



Careers Newsletter

May 2026 – Edition 5

Welcome to the May edition of our newsletter,

This edition highlights key careers updates, events, and resources to help support students and families with careers related decisions and planning.

We are proud of our growing alumni network, if you attended Perschore High School and would like to find out how you could contribute to our careers programme please contact us via our new Careers email careers@perschore.worcs.sch.uk

We would like to thank all of our employers and volunteers for giving their valuable time and expertise to support our careers programme and help provide insights into opportunities for students. If you are an employer and would like to support us with careers related learning please contact us careers@perschore.worcs.sch.uk

More detailed information about Perschore High Schools careers programme can be found on the careers page of the school website or by following the link below [careers-strategy-2025-26-v1.pdf](#)

Meet the Careers Team

Mrs Butler – Deputy Headteacher

Mr Pyatt – Careers Leader

Mrs Booton-Gwynne – Head of Careers, Information, Advice & Guidance.

Mrs Starkey – Head of Sixth Form

Miss Waters – Pastoral Manager

Mr Avison – Careers Enterprise Company Enterprise Advisor

SEND There are many different Post 16 learning opportunities available for young people with SEND in Worcestershire. The websites below are a useful starting point to find out more.

[Post 16 learning options for young people with SEND | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[Career guidance for those with SEND, SEMH, and EHCP \(Education and Health Care Plan\) | Worcestershire County Council](#)

[SEND - Amazing Apprenticeships](#) explore the different resources that we have developed, working closely with the SEND Advisory Network.



- **Hartpury College & University – May Half term Animal Care experience day.**
Wednesday 27th May 9.30am – 3pm <https://gck.fm/xosfc>
- **Webinar - Apprenticeships – uncovering unexpected apprenticeships**
<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/events/navigate-uncovering-unexpected-apprenticeships/>
- **Year 10 – Sixth Former for a Day; Meet the Employer (trades) sessions**
Tuesday 30th June 2026
- **Year 8 - Careers Morning – employer led careers sessions**
Monday 6th July 2026

IMPORTANT TASKS

- **Year 11** students planning to complete **an apprenticeship** should ensure they have a back up plan in place until they have secured a start date for their apprenticeship. Recruitment is competitive and it may take time to secure a position. If they need assistance, please contact Mrs Booton-Gwynne dbg@pershore.worcs.sch.uk
- **Parent feedback:** This week, primary guardians would have received an email asking for input around our new PSHE and RSHE curriculum. Within the feedback form are questions around our **careers education provision** and joining our new **alumni network** from September 2026. If you have not yet completed, please click on the following link: [PSHE and RSHE - Parent Feedback – Fill out form](#)

WHAT ARE V LEVELS?

V Levels are new level 3 vocational qualifications designed as an option for young people aged 16-19 following GCSEs and will be taught in schools and colleges.

Who are V Levels for? V Levels are aimed at students who would like to explore sectors without specialising. One V level will be equivalent to one A level so can be combined with A levels or studied on their own.

Assessments will have a large proportion of non-exam-based assessment.

V levels will provide students with the opportunity to pursue their interests further through a range of progression outcomes, whether that is higher education or work with training, including apprenticeships.

V Levels will be available to students from **September 2027** in the following subjects: Education, Finance & Digital. The plan is for more subjects to be rolled out each year until 2030/31.

To find out more about the new V levels and post 16 qualifications [New V levels and post-16 qualifications explained – The Education Hub](#)

Exploring Options and useful resources



UNIFROG: All Pershore students from Year 8 have a Unifrog account which they can access at home and in school. Year 8 have recently been introduced to their account during PSHE and Citizenship lessons this term! A platform for career exploration and course research. To get students to identify job roles that suit their personal skills and qualities students can complete a personal quiz and save the results in their UNIFROG careers e portfolio.

National Careers Service: Is a government careers website created for anyone of working age it is free to access and allows exploration of sectors, training options and labour market information.

