

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



OCTOBER 2025
NEWSLETTER



NCFE's Adult Care Progression Map: Enhancing career pathways and curriculum design in adult care

NCFE has launched the Adult Care Progression Map, an innovative resource that outlines eight key roles within the Care Workforce Pathway and links them to the most relevant qualifications and apprenticeship standards.

This tool supports providers in aligning their programmes with sector needs, identifying new opportunities for learning, and developing highly skilled, adaptable care professionals. By offering clear progression routes, it enables targeted delivery tailored to individual learners' needs, ultimately enhancing career development and improving curriculum design within the adult care sector.

Download now: [Progression map | Adult Care Pathway | NCFE](#)



HARROGATE COLLEGE

Harrogate College Rebuild is Underway

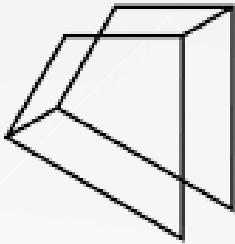
Harrogate College is delighted to announce that construction work on their new college buildings is now underway.

The £22m development will result in a purpose-built main building packed with industry-standard facilities including: a replica hospital ward, a digital technology suite, an electric vehicle workshop, a modern construction centre, and a renewable energy technology centre.

This will allow them to raise their levels of training and support for local growth industries including advanced manufacturing, low carbon construction, health science, sustainable energy, creative, digital and hospitality.

The new college building will be ready for use in January 2027, while the entire rebuild is on course to be completed by September of the same year.





lsp

Developing Practical Skills - Construction Learner Visits

This month, LSP welcomed two groups of construction learners to our head office for hands-on surveying and site engineering sessions. These sessions gave learners the opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in real-world settings while developing the practical skills they'll need in their future careers.

The first group, Civil Engineering Technician learners, spent two days completing practical surveying tasks. These included linear surveying, levelling exercises with an automatic optical level, and setting out basic structures such as drainage systems and road alignment curves. Using both basic Theodolites and advanced Leica Total Stations, learners gained confidence and valuable hands-on experience.

The second group, completed a range of construction apprenticeships, visited to undertake Unit 6: Surveying in Construction and Unit 11: Site Engineering. Learners carried out two-peg tests, level and traverse surveys, drainage runs, embankment profiles, and complex road curve set-outs, producing both CAD and manual drawings.

Both visits were a great success, providing learners with practical experience, strengthened confidence in industry-standard techniques, and enhanced skills needed for real construction projects.





Celebrating 25 Years of Armonia Health and Beauty – Armonia Training Academy

This year, Armonia Health & Beauty proudly celebrates 25 years of passion, purpose, and progress. Founded by Diane Hey, the award-winning entrepreneur and sector reformer, Armonia has grown from a local vision into a nationally recognised leader in health, beauty, and wellbeing.

At the heart of Armonia's success is the Armonia Training Academy, an Ofsted-rated Good provider that delivers government-funded apprenticeships, bespoke training, and CPD programmes. The Academy has trained thousands of therapists and partnered with leading employers and industry bodies to raise standards and shape the next generation of beauty and wellbeing professionals.

Under Diane's leadership, Armonia continues to champion professionalism, integrity, and innovation—ensuring that the voices of learners and employers remain central to the development of qualifications and apprenticeships.

As it marks this silver milestone, Armonia looks to the future with renewed purpose: to develop highly skilled, thinking therapists and sector professionals of the future.



**Celebrating 25 Years
of Armonia Health
and Beauty – Armonia
Training Academy**



Darlington College is preparing to send its truck technicians on their global travels after a donation of lorries, parts and equipment have made it one of the best places in the country to learn a trade.

Darlington College is driving its truck technician training to new heights thanks to a major donation from Mercedes-Benz.

The college's motor vehicle department has received four state-of-the-art Mercedes trucks, along with engines, air-boards, and wheel-lifting equipment valued at around £100,000, transforming its facilities into one of the best-equipped workshops in the UK.

For heavy vehicle apprentice Billy Milburn, 20, of Marske-by-the-Sea, this opportunity is helping fuel his ambition to work as a truck technician in the mines of Australia – a career that can command salaries of up to £130,000 a year.

"I've always loved working on vehicles, but HGVs offer far more opportunities," said Billy, who is in his third year of a Level 3 Heavy Vehicle Maintenance and Repair apprenticeship. "The new Mercedes trucks are incredible to work with – they're advanced, challenging, and really rewarding."

The donation was secured by Darlington College senior lecturer Luke Reid, who connected with Mercedes through industry contacts. "This has set us up as one of the best colleges in the country," he said. "The HGV sector is full of opportunity – it's technical, well-paid, and open to everyone."

For more information on apprenticeship opportunities, visit www.darlington.ac.uk.





UNIVERSITY CENTRE

Hand-delivering doughnuts helps Lily become Lowell's first T Level Cyber Security placement student!

Finding the perfect T Level placement isn't always easy - but for York College Digital Security & Support student Lily Coope, a box of Krispy Kreme doughnuts turned out to be the perfect icebreaker.

Lily's creative approach won over the Lowell Group, who took her on as their first-ever T Level student – and she's more than repaid their faith. During her 315-hour placement, Lily has impressed everyone with her professionalism, problem-solving skills, and enthusiasm for cybersecurity.

At Lowell, Lily has worked across multiple teams, gaining real-world experience in everything from firewall management and vulnerability testing to risk governance and phishing simulations. She even helped conduct a physical tailgating penetration test, identifying access vulnerabilities in the company's offices.

