

HELPING EVERY YOUNG PERSON IN OXFORDSHIRE FIND THEIR BEST NEXT STEP

# careers fest

STUDENT GUIDE  
20TH & 21ST MARCH 2024



With thanks to our headline sponsors:



Oxfordshire  
CAREERS HUB

THE CAREERS &  
ENTERPRISE  
COMPANY



# Welcome from our headline sponsors

Thank you to our headline sponsors for their support with transport costs for schools and colleges, enabling many more students to attend.



## Abbott

[www.abbott.co.uk](http://www.abbott.co.uk)

At Abbott, we're dedicated to helping people live more fully, in everything we do. We're creating the future of healthcare through life-changing technologies and products, which make you healthier and stronger, quickly identify when you have a medical need, and treat conditions to help you get back to doing what you love. In Witney, we have a world-class technical and manufacturing facility for Abbott's diabetes care business. Our diabetes care business is part of the medical device division within Abbott, developing and manufacturing life-changing technologies that enable people with diabetes to live the best and fullest lives they can.



## Blenheim & Pye Homes

[www.blenheimpalace.com](http://www.blenheimpalace.com)

Blenheim and Pye extend a heartfelt welcome to all attendees at the Kassam Stadium for what promises to be an inspiring event. We prioritise growing our own talent, supporting the community and upskilling our staff as integral components of our people planning strategy. As an outstanding employer recognised by Best Companies, we foster an inclusive environment where every individual feels a sense of belonging, rooted in our own behaviours and values. If you are seeking ideas on your career look no further. Come and talk to us about the unique opportunities we have on offer. These range from farming to finance and everything in between.



## Grundon

[www.grundon.com](http://www.grundon.com)

Welcome to our green world! As headline sponsor at Careers Fest 2024, our Grundon team look forward to welcoming you to our stand and showcasing the career opportunities in our fascinating and ever-evolving industry. We see waste as a valuable resource and take every opportunity to reuse, recycle and recover materials, using complex plants, computers, robots and artificial intelligence. It's an exciting world to enter, so come and meet the friendly team and explore the many varied careers options that we can offer.

**GRUNDON**



## Howden Insurance

[www.howdeninsurance.co.uk/careers](http://www.howdeninsurance.co.uk/careers)

We understand that choosing the right career path is never easy. Whether you are leaving education or are new to the world of work, making the right decision for you is important. At Howden Insurance, our focus on being a people-first business with a unique culture has always been at the heart of what we do. If you enjoy talking to new people, solving problems and are keen to make a difference, then come and find our stand and we'll show you that your potential in insurance will be anything but boring!



## Morgan Sindall Construction [www.morgansindallconstruction.com](http://www.morgansindallconstruction.com)

Morgan Sindall Construction are proud headline sponsor of the Careers Fest 2024! Discover dynamic opportunities in construction and explore a multitude of career paths. Engage with us at our stand today to uncover diverse construction industry roles and pathways and learn about alternative job roles beyond on-site work. Our knowledgeable team will be available to address any questions. Let's establish connections, spark inspiration and navigate your potential construction career journey together.



## Persimmon Homes Wessex

[www.persimmonhomes.com](http://www.persimmonhomes.com)

Persimmon Homes Wessex is excited to be a headline sponsor of Careers Fest 2024, which promises an engaging experience over the next few days at the Kassam Stadium. As one of the UK's leading housebuilders, we're developing sites across Oxfordshire, including the charming Wellington Gate in Grove, Wantage, to our vibrant new development at Valley Park, Didcot. Explore a realm where your skills can grow and new ones can be learned. Whether you're just beginning or advancing your career, find your stride with us. We're honoured to support Careers Fest and hope it offers valuable insights as you navigate your career journey.



## Science & Technology Facilities Council (STFC)

[www.ukri.org/councils/stfc](http://www.ukri.org/councils/stfc)

**Headline sponsor STFC is delighted to welcome you to Careers Fest 2024.**

STFC is a place where curious minds push the boundaries in engineering, technology and science. We are recruiting apprentices on our gold accredited apprenticeship scheme, in roles as diverse as engineering, electrical, computing, project management, IT and business administration. Whatever your role, whether technical or professional support, you'll have training and support from experts in their fields working on amazing projects. Our dedicated apprenticeship team will support you every step of the way, helping you to achieve the goals you already have – and those you have yet to discover!

