

- **Communication**
- **Teamwork**
- **Problem Solving**
- **Creativity**
- **Resilience**
- **Digital Skills**
- **Organisation**

Why This Matters:

Many of these skills are developed through school, clubs, volunteering, sports, work experience, and part-time jobs.

Looking Ahead:

Students entering the workforce in the future are likely to have several careers during their lifetime. Developing transferable skills now will help them adapt to changing opportunities.

End of Year Reflection – Celebrating Success

As another school year comes to an end, it's important to recognise how much has been achieved. Throughout this year, students have engaged with careers lessons, employer encounters, workplace experiences, college visits, assemblies, and personal guidance.

Reflection Questions:

- What achievement am I most proud of this year?
- What skills have I developed?
- What have I learned about myself?
- What do I want to achieve next year?
- What career interests would I like to explore further?

Remember: every experience helps build your future.

Focus on SEND Learners & the World of Work

Many employers recognise the value that individuals with SEND bring to the workplace, including unique perspectives, creativity, loyalty, and problem-solving abilities.

Top Tips:

- *Focus on your strengths and interests.*
- *Explore supported internships and apprenticeships.*
- *Speak to your Careers Adviser about suitable opportunities.*
- *Research Disability Confident employers.*

Useful Resources:

- <https://www.preparingforadulthood.org.uk>
- <https://disabilityconfident.campaign.gov.uk>

Did You Know?

Many employers actively promote inclusive recruitment practices and provide workplace adjustments to help employees thrive

University is not the only route to gaining a degree. Many students now choose Higher and Degree Apprenticeships, which allow you to earn a salary whilst studying for a higher education qualification.

What are Higher and Degree Apprenticeships?

- **Higher Apprenticeships** are usually studied at Levels 4 and 5 (equivalent to a Foundation Degree or HNC/HND).
- **Degree Apprenticeships** are studied at Levels 6 and 7 (equivalent to a bachelor's or master's degree).

Why Consider This Route?

- Earn a wage while you learn.
- Gain valuable workplace experience alongside your studies.
- Have your tuition fees paid by your employer and the apprenticeship funding system.
- Graduate with industry experience as well as a qualification.
- Often progress into permanent employment with the company.

Did You Know? Many major employers, including the NHS, engineering firms, digital companies, banks, and local authorities, offer Degree Apprenticeships. This means students can achieve a university-level qualification without paying traditional university tuition fees while gaining valuable experience in their chosen career.

Top Tip:

When researching university courses, also look at **Degree Apprenticeships** in the same career area. **Comparing both options** can help you find the pathway that best suits your learning style, career goals, and financial circumstances.

Subject Focus of the Month - Geography

Parent/Carer Tip of the Month: Supporting Next Steps Over Summer

Geography helps students understand the world around them and develops research, analytical, communication, and problem-solving skills.

Careers Linked to Geography:

- Environmental Consultant – Helping organisations reduce environmental impact.
- Town Planner – Designing and improving communities.
- Meteorologist – Studying weather and climate patterns.
- GIS Technician – Using mapping technology to analyse data.
- Sustainability Officer – Supporting organisations to become more environmentally responsible.

Activity Idea:

Explore how climate change, population growth, and technology are impacting careers and industries across the world.

University Link:

Geography is highly regarded by universities because it combines scientific, analytical, and communication skills, making it useful for a wide variety of degree subjects and careers.

Parent/Carer Tip of the Month: Preparing for September

The start of a new academic year brings exciting opportunities and new challenges.

How You Can Help:

- Have positive conversations about future plans.
- Help your child establish routines before returning to school or college.
- Encourage independence and responsibility.
- Celebrate achievements from this year.
- Discuss goals and aspirations for the new academic year.

Why It Matters:


Students who feel supported and prepared are more likely to approach new opportunities with confidence and enthusiasm.

Bonus Tip:

Ask your child:

"What is one thing you're excited to achieve next year?"

This simple question encourages positive thinking and future planning.



"The future depends on what you do today."

A Final Message for Students

As this academic year comes to a close, take a moment **to be proud of everything you have achieved**. Whether you've discovered a new interest, developed new skills, completed work experience, attended careers events, or simply stepped outside of your comfort zone, every experience has helped prepare you for the future.

The summer break is a chance **to recharge, reflect, and think about the opportunities that lie ahead**. As you move into the next academic year, **challenge yourself to be the best version of you**. Set goals, stay curious, try new things, and remember that success isn't about being perfect—it's about making progress. Your future is full of possibilities, and every step you take today brings you closer to achieving your ambitions.

Have a fantastic summer and we look forward to seeing what you achieve next year!