



CONNECTIONS

Connecting parents and guardians with careers

YC Careers News | November Edition

Welcome!

Welcome to our November 2024 Edition of CONNECTIONS. We have some very exciting news to share with you this month, such as our first groundbreaking ceremony for Yeovil College's brand-new campus transformation; our bespoke High Needs & SEND Open Event and news; and our fantastic Yeovil College Careers Hub, open to all learners. We also introduce a former learner's incredible career journey and highlight our exciting T Levels week coming up in December. We hope you enjoy your monthly update on all things Careers, Employability and Events in November.



Yeovil College Breaks Ground on £60+ Million Campus Redevelopment

On Friday 25th October, Yeovil College announced the groundbreaking of its transformative £60+ million campus redevelopment project, funded by the Department for Education (DfE). This historic investment marks a significant milestone in further education for Somerset and North and West Dorset, featuring state-of-the-art facilities that promise to offer unparalleled educational experiences to students across the region with its advanced facilities, dynamic learning environments, and a commitment to excellence.

Together with the Department for Education (DfE), and collaborating with BAM as the main contractor, we are delivering:

- Cutting-edge Sports Centre – The Yeovil Institute of Sport
- Technical Construction Centre
- State-of-the-art, innovative and modern Teaching Centre.

These facilities are meticulously designed to nurture local talent, skills, and innovation, addressing the diverse needs of the community and enhancing employment opportunities in the region.

Yeovil College Careers Hub

Yeovil College has a dedicated Careers Hub with an open-door policy and warm welcome for every student! The Careers, Work Placement and Employability team are committed to ensuring that learners are ready for the next steps on their career journey. Learners can visit the Hub if they need advice about university, apprenticeships, work experience, career options, or even just exploring their next steps at College. No matter what the issue is, the team are available to support learners throughout the year, not just in term time! Each Careers & Work Placement Coordinator looks after a dedicated area, and is supported by Gayle Pogson, our Head of Careers, Work Placements & Employability.

Student Story

In this edition, our student story is about Zoe Worth, formerly of Buckler's Mead Academy, who studied Level 3 Uniformed Protective Services at Yeovil College. Zoe shared her experience of studying with us:

"Yeovil College's support towards achieving the career I wanted was brilliant. We had career advisors in lessons to help us with options on how to get into the different roles. This really helped me as I had no idea what the process was to get to where am I now but with their help, I applied and now I'm in my dream job."

Congratulations Zoe! We're thrilled you have begun your dream job and hope your story inspires others to explore every option with our Careers Team as you did.



High Needs & SEND

Open Event

Yeovil College is running a bespoke High Needs & SEND Open Event on Thursday 14th November 2024, from 5-6:30pm. This event has been specifically designed to support learners with EHCPs and/or a SEND need. The purpose of this event is to give learners and their support network the opportunity to ask questions and learn how Yeovil College could support them as an individual.

There will be opportunities to:

- Speak to support staff such as our SEND, Student Support, iZone and Careers Teams.
- Discuss Exam Access Arrangements and the support in place for this.
- Ask questions on the EHCP application process.
- Explore our Foundation Learning department to see if this is the right path for learners.

In order to create a calm and quiet environment, this event has bookable timeslots to limit the number of people in any one session. Unfortunately, we cannot support drop-ins during this event. Please head here (Yeovil College High Needs & SEND Focused Open Event at Yeovil College event tickets from TicketSource) to secure your place. This is a highly specialised, specific event which is different from our other Open Events. If a learner missed our October Open Event, then our next event available is our December Open Event on Monday 2nd December, 5-8pm.

Celebrating T Levels Students in December!

From 2nd to 6th December, we are thrilled to celebrate T Levels Celebration Week! As one of the pioneering providers of T Levels, we are incredibly proud to mark this occasion and honour the achievements of all Yeovil College students. We started offering T Levels in September 2021 and have since expanded our offerings to include T Levels across the majority of our curriculum offer.

T Levels are two-year courses designed for young people after completing their GCSEs. They are equivalent in size to three A levels and carry UCAS points. Developed in collaboration with employers, T Levels ensure students gain the skills they need for the workforce. These courses combine classroom learning with practical experience, including at least 45 days on an industry placement.

With a T Level, students can move directly into skilled employment, higher education, or apprenticeships. We are immensely proud of our T Level students, who are progressing to diverse paths, from entering the workforce to starting higher-level apprenticeships or attending university. Join us on social media this December as we celebrate our students using the hashtag [#TLevelsWeek](#).

December Open Event

On Wednesday 23rd October, we had our first fantastic Open Event of the year. The atmosphere was buzzing with so many keen young people ready to secure their next steps. If learners missed out or could not attend, we have our December Open Event on Monday 2nd December, 5-8pm! It will be a fabulous night of interesting conversations, exploring our facilities with tour guides and speaking to our amazing lecturers and industry experts. Learners can register their interest [here](#).

What has the Foundation Learning Department been up to?

Our Foundation Learning team has had a busy and exciting start to the academic year as our learners have begun their work experience placements. Year 1 Life and Living learners have started their Learning Company placements within various College departments, including Marketing, IT Services, Employer Engagement, Facilities, the Learning Resource Centre, and Davinci Restaurant, among others. Through these placements, they're developing essential employability skills such as confidence, teamwork, and independence. The Learning Companies provide a unique opportunity for learners to gain experience working within a team, all while having the structured support of the college setting.

Meanwhile, our Year 2 Life and Living learners have begun placements with external employers to build on the skills they developed in Year 1. We're excited to be working with some fantastic employers, including Prodigal Bikes, Ham Hill Rangers, YMCA, and The George Hotel. We're incredibly proud of the progress our learners have made so far, and we're looking forward to supporting them as they continue their journeys this term.



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