

Term 2 Highlights!

As Term 2 ends, we're celebrating the achievements that have defined the past few weeks. From inspiring careers activities and valuable employer engagement to supporting students with their future pathways, it's been a term full of meaningful progress.

This edition highlights key successes, showcases brilliant collaboration, and shares updates from our recent Teacher Encounter, HSBC Work Experience, Skills Street visit, and more.

We're incredibly proud of all that has been accomplished and excited for the opportunities ahead.



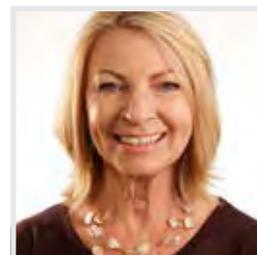
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Term 2 Compass Deadline!

Please ensure you complete your submission by the end of Term 2.

Clean Energy Careers Event Welcomes 175 Students to Barnsley College



Barnsley College welcomed around 175 students from across South Yorkshire for the Government's second Clean Energy Jobs Fair, delivered in partnership with the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Senior leaders including Ed Miliband, Chris McDonald, and Mayor Oliver Coppard attended, joining employers and training providers to showcase the growing opportunities in the region's Clean Energy sector. Students explored career routes in areas such as nuclear, hydrogen, renewable technologies, and sustainable construction.

Local businesses including RollsRoyce SMR, RWE, Octopus Energy, ITM Power, Equans, AMRC, and GeoPura offered hands-on advice and highlighted pathways into well-paid green careers. The event also aligned with National Apprenticeship Week, with current apprentices sharing real-world insights into training and progression.

The Fair celebrated South Yorkshire's position as a leading Clean Tech hub, with innovations such as small modular reactors and sustainable aviation fuels being pioneered locally. Barnsley College's new Clean Energy Training Centre, opened in December and is already equipping young people with the skills needed for the sector's fast-growing workforce.

"South Yorkshire is at the cutting edge of the UK's new Nuclear, Hydrogen and Sustainable Aviation sectors, and we're proud to be home to the largest Clean Tech cluster in the country. Those industries will shape the future of our economy, and of our young people too."

- Oliver Coppard, South Yorkshire's Mayor

"By investing in upskilling and retraining now, we're making sure our students are first in line for the opportunities that come with the transition to net zero."

- David Akeroyd, Principal and Chief Executive of Barnsley College



Wingfield Academy's Speed Networking Event Brings Careers to Life

A Careers Speed Networking session, delivered as part of the Rotherham Business and Education Alliance Project, took place at Wingfield Academy on 3rd February 2026. The activity gave Year 8 students the chance to meet and learn from local employers and contributed towards Gatsby Benchmark 5.

The aim of the session was to help students build confidence, gain real-world insights, and explore a wide range of career paths in a short, interactive format. A total of 20 business volunteers from a variety of local companies took part, supporting 205 students throughout the day.

Feedback from students, staff, and employers has been overwhelmingly positive. Students were asked to describe the activity in three words, and frequent responses included: "ideas," "friendly," "excellent," "exciting," "amazing," "nice employers," "fun," and "cool." One student shared: "I really enjoyed speaking to all the different companies. They were really helpful. It was nice to speak to someone about my future."



"I didn't get careers advice/options as a kid, so to see these events and participate feels great!"

The success of the session highlights the value of connecting young people with local employers - helping them raise aspirations, broaden horizons, and feel more confident about their future pathways.

Staff were equally enthusiastic. One teacher commented: "This is a really good opportunity for our students. They were 100% engaged during the entire session!"

Business volunteers were also very supportive of the event. Their comments included:

"I enjoyed my time with the students to talk honestly and make them believe there is a place for everyone."

"Great event! I really enjoyed it, and surprising students with roles they hadn't even thought about."



SEND Students Make a Big Impact During Street Scene Work Experience Placements!

Teenagers from Stone Hill School in Scawsby and the Communication Specialist College Doncaster are completing weekly two-hour work placements with Street Scene – and they've already made a big impression!

As part of a new partnership giving local SEND students (aged 16–19) real work experience, the six-week placements will total 12 hours of work experience. James is putting his administration skills to use, while Alfie and Kieran are supporting the grounds team at Rose Hill Cemetery.

