



In the newsletter this month



**Ofsted Highlights
from their SEND
Inspection
Framework
Review**



**Free webinar from
Charlie Waller on
Neurodiversity &
Mental Health -
September 2025**



**British Army
Apprenticeship
Webinars in
October 2025 and
February 2026**



**New Work
Experience
Guides for SEND
Students**

News updates

Mission EmployAble – Supported Internship Programme 2025/26



Applications are now open for the Mission EmployAble supported internship for young adults age 18-25 with an EHCP. This internship is for 20 hours per week and is open to applicants based around the South Bucks/Herts border. The programme offers valuable work experience, training, job coach support, and the opportunity to enhance employability skills. You can find out more by visiting the website [here](https://internships@missionemployable.co.uk) or by emailing internships@missionemployable.co.uk

OFSTED Highlights from their Area SEND Inspection Framework Review



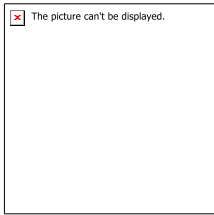
Following the Ofsted Area SEND Inspection Framework review, Ofsted have published a report of their findings and talk about how they will ensure the framework remains effective and in line with current needs and best practice. You can read the full report [here](#).

The Unstoppables Group – Somerset Council



The Unstoppables is a group for young people with SEND age 13-25 to have the opportunity to have their voice heard about their lived experiences and to help make changes to the services that affect them. The group works to influence and shape services for young people with SEND across the country. Find out more about how to join the Unstoppables and to access useful resources and links [here](#).

News article: Manchester United Goalkeeper, Safia Middleton-Patel, talks about Autism Diagnosis

The picture can't be displayed.

Goalkeeper, Safia Middleton-Patel, was part of the Welsh squad for Euro 2025. In this BBC news article, Safia talks about her Autism diagnosis. By speaking openly about her neurodivergence, Safia hopes that people will have a greater understanding about what it is like to be autistic and how their perception of the world is different. You can read the full article [here](#).

Whitbread Thrive Programme sets national example for Inclusive Employment



Whitbread, the UK's largest hospitality company and owner of [Premier Inn](#), has expanded its [Thrive Programme](#) a pioneering, employer-led initiative, supporting young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) into work – into the Liverpool City region. This expansion includes a new mini Premier Inn training facility at [Wirral Met College](#), where students gain hands-on experience in hospitality roles. To find out more about the scheme click [here](#).

Pilot of SEND Tech device Libraries for schools launched!



A new pilot programme has been launched by the Department for Education (DfE) to support students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) through the use of assistive technology. The programme, backed by £1.7 million in funding, will establish 'lending libraries' in 32 local authorities allowing schools to trial a range of devices to suit their pupils needs before purchasing them. The devices will be stocked with tools including reading pens which scan text and read it aloud, dictation tools which convert spoken words into text, and tablets which help non-verbal students communicate. Find out more [here](#).

Ambitious about Autism – Every Voice Matters in shaping SEND education



The [Department for Education](#) will soon publish a new white paper on SEND. TO ensure that the voices of autistic children, young people and families are at the heart of it, [Ambitious about Autism](#) are offering you the opportunity to complete one of their surveys. There are two surveys to complete, one for Parents/Carers: [Survey on experiences of education](#) and one for autistic young people: [Survey on experiences of education \(YP\)](#). By completing these surveys you can help build a stronger case for policies that reflect real experiences and support autistic learners to thrive.

UK Civil Service launch new Summer Internship Programme for Summer 2026



The government is launching a new Summer Internship Programme to boost social mobility and get more working class students into the Civil Service. Starting in Summer 2026, this paid programme will offer around 200 undergraduates from lower socio-economic backgrounds the chance to experience life in government departments. Participants will receive tailored support including a Fast Streamer buddy and skills sessions. Applications open in **October 2025**. Find out more and apply [here](#).

Amazon Supported Internships



Amazon supports young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in building rewarding careers through its innovative supported Internship programme. Since its launch in 2021, these structured work-based study programmes have been offering valuable opportunities to gain practical skills and workplace experience. Amazon supported Internships are open to young people aged 16-24 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or equivalent. Find out more about the scheme: [Amazon Supported Internships](#).

Supported Internship Programme in Plymouth with Greenlight Safety & Training



Greenlight Safety and Training are introducing supported internships in construction from September 2025. Specifically for students with an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan), supported internships help young people gain skills in certain industries through offering job coaching and on the job training through work experience. The aim of the supported internship is to prepare students to progress onto an apprenticeship which will give them the qualifications needed to secure paid employment in the future. For more information please check out [Supported Internships - Greenlight Safety and Training](#).