Her experiences have confirmed her ambition to pursue a career in cybersecurity. Rather than being deterred by the industry's male-dominated reputation, Lily says the support she's received from her tutors, peers, and the Lowell team has been empowering – and she hopes to use her success to inspire other young women to enter the field.

Lowell's Head of Infrastructure Security, Darren Ayre, praised Lily's initiative and professionalism, describing her as "an exceptional candidate who didn't just show potential – she showed readiness."

Lily's story is a perfect example of how T Levels bridge the gap between classroom learning and the workplace, giving students like her the confidence, technical skills, and real-world insight needed to thrive in their chosen careers.

Read Lily's full story [here](#).





Training &
Development

Spooktacular Macmillan Coffee Morning at T3 Training & Development

Team T3 is brewing up something special this spooky season! On 27th October, the Dodworth office will host a Spooktacular Macmillan Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Support – and everyone's invited.

Expect a morning filled with Halloween-themed treats, hot drinks, and fundraising fun, all for a fantastic cause. Whether you're a star baker or prefer shop-bought goodies, every contribution is welcome – as long as it's delicious!

And yes – costumes are encouraged! From witches and vampires to ghosts and ghouls, come dressed to impress (or terrify) while helping raise vital funds for people living with cancer.

It's the perfect chance to enjoy some laughs, meet friendly faces, and make a difference together. If you're nearby, pop in – whether it's for five minutes or the whole morning, your support means the world to the T3 team.

Can't make it? You can still get involved by donating online – every penny helps. Let's raise some dough, share some cake, and make this a coffee morning to remember!

[Discover more about this charity event today.](#)



Bradford College

Industry Experts Inspire Hair & Beauty Students

Hair & Beauty students at Bradford College recently enjoyed an inspiring industry talk and Q&A session with leading professionals, including Bev Golightly from Wella Professionals, Naheem Yacub, owner of Naheem Yacub Barbers, and Neil Capstick, founder of the luxury haircare brand Neäl & Wølf.

Local entrepreneur Neil Capstick shared his personal journey in the hair and beauty industry, offering students valuable insights on goal-setting, career development, and building professional connections.

"Supporting up-and-coming talent is so important. Bradford College is an amazing place, and I wanted to share the knowledge I've gained over the years. Every time I get the chance to do something like this, I just want to support," said Neil.

The session encouraged students to take advantage of the College's Ambition Hub, which connects learners with industry leaders and career opportunities. Neil urged students to be proactive: "If you get the chance to meet industry experts, embrace it. And if not - go out and find them. The hair and beauty industry is evolving fast, and it's a limitless career with infinite potential."

Students from Level 1 to Level 3 took part in the session, leaving motivated and inspired. Sophie Williams, a Level 3 Hairdressing student, said: "The talk really inspired me. It's made me realise the industry is more than just sitting in a salon - you get out what you put in."

At Bradford College, partnerships with brands like Neäl & Wølf give students hands-on experience, industry insight, and the confidence to pursue exciting careers in hair and beauty. [Read the full news article now.](#)





KIRKLEES COLLEGE

Kirklees College Graduation 2025

On Tuesday 14 October, Kirklees College hosted its annual Higher Education and Higher Skills Graduation at the Manor House in Lindley. The day was a chance to celebrate the achievements of our graduates from higher level courses in Animal Management, Digital Development, Engineering, Teaching and Accountancy.

Director of Quality, James Wilson, compered the ceremony which included an inspiring speech from our guest speaker Matthew Burton, Headteacher of a local school, Thornhill Community Academy, as featured on Chanel 4's Educating Yorkshire. Matthew was joined on stage by our Principal Palvinder Singh to commend our graduates.

When giving his speech at the start out the ceremony, Principal and CEO Palvinder Singh commented: "Today shines a spotlight on the power of higher-level, vocational education where practical knowledge meets ambition and transforms into opportunity. Each of you leaves Kirklees College equipped with the skills, experience, and confidence to shape the workforce of tomorrow and make meaningful contributions to your communities and society as a whole."

Following the ceremony, students and their guests were treated to a canapes and drinks reception, and offered the opportunity to celebrate with their classmates and network with tutors and Kirklees College staff. Each graduate left the day with one of the college's 200 Year anniversary commemorative books, as a reminder of their time at the college and the role they have played in its legacy.

Find out more about our Higher Skills and Higher Education provision please visit <https://www.kirkleescollege.ac.uk/higher-skills/>.



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**YORK
ST JOHN
UNIVERSITY**

Kirklees College Graduation 2025

York St John University is in the final stages of developing its Level 6 Creative Digital Design Degree Apprenticeship, launching in September 2026.

This innovative programme offers employers a strategic opportunity to develop in-house digital talent while supporting staff to achieve a BSc (Hons) in Creative Digital Design. Blending academic study with hands-on workplace learning, apprentices gain skills in UX/UI design, visual communication, multimedia production, and emerging technologies such as AR, VR, and AI.

Employers benefit from a curriculum built around real industry needs, helping to boost innovation, productivity, and talent retention. Apprentices complete a professional portfolio of creative projects and an End-Point Assessment to demonstrate occupational competence.

York St John University is currently seeking employer input to help shape the final design of the programme.

Interested organisations are encouraged to get in touch at apprenticeships@yorks.ac.uk to take part in an upcoming industry consultation survey.





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