Street Scene Supervisor Bob Allan said: "We're delighted with all three students – their impact has been huge. They're enthusiastic, keen to learn and have integrated brilliantly.

"I'd also like to thank staff from Stone Hill School for the insightful Autism Awareness Training, which really helped shift our perceptions."



He added: "The schools are impressed with the experience their students are getting, and we hope this is just the start of more collaborative opportunities."

Boosting Skills Pathways with HSBC & Zero Gravity

Over recent months, the South Yorkshire Careers Hub has partnered with HSBC and Zero Gravity through the Boosting Skills Pathways programme to strengthen digital and technology career routes for young people, particularly those with lower social capital. The initiative focuses on raising awareness of digital and financial services careers, building employability skills, and supporting progression into apprenticeships and work experience.

As a major employer in digital and technology, HSBC aims to make a long-term impact on young people's confidence, skills, and aspirations. Through school engagement, office visits, mentoring, and digital learning pathways, the programme helps students understand career options and develop the skills needed to succeed. Takeover days have taken place at Wales High, Sheffield Park Academy, Hall Cross, and most recently King Edward VII during National Careers Week, where students worked in teams to design tech solutions to improve young people's financial understanding.

The South Yorkshire Boosting Skills Pathways project aims to:

- Equip 500+ young people with digital skills linked to real careers.
- Increase awareness of digital and financial services roles.
- Strengthen readiness for HSBC apprenticeships.
- Improve application quality and increase participation.
- Reduce barriers for underrepresented young people.

Through strong employer partnerships and targeted skills development, the programme is expanding opportunities for young people while supporting regional economic growth.

National Careers Week: Skills Street Welcomes Students for a Day of Work Experience

On day two of National Careers Week, Skills Street welcomed 75 students from five South Yorkshire schools for a full day focused on exploring future career options. Year 9 and 10 students met three employers who introduced them to their sectors and shared practical insights into working in their industries.

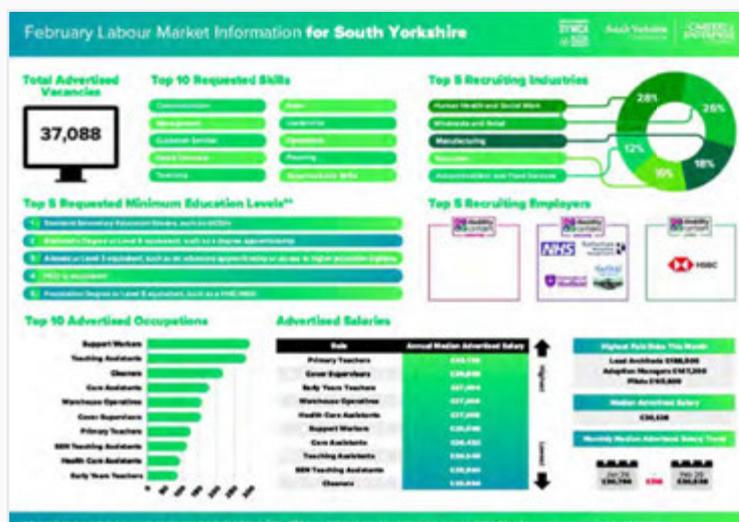
The morning featured employer talks. George from Gripple spoke about engineering, the range of roles within the company and the skills that help people succeed in the field. Claire and Jasmine from Ibis Styles gave an honest look at careers in hospitality, from daily responsibilities to the value of working with customers. James from the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust rounded off the session with an overview of health and social care and the wide variety of careers available, linking them to situations the students recognised from everyday life.

Across the talks, students heard about real career journeys, skills that employers look for and steps they can take now, such as building a CV or finding part-time work. They also had the chance to speak one to one with each speaker and ask questions.



In the afternoon, students worked in school groups on a hands-on recruitment challenge. Each team designed a campaign for one of four organisations: Gulliver's Theme Park, E.ON, Gripple and the NHS. They then presented their ideas to the whole group and a winner was chosen, before the students had a tour of the facility. The activity strengthened their teamwork and communication while giving them a clearer view of what different sectors involve.

