



# Careers Cascade

*'REACH for your best future'*

## Spring Term 1 2024

### Happy New Year from Careers at Avonbourne.

This term our newsletter will focus on local opportunities and volunteering within the Dorset area.

#### What is volunteering?

Volunteering is about giving your time to help someone else or a cause you care about, without expecting payment. It's a two-way relationship that should benefit both you as a volunteer and the people, organisation or service that you are helping.

Volunteering is open to everyone regardless of age, background, experience. Before you decide to volunteer, you might find it useful to ask yourself some of these questions:

Why do I want to volunteer?

What am I hoping to gain from volunteering?

What do I enjoy doing?

What interests, hobbies or skills do I have or would like to develop?

How would volunteering help with my career development?



What commitment can I make; short-term, one-off projects, once a week, long term etc.

How much time can I give?

When can I volunteer, evenings, weekdays or weekends?

How far am I willing to travel to the volunteer position?

Does the purpose of the organisation match my own values and beliefs?

There are many benefits to volunteering. By giving your time as a volunteer you can:

Help others in your local community and give something back.

Make a difference to the lives of others.

Improve your health and wellbeing.

Explore your interests.

Share your skills and experiences.

Develop new skills and knowledge.

Gain great experience, which looks good on your CV.

Become 'job ready'.

Gain confidence and self-esteem

Meet new people and make new friends.

Feel valued and part of a team.



Some helpful websites you may want to research further to find local opportunities and further information.

[Community Action Network \(can100.org\)](https://www.can100.org)

[Youth Volunteering \(volunteeringdorset.org.uk\)](https://volunteeringdorset.org.uk)

[Volunteering | Dorset Wildlife Trust](https://www.wildlifetrust.org.uk)

[Volunteering for young people - Dorset Council](https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

[Volunteering | BCP \(bpcouncil.gov.uk\)](https://www.bpcouncil.gov.uk)

[Dorset HealthCare :: Volunteering](https://www.dorsethealthcare.nhs.uk)

## National Apprenticeship week is coming up and this year takes place 5<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> February 2024

National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) takes place between 5 to 11 February 2024 and is an opportunity for the education and skills sector to celebrate the achievements of apprentices around the country and the positive impact they make to communities, businesses, and the wider economy.

The Department for Education are delighted to announce that the theme for National Apprenticeship Week 2024 is '**Skills For Life**'.

We are calling on individuals, employers, training providers and communities to get involved by encouraging everyone to consider how apprenticeships can help to provide **#SkillsForLife**.



During November, we will be launching a new NAW events map and introducing our NAW 2024 Supporters Club Employers.

Keep up to date with National Apprenticeship Week 2024 by following [Apprenticeships on Twitter](#) and [Apprenticeships on LinkedIn](#) or sign up to our [mailing list](#).

Did you know that up to **85% of young people** stay in employment after completing an apprenticeship? With opportunities in a growing range of industries such as finance, healthcare, IT, and engineering, we've got resources and exciting events coming up in 2024 to help your students find the best apprenticeships for them.

## **Apprenticeships Unlocked 2024**

Bournemouth and Poole college's next event is a

special one! Returning on **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 from 4-7pm**, is their annual **Apprenticeships Unlocked Event** and it is set to be bigger and better!

Come join us at a new venue of **The Pavilion, Bournemouth** to find out all you need to know about apprenticeships and connect with some of our fantastic employers; one which could be your perfect match!

To book your place scan the QR code or use this link: [www.thecollege.co.uk/unlocked](http://www.thecollege.co.uk/unlocked)





**Bournemouth & Poole College** | **Apprentice & Employer Special Event**  
8 Feb 2024  
Pavilion, Bournemouth

Find your perfect employer match!



**Apprenticeships Unlocked!**  
Save the date - book now:  
[thecollege.co.uk/unlocked](http://thecollege.co.uk/unlocked)



## YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE 2024

It is our intention for all Year 10 students at Avonbourne Academy to participate in unpaid work experience on either week commencing Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June for M Panel or Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June for N Panel.

We believe that work experience will give students an authentic experience of working life

and create a space for them to think about what they would, or would not, like to do in the future. A work experience placement will also provide students with the opportunity to develop core skills, through working with other people, meeting different expectations, and solving problems, including planning transport to and from work.

Students (and their families) should source their own work experience placements. The careers team will do its best to find placements for any students who have been unable to find their own, but because we have limited resources, we expect to only be able to help a few students. We are therefore asking for your support in organising a quality work experience placement for your child. You may want to approach your own employer, or friends, family or contacts who work in



sectors which are of interest to your child. Alternatively, you may want to support your child in making an approach to an employer that is of interest to them, to ask if they would be willing to offer a week's work experience.

Within their tutor programme, Year 10 students will be guided on how to use Unifrog to log their placements, how to write a covering letter/email. They will also be advised on local companies that they can approach.

We are using Unifrog ([www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org)) to manage the administration of the work experience programme – for example collecting information from the employer about their Risk Assessment and Health & Safety policy, as well as getting agreement from yourselves for the placement to go ahead.

The deadline for logging placements on Unifrog is Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February and the link to the letter sent out to all parents and carers can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, contact: [careers@avonbourneacademy.org.uk](mailto:careers@avonbourneacademy.org.uk)

### **PwC Career Skills and Mentoring (Academies Y12 students)**

Student Registration Form [HERE](#)

*This is a competitive programme with only 25 spaces available. Students will hear about the success of their applications on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January.*

This is an exciting partnership between PwC and United Learning where students to receive 1:1 career mentoring with professionals from the Risk Modelling Services (Actuarial Science). Each half term students will develop skills needed to



succeed in a large multi-national professional services firm. This is an excellent opportunity to students studying Maths, Economics or Business studies and can lead to paid summer work experience with the firm. More information and selection criteria are on the Student Registration Form [HERE](#).

Mentoring dates (on MS Teams):

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January,  
4.00-5.00: *Professional Communication*

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 4.00-5.00: *Data Analysis*

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 4.00-5.00: *More Advanced Data Analysis*

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June, 4.00-5.00: *Presenting Information*

**Don't forget the careers cascade is issued every half term and all the previous editions can be found on our website [here](#)**

Careers at Avonbourne is now on socials don't forget to follow us on Instagram and Twitter for all the up-to-date information.

avonbournecareers



@careers\_avon

