

CONNECTIONS

Connecting parents and guardians with careers

YC Careers News | Term 4

Welcome Back

It's been a busy half term for students, staff, visitors and employer partners at Yeovil College! Please take a moment to catch up on what our students have achieved this half term, and what is coming up after the Easter Holidays.



Achieving the Matrix Standard again!

This term, Yeovil College achieved the Matrix Standard for the second year in a row, proving our commitment to top-notch careers information, advice, and guidance for learners, businesses and apprentices.

Mark Bolton, CEO & Principal, said: *"This success highlights our strong partnerships with local businesses, higher education, and beyond. Our amazing careers team and the entire Team YC made this possible. Together, we're helping students launch fantastic careers with local businesses. Their success is our success!"*

Tutorial Programme

This term, our weekly tutorial programme held a mental health focus, with sessions about the impact of substances on mental health, different types of mental illness, and suicide prevention. Learners also experienced a talk about road safety with a guest speaker from Somerset County Council. Next term, our students will discuss bullying, self-care, workplace rights and responsibilities, and staying safe during travel. Our student support team are always available for learners if they need extra support.

National Careers Week 2025 Reflection

National Careers Week 2025 occurred 3rd-8th March, and we celebrated as only Yeovil College does, with a full campus careers takeover:

- Daily drop-in sessions with the Careers, Work Placements and Employability Team, offering extra support and guidance.
- Employer and guest speaker visits from Batters Solicitors, Synergy Farm Health, Milstead Langdon, and more.
- Exciting workshops for our Creative Industries learners from Aardman Animations and Into Film.
- AI showcase with Techosaurus.
- Progression and next steps with an Apprenticeship Information stand and a Yeovil College University Centre information stand.
- Careers and Employability sessions across our student community - understanding an Application Process and communication etiquette.
- Interesting and useful content about career journeys and opportunities across our social media channels, including TikTok.

We also amplified our message that every day shapes your career. At YC, we continue to make significant investment into establishing a strong careers programme, which prepares learners for the world of work. Every learner has access to a specific Careers & Work Placement Coordinator, who specialises in a dedicated curriculum area and is supported by Gayle Pogson, our Head of Careers, Work Placements & Employability. Find out more from Gayle in [this video](#).



Enrichment Offer

We have worked hard this year to provide a varied enrichment offer for our learners to explore. Whether a learner is passionate about sports, music, books or technology, there's something for everyone. We encourage our learners to dive in, meet new friends, and discover their next favourite hobby throughout the year.

Album Review Club

Every other Thursday, 12:30 - 13:30 in the Da Vinci Restaurant. The goal is to create a vibrant student community united by a passion for music and its culture.

Bookworms

An online community of book lovers open to staff and students. All genres welcome!
First Thursday of every month, 3:30 – 4:30pm at Da Vinci for coffee and book chat, plus a book swap shelf!

Learn British Sign Language

Online BSL Signing Course. Free for the first 30 students!
This is ideal for: Beginners, Level 1 Revision, Staff Training, DofE Award (skill section).

Current Affairs Breakfast

Discuss current affairs and student issues. Every week from 8:00 AM, seated area outside of Nexus.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

An opportunity to gain lifelong skills and have amazing experiences, for anyone aged 14-24. This is ideal for everyone!

Music Club

Learners can bring their own instruments and meet other music-loving people, form a band or just play for fun!
Monday - Friday, 12:00 - 2:00 PM. Studio (back of main hall).

Join Swap Stop Support

Learners can help operate and support our SU Swap Stop initiative. They can donate gently used clothes and find new favourites at super low prices, to promote sustainability, support students, and build a strong YC community.

Virtual Reality Club

Explore the world of VR, whether pro or beginner. Learners can learn to use VR safely, play new games, and test apps. Wednesdays, 12:15 - 1:15pm in E109.

Sports & Fitness Enrichment

Our Sports & Fitness Enrichment Programme helps learners excel on and off the field with diverse sports options and experienced coaches.

Sports Offered: Basketball, CrossFit, Badminton, Football (male & female), Hockey, Military Fitness, Netball, Outdoor Education, and Rugby.

Please share this with your learner and encourage them to try something new!

Half-Term Rewind

Let's recognise everything we have accomplished since February half term. As explored above, we celebrated National Careers Week 2025, which offered learners a number of new perspectives through guest speakers, employer visits, workshops and increased YC Careers Hub visibility. We hope this inspired your learners to begin thinking more about their career aspirations and next steps.

On Tuesday 11th March, we hosted a Barbers Against Prostate Cancer charity day, where guest speaker and charity founder Mark Rayment shared his experience, as well as signs, symptoms and the importance of talking. Our salon was open for free hair cut appointments for men over 40 with our Barbering students, and our hairdressing apprentices were available to give other services for a charitable donation. Our Hairdressing and Barbering students raised £160 at this event! Hopefully we saw some of you there, supporting the charity and your learner!

Finally, Yeovil College was nominated and then recognised as the runner-up for Innovator of the Year at the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Heroes Awards, supported by the Skills and Education Group this term! This award celebrates organizations that have successfully implemented innovative networks or diversity programs to support individuals in their professional, personal, or educational journeys. What an exciting term we've had!

DATES FOR DIARIES

May Open Event – Thursday 22nd May 5-7pm

Our final open event of this academic year. If your learner is considering switching courses or would like to find out more about Yeovil College University Centre, then this event is a good opportunity. Please register to attend [here](#).

Shining Stars – Thursday 12th July at Westlands Entertainment Venue

This is our exciting awards evening where we celebrate the success of our learners, whether this is in academic achievement, work in the community or acceleration in the workplace. Learners are nominated through an impartial judging panel, and recipients will be contacted at the end of April inviting them to attend the ceremony. Read more [here](#).

Adult Learning Open Event - Thursday 10th July 5-6:30pm

This event is for anyone considering a career change, a course to upskill themselves, or a leisure programme, whether this is through a degree qualification or a part time evening programme. If you are interested in finding out more, and would like to register, please click [here](#).

Support

If you would like to discuss work experience or next steps for your young person, please contact the Careers and Work Placement Team on CareersHub@yeovil.ac.uk.



Contact Us: CareersHub@yeovil.ac.uk



www.yeovil.ac.uk