The session also linked closely to the Equalex framework theme Introduce and Inspire and met its learning objectives by giving students meaningful employer interactions, insight into a range of sectors and time to reflect on their own interests and next steps.



LMI Posters: January 2026

The latest monthly Labour Market Information (LMI) posters for each of the four Local Authority areas and South Yorkshire are now available. This includes data from 1st - 31st January and 1st to 28th February 2026. The posters include total advertised vacancies, top 5 advertised occupations, highest and lowest paid and much more.

[Download here](#)

Nursing Careers Day - Inspiring the Next Generation

South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust proudly hosted a Nursing Careers Day at Kendray Hospital, welcoming thirty Year 9 students from Barnsley Academy for an exciting and interactive work experience.

The event was designed to showcase nursing as a rewarding and dynamic profession, and it certainly delivered! Students spent the day rotating through a series of nursing workshops, each offering hands-on learning and insight into the vital role nurses play in healthcare.

Highlights included:

- Clinical Observations and Deteriorating Patients – Understanding how nurses identify and respond to changes in patient health.
- Infection Control and Hand Hygiene – Reinforcing the importance of preventing the spread of infection.
- Human Physiology and Health – Exploring how the body works and what happens when things go wrong.
- Stroke Awareness – Learning about symptoms, prevention, and the impact of stroke.
- Pathways into Nursing Careers – Focusing on T Levels and Apprenticeship routes into nursing, helping students understand the different options available to start their journey into healthcare.

Students also had the unique opportunity to visit the state-of-the-art Simulation Suite at Oaks Park Medical Centre, where they experienced realistic clinical scenarios in a safe, controlled environment.

One student commented: “I didn’t realise there were so many ways to become a nurse. The simulation suite was amazing – it felt like looking after a real patient!”

With the nursing profession facing staffing challenges, events like the Nursing Careers Day are important to inspire the future workforce.





Inspiring the next generation in South Yorkshire

Quickline is proud to be deepening its engagement with schools across the region through our involvement with the South Yorkshire Careers Hub.

While we're delivering fast, reliable broadband to communities across South Yorkshire, we're about much more than connectivity. We're passionate about inspiring young people to explore opportunities in STEM and understand the wide range of careers available within the telecoms and digital industries.

By supporting Careers Hub events, we're connecting directly with students, sharing real insight into the world of fibre broadband, engineering, technology and customer operations. It's a chance to open doors, raise aspirations and show that exciting, skilled careers exist right on their doorstep.

Our involvement allows us to play a small but meaningful role in improving employability, building confidence and encouraging the next generation of telecoms professionals. As we continue expanding our network across the region, we're equally committed to investing in its future talent.



Teacher Encounter – Insight

On Thursday 12th March, we enjoyed a fantastic Teacher Encounter hosted by Insight, offering a rich blend of real-world IT industry awareness and future workforce skills. The session supported a wide range of curriculum areas including Maths, Design and Technology, IT, Business Studies, and Careers Guidance, while also helping teachers develop students' essential soft skills. The day featured a tour of their facilities and engaging introductions to AI, cybersecurity, change management, project thinking, and design thinking, giving teachers valuable knowledge to bring back to the classroom.

“Thank you so much for creating these opportunities for teachers and businesses to interact and exchange ideas!”
Quote from Monica Reiche - Talent Development Specialist at Insight.



Give an Hour

We're asking Careers Leaders to complete the template (see link below) with details of upcoming careers activities. This helps us promote opportunities to business volunteers and connect employers with schools, creating impactful experiences for young people. Please take a few minutes to share!

[Download template](#)

Harrison College connects learning with real careers during National Careers Week 2026



Each year, Harrison College delivers two weeks of high-quality experiences that immerse students in the local business community. The aim is to give young people meaningful exposure to a wide range of sectors, workplaces and real-world opportunities. Through employer visits, hands-on activities and sector-specific sessions, students explore the local labour market, discover industries that interest them and gain the confidence to make informed decisions about their future.

During the first week of National Careers Week 2026, students began with BAFTA and Into Film, joining panel discussions with animators, game designers, directors, producers and sound engineers. They then stepped into Battle of the Barristers at Doncaster Courts, an immersive retelling of the trial of William Wallace that introduced careers in law and legal storytelling.

