



Heath Lane Academy
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SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

July, 2026 | Developing Good People



An update from our Principal

It has been another hugely enjoyable school year with so many successes to celebrate. As a community we should be proud of our brilliant young people. Their hard work, kindness and respect is the beating heart of school life and their achievements make our school vibrant, ambitious and increasingly successful.

The summer term has been the highlight of the school year. Year 11 led by example during their exams, working hard and showing great resilience and stamina to produce their best in every exam. At the end of their exams, it was a pleasure to enjoy our best ever Year 11 Prom with such a mature and respectful group of young people.

Year 10 have also impressed this term as they became our first cohort to complete Work Experience. The feedback from employers recognised their hard work, their enthusiasm and the positive impression they made. Experiencing the world of work is a key element of 'Developing Good People' and I am delighted they have set an excellent example for future cohorts and been such good ambassadors for the school. I was immensely proud of them and grateful to local businesses who provided opportunities for them.

Other highlights at Heath Lane this term include a fantastic Performing Arts and Music showcase enjoyed by so many of us over two nights in June; a very competitive Sportsday (in cooler conditions post heatwave!); our pupils volunteering in the community; our Summer Fayre; our Careers Fair and Transition Days for Year 5 and Year 6. You can read more about these events in our newsletter. Our Year 7,8 and 9 pupils received their End of Year Assessment results in Assemblies last week. The interest they showed in their results, their Year group rankings and their progress was a pleasure to witness. I encourage you to make time to celebrate their successes and congratulate them on their efforts this year.

I hope you enjoy our newsletter and wish you and your family a restful and enjoyable summer.

- Mr Trimingham



Celebrating Our DofE Bronze Cohort

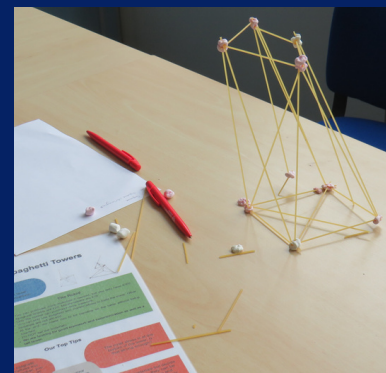
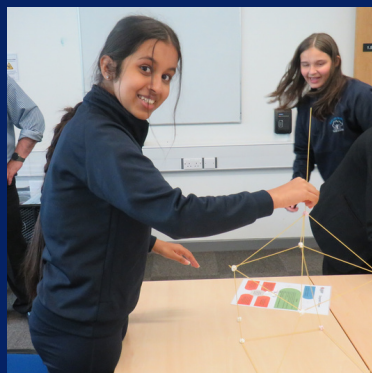
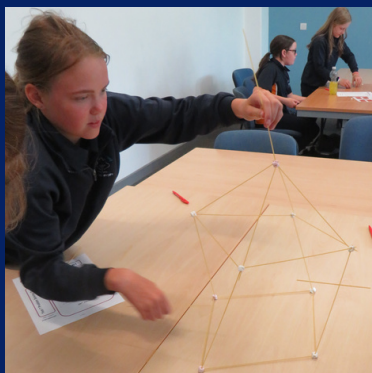
Our Duke of Edinburgh Bronze participants have successfully completed their expedition - a milestone that reflects not only their hard work, but their character. Throughout the journey, pupils supported one another, stayed focused on each checkpoint, and demonstrated impressive teamwork from start to finish. Their expedition showcased real courage, resilience and determination. We are incredibly proud of what they have achieved and the way they represented our school.



Year 7 Visit to De Montfort University

This term, a group of our Year 7 pupils had the exciting opportunity to visit De Montfort University and gain a first insight into what university life is like. During their visit, pupils took part in engaging team-building activities and enjoyed a fantastic guided tour of the campus, giving them a real sense of the learning environment and facilities available.

It was a valuable and inspiring experience for all involved, sparking curiosity about future pathways and life beyond secondary school.





Careers Fair at Heath Lane Academy

Our recent Careers Fair provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to explore a wide range of future pathways. Throughout the event, pupils engaged confidently with employers, training providers, and education organisations, asking thoughtful questions and showing genuine curiosity about the possibilities ahead.

It was wonderful to see pupils taking ownership of their futures - discovering new industries, learning about different routes into work and further study, and gaining a clearer understanding of the skills and qualifications that can help them succeed. Their enthusiasm created a vibrant atmosphere and highlighted just how motivated they are to make informed choices about their next steps.

Events like this play an important role in broadening horizons and helping young people feel empowered about their future options.