Mencap Supported Internships



[Mencap](#) are an Ofsted 'Good' rated provider of supported internships and pre-internships, helping young people who have an EHCP to find a job. Mencap run supported internship programmes in London, Birmingham, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire and Worcestershire. Learners do not need any qualifications and they offer programmes suited to learners with different levels of confidence and experience. To find out more, hear from other learners who have completed a supported internship and to download a prospectus, visit [Mencap Training Academy](#).

Upcoming Events

AISB (Aviation Industry Skills Board) Aviation Careers Uncovered Webinar -16th September 2025



Are you interested in a career in Aviation? Why not attend this webinar hosted by the AISB on the 16th September 2025 from 6pm-7pm via Teams? The webinar aims to guide young people towards exciting and diverse careers in the Aviation industry. They will focus on busting common myths, explore career and apprenticeship pathways and share practical advice for career readiness. Book your place [here](#)

Free webinar from Charlie Waller on Neurodiversity and Mental Health – 24th September 2025



Join [Charlie Waller](#) for a free webinar on Neurodiversity and Mental Health. This webinar is aimed at anyone who supports young people, such as parents, carers, teachers, youth workers, tutors and lecturers. Gain a better understanding of neurodiversity, learn about environmental adaptations that can positively impact young people who are neurodivergent, be able to identify what inclusive culture looks like, and understand what we can do to support the mental health of neurodivergent people. Sign up for the webinar [here](#)

The Careers & Enterprise Company (CEC) & Nasen working together to empower SEND Futures



The Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) and Nasen embark on a two- year partnership to empower the futures of young people with SEND. Launching in September 2025, a free CPD course and guide will be offered to equip SENCO's and practitioners with practical, evidence-informed strategies to build strong, collaborative relationships with parents and carers of young people with SEND. [Nasen](#) will deliver 2 free 30 minute webinars in September providing a practical overview and a chance to explore how the course supports inclusive, sustained careers engagement. The webinars will be held on **Wednesday 10th September** and **Tuesday 23rd September 2025**. Book your place [here](#).

British Army Apprenticeships – Webinars in October 2025 and February 2026



[British Army Apprenticeships](#) were named the Sunday Times number one apprenticeship employer in the latest [top 100 apprenticeship employer](#) ranking. Discover what makes them the top choice and learn more about the 40 plus apprenticeships they offer by joining these webinars hosted by [Amazing Apprenticeships](#). The webinar for parents/carers will be held on **21st October 2025** from 6pm-7pm and the webinar for all other audiences will be held on **3rd February 2026** from 4pm-5pm. You can register for the webinars [here](#).

National Careers Guidance Show – 26th March 2026 at the Royal National Hotel, London



The National Careers Guidance show is back in March 2026! Perfect for Careers Leaders, Careers professionals, teachers and school support staff, this free event offers access to a full programme of expert-led seminars and networking opportunities with CEIAG specialists, employers, training providers and universities. Find out more and book your place [here](#).

The Rise Partnership online SEND Professional Development Programme, Sept 25 – March 26



The Rise Partnership Development programme contract is funded by the [Department for Education - GOV.UK](#). [The Council for Disabled Children](#) (CDC) conducted a SEND workforce survey, designed to understand workforce learning needs and identify key content for new training. You can find out more here: [The Rise Partnership Trust - ECT SEND Professional Development Programme](#) or by emailing bookings@therisepartnershiptrust.co.uk

Green Careers Week – 3rd- 8th November 2025



[Green Careers Week](#) is an exciting event that raises aspiration, supports diversity, challenges stereotypes and promotes real opportunities for young people to have a career that will genuinely make a difference. Discover careers, jobs, roles and career pathways that are green careers and develop green skills. Find out more [here](#).

REMINDER: The Association of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH): Unfolding Autism International Conference – Thursday 2nd October 2025



The Association of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (ACAMH) are delivering a Webinar conference event on **Thursday 2nd October 2025 from 9am-4pm** via Zoom. This conference brings together leading experts to explore distinct yet interconnected topics: early detection, co-occurring mental health challenges, participatory approaches and evidence-based support for adolescents and young adults. With a focus on practical tools, emerging models and inclusive innovation, this conference is essential for professionals working to improve the outcomes for autistic children, teens and their families. Book your place [here](#).

Recommended Websites & Resources

British Association of Art Therapists



The [British Association of Art Therapists \(BAAT\)](#) is the professional membership body for Art Therapists in the UK and believe in the transformative power of art to change lives. On their website you can find training designed for education staff and those interested in learning more about art therapy, information on art therapy and creative activities for young people in their cultivating creativity calendar (a seasonal creative guide for 11-18 year olds) and much more. You can explore the website and resources [here](#).