Exploration continued at Volker Rail, where learners discovered the broad range of roles that keep the rail network running, and at Doncaster Galleries (DGLAM) with the Reading Between the Crimes experience. Engineering came to life at McLaren Engineering in Sheffield, while a visit with Doncaster Council at Sandall Beat Wood highlighted land-based careers in conservation and environmental management.

A behind-the-scenes tour of Doncaster Sheffield Airport offered insight into aviation operations, followed by a stop at Doncaster Interchange with CAF Rail and LNER to explore rail-sector pathways. At Production Park, students stepped onto sound stages and saw how careers in film, music and television span production, logistics and technical roles.

Hospitality took centre stage during a day in Bawtry at The Crown, while back at college, Fastline Engineering delivered an immersive logistics and engineering session, alongside a visit to Gripple. Learners explored leisure and tourism with DCLT at The Dome, moved into advanced manufacturing at Polypipe, and closed the week at the Future Skills Fair at Doncaster Corn Exchange.

Students reported increased motivation, confidence and a clearer understanding of the skills industries require. Many discovered new interests, while others confirmed existing aspirations. The range of activities ensured every learner engaged with sectors they may not have previously considered.

Both students and employers shared positive reflections—from Gripple’s emphasis on hiring the individual, to students’ excitement at McLaren and Production Park, and even a humorous “Anything to declare?” / “Yes, my CV!” moment at Doncaster Sheffield Airport. These experiences broaden horizons, strengthen employer links and help students plan their next steps with real confidence.



Teacher Encounters 2025/26



Our South Yorkshire Careers Hub Teacher Encounter Programme 2025/26 offers a wide range of CPD experiences designed to connect teachers with employers and deepen understanding of how curriculum subjects are applied in real workplaces. These encounters help teachers bring industry insight back to the classroom, strengthening careers conversations and showing students how their learning links to real-world pathways and future opportunities.

Interested? Contact us at CareersHub@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

[View opportunities](#)

Student Talent on Display During Gatsby Visit



Last month, Newfield Secondary School and Hinde House School hosted a visit from the Gatsby Foundation to demonstrate their outstanding careers provision.

Students at Newfield delivered Dragon's Den-style Big Challenge pitches, presenting their own business ideas with confidence and professionalism. Meanwhile, at Hinde House, students took part in mock interviews with local employers, gaining practical insights and experiencing firsthand what professional interactions involve.

These activities highlighted the schools' commitment to the Gatsby Benchmarks, showcasing how well they link curriculum learning to careers, provide experiences of the workplace, and give students encounters with employers. The visit also demonstrated how meaningful collaboration between education and employers can raise aspirations, build confidence, and make students' futures feel tangible.

The day brought together several Sheffield businesses, who supported the schools by providing guidance, feedback, and insight – helping to ensure that all students have access to meaningful workplace encounters and experiences. By hosting the Gatsby Foundation and engaging local employers, the schools created a day that celebrated student talent and demonstrated best practice in careers education.

Headteacher Reports

Your Term 2 Headteacher Report will be shared w/c 13th April and will be based on Compass data from January to March 2026, with comparative analysis since Term 1, Sept to Dec 2025. Please be sure to complete your Compass evaluation by the end of Term 2.



Padlet

Don't forget to use the SY Careers Hub Padlet which hosts various resources to support your careers provision.

[Explore Now](#)



Social Media

Not following us on LinkedIn yet? Search for **South Yorkshire Careers Hub** to stay up to date with our latest news, opportunities, and features — including Careers of the Week and key updates.

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YouTube

Our **South Yorkshire Careers Hub YouTube channel** is packed with careers-focused videos for students, teachers, and parents/carers. Whether you missed a meeting, need support for students or colleagues, or want to hear directly from local employers — you'll find it all here!

[Watch Now](#)

Useful Links

Gatsby Benchmark Toolkits:
[Colleges](#) / [SEND](#) / [Mainstream](#)

[Upgrade to Compass Plus here](#)

Fully funded Career Leader
Training spaces [available here](#)

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Good News Stories

We'd love to share what schools and colleges are up to and share good practice across the region.

[Submit yours here](#)