



CONNECTIONS

Connecting parents and guardians with careers

YC Careers News | Second Edition | Spring-term



We Have Achieved Matrix!

Some really exciting news in careers - to start the second edition of our Connections News - Yeovil College has been successfully accredited with the Matrix Standard for delivering high quality information, advice, and guidance to the student and business community! The Matrix Standard is the international quality standard for organisations that deliver information, advice and/or guidance (IAG), either as their sole purpose or as part of their service offering.

Mark Bolton, CEO & Principal, said: "We are delighted to have achieved this whole college accreditation at the very first attempt of Matrix assessment. This is testament to the work we do with our business community, higher education and wider partners. Local business partners work with our students every day, delivering masterclasses, hosting industry placements and apprenticeships, and collaborating on innovation and future technology projects."

Gayle Pogson, Head of Careers, Work Placement and Employability, said: "I am incredibly proud that Yeovil College has achieved Matrix Standard accreditation, and underscores our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement in all that we do, we want the very best for our Learners."

For a limited period of time, parents can access our link to our recent Yeovil College University Centre 'Student Finance Uncovered' webinar, which explains how to fund university-level study.
<https://youtu.be/trno6TvFbcg>



National Careers Week

As part of Yeovil College's programme of recognition and celebration for National Careers Week 2024, Yeovilton has landed their Wildcat AW159 military helicopter in the heart of the Yeovil campus, officially marking the impact that education and training has on the South West.

Spotlighting careers and the role it plays upon a young person's life chances and future employment opportunities, we welcomed the opportunity to again support the home of the British Helicopter and fly the flag for our community. Our partners at RNAS Yeovilton also delivered a package of enrichment activities to the Yeovil College student community, highlighting careers and opportunities within our local area, and in particular supporting their own workforce development requirement, across a huge range of careers including Manufacturing Engineering, Engineering Design, Finance, HR Careers and Customer Support.

Government Announces Apprenticeship Reform

Yeovil College bucks the national trend for apprentices, with more than 1,000 apprentices enrolled at any one time across 400+ employers, despite a downward trend in apprenticeship employment from across the UK. The Government has now pledged to reform apprenticeship, particularly for SMEs, meaning that we can expect the demand for employers wishing to recruit apprenticeships to increase, making this an attractive progression route for students finishing college.

Live Apprenticeship vacancies can be found on the Yeovil College website at: <https://www.yeovil.ac.uk/apprenticeships/current-vacancies/>



Yeovil College Careers Advice & Guidance Strategy

Yeovil College has a clear mission statement 'To create life changing opportunities.'

Our careers service is fully committed to drive this by providing high quality careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for all of our learners and apprentices to prepare them to progress into sustainable education, training and employment. High quality, independent careers guidance is crucial in helping our learners leave Yeovil College with the skills and knowledge they need to make informed choices about their next steps. Our aim is to ensure that all of our learners have access to a range of advice and guidance including industry experts and direct experience of the world of work, a clear view of the labour market and a good understanding of progression routes.

The careers strategy applies to all learners and apprentices at Yeovil College and is inclusive of all levels and study programmes. It is written in accordance with DFE guidelines and is in alignment with the Gatsby Benchmarks.



Yeovil College Opens New Automotive Skills Centre

Recently, we opened our newest state-of-the-art asset – The Automotive Skills Centre. We welcomed the Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Emma Jane Hopkins to 'pull-the-curtains' and formally open The Automotive Skills Centre. As well as our Employer Advisory Panel, who had the opportunity to directly influence what is being taught to their next generation of workforce.

Mark Bolton, CEO & Principal of Yeovil College, commented: "The opening today signifies more than the opening of a building, it symbolises the start of a journey which will see the greatest development to an educational setting within the South West, within a generation, as Yeovil College takes massive strides forward to become the most impactful, recognised and driven College in the UK."

Supporting Young People Event

We held our first Supporting Young People Event for futures students specifically with SEND and EHCPs, sharing our own unique package of support. We are delighted to share that we supported almost 100 people at the event, and look forward to sharing the date of the new and improved event, following feedback.



TOP 50 Most Inclusive Workplaces

We have recently been awarded our achievement plaque having secured a position within the top 50 employers in the prestigious National Centre for Diversity (NCFD) 'Top 100 Most Inclusive Workplaces Index 2023.' Joining the top 100, in position place number 43, we join a group of a few elite UK-wide colleges to make the chart. This award recognises Yeovil College's dedication and commitment to embedding Fairness, Respect, Equality, Diversity, Inclusion, and Engagement (FREDIE), as we strive to place these values at the core of our College community.

Resources

To discover more about careers opportunities, next steps and to better understand which careers might suit your young person next steps, as well as develop your thinking a little bit further, there are some fabulous resources available to you:

The Buzz Quiz – A quick personality quiz designed to increase your awareness of your natural strengths: <https://www.northeastambition.co.uk/buzz-quiz>

National Careers Service – Explore Careers. Choose from over 800 career profiles to discover what a job involves: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Research the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS): <https://www.ucas.com/>

Institute of Apprenticeships & Technical Education: <https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/occupational-maps/>

Barclays Life Skills: <https://barclayslifeskills.com/>

Final Open Event of the Academic Year

On Thursday 23rd May, we will be opening the Yeovil College doors for the final Open Event of the academic year. If your young person has changed their mind, wants to reconfirm their choice or wants to have another look at College, then you are warmly invited to attend. Join us between 5-7pm, register at: <https://www.yeovil.ac.uk/events/may-open-event/>



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