Let's talk Neurodivergent Kids – Podcast hosted by Izzy Judd



Hosted by Izzy Judd, a violinist and former member of Britain's got Talent, Escala, married to McFly drummer, Harry Judd. The couple are parents to neurodivergent kids and this new weekly podcast covers a range of topics to help other parents of neurodivergent children. You can tune into podcast on Spotify, Apple Play, Amazon, or wherever you usually listen to your podcasts.

Autism Education Trust (AET)



[Autism Education Trust](#) have launched a brand new Progression Framework package for schools designed to support education professionals. The package is a whole setting solution for assessing, planning, implementing and reviewing the progression of autistic pupils. This will help education professionals to identify strengths and needs, track progress across autism specific areas, align with the SEND code of practice and create meaningful targets. You can find out more [here](#)

Somerset Parent Forum – Launch of new book: Supporting your Neurodiverse Child



Supporting your Neurodiverse Child is an essential guide to navigating autism, ADHD and other conditions with confidence and compassion. Filled with expert advice and Somerset processes, it helps parents/carers to celebrate their child's unique strengths and become their greatest advocate and empower them to help their child flourish. You can read more and access the book [here](#).

The UCAS International Podcast



The [UCAS](#) International Podcast is aimed at supporting international students through their journey to higher education in the UK. Find out more about the UCAS application process, accommodation, scholarships and budgetary, student life in the UK, opportunities and options. Find out more [UCAS International Podcast](#).

Charlie Waller – Work Life Tools for young people



Mental Health charity, Charlie Waller, have produced a range of free resources to help support young people as they take their first steps into working life, whilst maintaining mental wellbeing in the process. The resources include CV and cover letter writing, recruitment and interview practice, mental health at work, money worries and mental health, and career development and progression. Access the resources [here](#).

Buckinghamshire Skills Hub – New Virtual Work Experience Hub



The Bucks Skills Hub website offers you invaluable careers-related information, including guides to different career sectors, case studies on the world of work, how to make yourself employable and much more. They have now launched a new virtual work experience hub, created in partnership with the [Careers and Enterprise Company](#), [Springpod](#) and [Oxfordshire Careers Hub](#). This on-demand platform offers free virtual work experience opportunities, inspiring careers content, and up-to-date information about the local job scene for young people across Bucks and Oxfordshire. Find out more [here](#).

Autism Berkshire



Autism Berkshire provides useful information about autism, health, education, employment and family support. Their website is packed with links to sources of advice and support locally and nationally. Visit the website for more information: [Autism Berkshire](#).

Ambitious about Autism: Autistic Burnout



Check out this link for resources and information on Autistic burnout: [Ambitious about Autism: Autistic Burnout](#). Find out what causes it, the signs to look out for and access useful links and resources on how to prevent it.

Careers and Enterprise Company: Work Experience guides for SEND students



The [West of England Careers Hub](#) recently commissioned staff from Three Ways School to work with seven SEND schools to support and train the careers leaders in developing a local network of employers for work experience. As part of this, a range of editable resources were produced: SEND Work Experience guides for employers, school staff, students and parents. Click [here](#) to discover the resources available to you.

Student Minds: Student Space



Run by [Student Minds](#) the UK's student mental health charity, [Student Space](#) is a website dedicated to offering help, guidance and support to help young people through the challenges of student life, with access to dedicated support services. This is a safe, confidential and free service developed in collaboration with higher education professionals, researchers and students themselves. Visit [Student Space](#) to find out more.

FutureSmart Careers Blog: 10 Tips to Secure a Place at Medical School



This month's blog "10 Tips to Secure a Place at Medical School" is an informative guide to help you navigate a career in medicine. Read it [here](#)

Get in touch

FutureSmart Essentials Package



FutureSmart Careers offers a range of well-loved packages for schools but we can also tailor a plan to fit schools' needs exactly. Our FutureSmart Essentials package includes:

- A suite of downloadable resources
- 9-5 careers advice helpline
- Monthly newsletters with news, events and opportunities

FutureSmart Careers Apprenticeship Support



Since the announcement that the DfE has removed the funding for the ASK programme, we are delighted to announce that FSC will be offering an Apprenticeship Support Package to schools and colleges. We have produced a suite of workshops and talks to include the best bits from the ASK programme, but with the added extras we feel are needed. The Apprenticeship support we are offering is a paid for service, but we are working hard to make it cost effective and flexible to help you support your students. We are also able to work in all geographic areas we cover. If you would like to find out more about this service or book in a meeting to discuss further, Please click on the link to complete the form: [Apprenticeship Support - Expression of Interest Form](#)

Contact us



For all other enquiries, please contact our team at enquiries@futuresmartcareers.co.uk or give us a call on Tel: 0330 311 9509
We'd love to hear from you!