Choices magazine – Parent & Carers Guide [Choices Magazine - May Parent & Carers Guide - Amazing Apprenticeships](#)

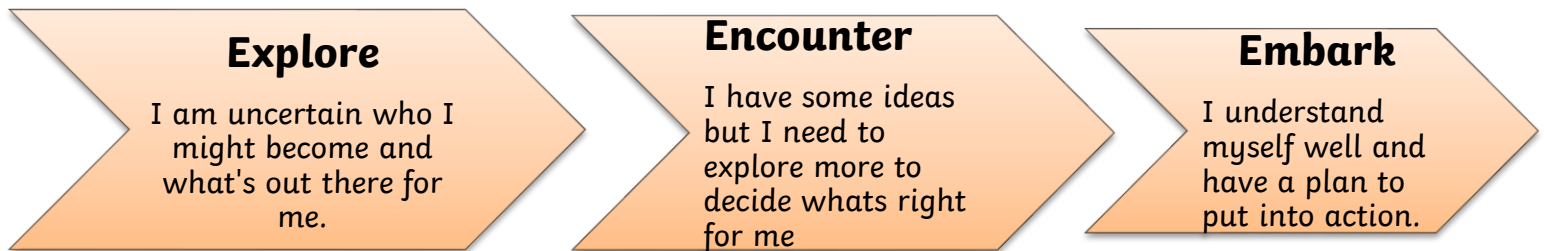
One to one Careers meetings can be booked with the school's careers advisor Mrs Booton-Gwynne dbg@pershore.worcs.sch.uk. Students can request a meeting by popping into the careers office (Mon–Wed 8am-4pm).

Lunchtime drop-ins are also available for any student Mon-Weds 1.30pm-2pm

What is a Careers meeting?

The aim of a careers meeting is to help students move forward with their post sixteen or post eighteen plans and ideas. It is not about telling them what to do or doing it for them. Students can have more than one appointment if they feel this will help with choosing the most appropriate training or education route.

The meeting can help them to: -



- **Explore** their skills & qualities.
- **Explore** what their options are.
- **Encounter** experiences and information to help with their career ideas and planning.
- **Embark** use the knowledge they have gained to create an action plan.

Joining the Police

A recent careers spotlight session for 6th form students included a visit from the police. Two officers gave an insight into the role of an officer and shared information about joining the police force. Students had the opportunity to try out some of the equipment that may be used by officers, such as riot shields, truncheons and protective helmets.



Students were introduced to a riot van with volunteers experiencing what it is like when held in 'the cage'.

Becoming a police officer

Entry requirements are varied and life skills can be just as important as academic qualifications. Students will need to be over 18, pass a fitness test and pass the enhanced background checks.

Degree holder entry route – (DHEP) two year programme for those who have a degree or are in the last year of completing their degree. The degree can be in a different subject to policing.

Apprenticeships -Police constable level 6-degree apprenticeship (**PCDA**) a three year programme working as a full-time police officer from day one. BTEC/diploma or A levels which equate to 64 UCAS points plus a number of online/in person and fitness tests need to be passed.

Students can choose to apply directly for the 2-year **Police Constable Entry Programme (PCEP)**. Experience which would be useful for the role of a police officer is required e.g military or working as a special constable. 2 A levels or level 3 qualification equivalent to 32 UCAS points required

Getting experience Aged 13-18 why not join the police cadets? Even if the student changes their mind about the police, they will be developing important skills which will be useful in other careers.

Volunteer as a **special constable** to find out what it's like to work as a police officer.

Work – as a **police community support officer (PCSO)** before applying for police officer training.

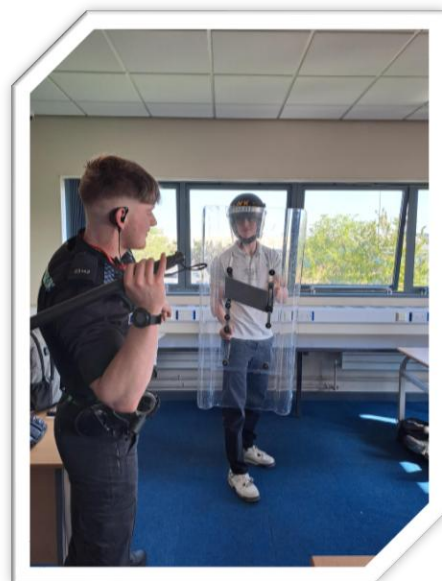
Developing useful skills

Do different jobs which are front facing to get experience of dealing with the public in different situations. Build resilience, develop leadership & teamwork skills.

If taking a gap year aim to travel, volunteer get a wide range of experience that can be used in any future applications.

Remember – there are many different job roles within the police force not just police officers – research your options.

To find out more go to [Ways into policing | Explore entry routes | Join The Police](#)



We hope you have found this edition of the careers newsletter useful.

If you would like us to include any specific careers related information, please let us know email careerspershore.worcs.sch.uk.