**headline sponsors**

# Exhibitors

(there may be changes to this list on the day)

Abbott	Ignite Sport UK	Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
Abingdon & Witney College	Intake Talent	Popham Hairdressing Ltd
ACE Training	Jonas Software UK & Europe	Purcell
Activate Learning	JSP Limited	Rebellion
Airbus Helicopters UK Ltd	JTL	Royal Air Force - Oxford Hub
Amey	Kovara Projects Ltd	Royal Navy and Royal Marines
Army Careers & Apprenticeships	Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, a Belmond Hotel	Savills UK Limited
Association for Project Management	Leonardo Royal Hotel Oxford	Science and Technology Facilities Council
Assure UK	McTimoney College of Chiropractic	Siemens Healthineers Magnet Technology
AWE PLC	Milestone Infrastructure	South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
BAM Construction	Mollie's Motel & Diner	Stagecoach
Beard	Morgan Sindall	Taylor Wimpey
Bidwells	NHS England	The Engineering Trust
Blenheim	Nuclear Restoration Services	The Oxford Bus Group of Companies
BMW	Owen Mumford	The Story Museum
Bright Horizons Family Solutions	Oxford Brookes University	Tiggywinkles, The Wildlife Hospital Foundation
Buckinghamshire College Group	Oxford Direct Services	Tokamak Energy
Business & IP Centre Oxfordshire	Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust	UK Atomic Energy Authority
Collins Aerospace	Oxford North	University of Oxford
Darke & Taylor Ltd	Oxford University Development Ltd	Vertex Pharmaceuticals (Europe) Ltd
EKFB	Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	Wellers Accountants
Elite Youth Sports Ltd	Oxfordshire Advanced Skills	Weston Williamson + Partners
Equans	Oxfordshire County Council - Adult Social Care	Williams Jet Tenders Ltd
Grundon	Oxfordshire County Council Apprenticeships	Williams Racing
Hill Group	Oxfordshire Employment	
Howden Insurance		
ICEoxford		

Thank you to all our exhibitors for contributing to school transport costs

# careers fest

**Welcome to Careers Fest, a hands-on careers event where you can talk to employers and education and training providers to learn more about jobs, careers and training opportunities.**

**This guide will help you to get the most from your visit.**

## During the event:

- Make a good impression. Be polite, ask relevant questions, listen to the answers and thank the exhibitors for their time.
- Ask about work experience and early career opportunities, including T Levels, apprenticeships and traineeships.
- Remember: employers may have a wide variety of roles as well as the more obvious ones!
- Take away information and contact details for future use.

## After the event:

- Use the information you've gathered to research your options.
- Follow up with organisations that interest you by contacting them e.g. about work experience opportunities or open events.



# Example questions

Here are some ideas for questions to ask the exhibitors:

## General questions:

- Do you have social media I can follow?
- What's the best way to contact you?

## Employers:

- What does your company look for in potential employees?
- What could I do now to help me get a job with you in the future?
- What's the best thing about working for your company?
- Do you offer apprenticeships, work experience or work placements? What roles are they and how do I apply?

## Education & training providers:

- What courses do you offer?
- How do I apply for a course?
- What qualifications will I need?
- Do you have an open event that I could come to?

## Add some questions of your own:

• Q:

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• Q:

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# Your Careers Fest visit

Use this page to help you get the most from your visit to Careers Fest by making notes about what you learnt and would like to find out more about.

**Which stands did you enjoy visiting and why?**

**Use this box to make notes—  
contact details, websites, social media etc**



# What next?

We hope that you enjoyed your visit to Careers Fest. Take some time to think about what you learned today and the actions you now need to take to help you reach your career goals.

## What you can do now:

- Apply for work experience
- Research apprenticeships, degrees or vocational courses
- Create a CV that highlights your skills and abilities
- Email contacts you made at Careers Fest

## Where to find out more:

[oxme.info](http://oxme.info) – everything for young people in Oxfordshire, including advice on learning, work, health and wellbeing. Find out about local careers events and sign up for weekly opportunities bulletins.



[oxme.info](http://oxme.info)

[health](#) [life](#) [learn](#) [earn](#) [NEWS](#) [EVENTS](#)

## [oxlepskills.co.uk/findyourfuture](http://oxlepskills.co.uk/findyourfuture) -

Find Your Future virtual careers platform. Explore employment sectors in Oxfordshire, connect with local and national employers, research post 16/18 options and discover the skills employers are looking for – all available 24:7 under one virtual roof!



[apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://apprenticeships.gov.uk) – all you need to know about apprenticeships

[ucas.com](http://ucas.com) – all you need to know about degrees and degree apprenticeships

[skillsbuilder.org/about-launchpad](http://skillsbuilder.org/about-launchpad) – build your own essential skills

*We hope you enjoyed your visit to Careers Fest! Scan here to give us your feedback*