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Heath Lane Academy's Performing Arts department presents 'A Year in the Spotlight'

On Monday 15th June and Tuesday 16th June, the Performing Arts Department at Heath Lane Academy proudly presented its annual showcase, celebrating the incredible talent, dedication and achievements of our students. The show featured a variety of performances, including pieces from the Performing Arts Club's production of School of Rock, examination performances, and competition pieces that students have worked on throughout the academic year. Students from all year groups took part, showcasing the breadth of talent across the academy. The success of the showcase was a testament to the hard work, resilience and commitment demonstrated by all students involved. Many gave up their own time to attend rehearsals and ensure the performances were the best they could be. The show was a tremendous success, with parents and families thoroughly enjoying the performances. Many commented on how talented the students were and praised the confidence, professionalism and enthusiasm displayed on stage. We are incredibly proud of each and every student who took part. Their dedication and passion for the performing arts made the event a memorable celebration of the hard work and achievements of our students throughout the year. A huge thank you goes to the staff, families and supporters who helped make the showcase possible. We look forward to seeing what our talented performers achieve in the future.





Peace and Kindness Group say a huge Thank you

As this year draws to a close the Peace and Kindness Group would like to send a huge thank you to all pupils, their families and staff who have supported our charitable events. Through the course of this year with your support we have sent 22 Christmas Shoeboxes through the Samaritans Purse Charity. In the first part of the year we raised funds by creating Peace Cards and handcrafted items. This enabled us to sponsor a toilet through Toilet Twinning charity, this toilet is based in Zimbabwe. We held our Big Chocolate Raffle which enabled us to sponsor the Choose Love charity to provide Life Saving Medical Treatment and New Baby Packs. Finally, in supporting charities more local we have raised £100 for LOROS this term. Our small but mighty Peace and Kindness Group will be back next year taking positive action to help change the world. Again, THANK YOU, this success would not have been possible without the support of you - our wonderful HLA community.



Year 8 and Year 9 Art and Design

We are delighted to share some of the outcomes created by our Year 8 Artists who have been investigating painting food. Here artists have observed fried eggs, the challenge being creating a textured and tonal egg white and a golden smoother, reflective egg yolk. The artists have used shadows beneath the egg to enhance the reality of their paintings. Year 9 have been studying fish, they have been focusing on creating the fish texture and colours accurately. These paintings are of a larger scale. We are delighted with the quality of work created in the Art Department. Well done everyone!!





Year 8 MFL careers webinar with GCHQ

On Thursday 25th June, some of our top Year 8 linguists were invited to join Mrs Molloy for an afternoon webinar, looking at the role of language analysts at GCHQ. As part of the webinar, students learnt more about the work that GCHQ does to protect our country, and how language studies are vital to be able to interpret and analyse communications which come in from all over the world. Students tried their hand at deciphering a series of messages and were successful in their mission! We hope they enjoyed their afternoon and have been inspired to continue their languages studies.





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Year 7 Update

As we reach the end of your child's first year of secondary school, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an outstanding Year 7 journey. Your children have embraced every challenge, grown in confidence, and contributed to a school community built on respect, kindness, and an enthusiasm for learning.

Our PGL residential was a highlight, giving pupils the chance to push themselves, build resilience, and strengthen friendships. Whether it was tackling high ropes, working as a team during problem-solving challenges, or simply sharing laughter around the dining hall, the trip captured the spirit of adventure and togetherness. We have also enjoyed a range of curriculum trips and enrichment opportunities, including University visits, showcasing talents in our school show and engaging in our weekly enrichment offer. Each one helping pupils to build character. These experiences have sparked curiosity, encouraged independence, and created moments they will remember long after Year 7.

In the classroom, commitment to learning, willingness to participate, and growing maturity have been evident throughout the year. Teachers have consistently commented on their positive attitudes, thoughtful contributions, and the pride they take in their work. Year 7 have embodied the values we hold at the heart of our school. They have shown respect for one another, for staff, and for their environment. They have demonstrated kindness in the way they support their peers, welcome new friendships, and contribute to a safe, inclusive community. These qualities matter just as much as academic success, and your children have shown them in abundance. Thank you for your continued support with your child's education. The encouragement you provide at home, along with your engagement in our school community, makes a meaningful difference in their learning and wellbeing.

Miss Jarvis, Head of Year 7



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Year 8 Update

As another school year comes to a close, we're proud of the many positives that have supported our vision of helping pupils "develop into good people." This term has seen encouraging improvements in attendance, showing pupils' growing commitment and engagement with school life.

Our careers and enrichment programme continues to thrive, with pupils attending inspiring events such as The Big Bang STEM Fair, visits to MIRA Technology Institute, and Dell Industries' "The Big Idea." These experiences have opened doors to exciting pathways in science, technology, and engineering.

Beyond the classroom, pupils have embraced a wide range of extra-curricular clubs, events, and sporting fixtures. Their enthusiasm and teamwork have been outstanding — whether representing the school on the pitch, performing on stage, or exploring new interests. Participation has grown across activities including swimming, athletics, football, netball, and rounders. A highlight was the United Learning X-Elle Girls Sporting Event, empowering our girls through sport and teamwork.

Pupils have also shown compassion through charity work, supporting Cancer Research UK, the Just Give project, and visiting residents at Charnwood Care Home. Their leadership and community spirit shone again at the Summer Fair.

Academically, pupils worked exceptionally hard in their end-of-year assessments, showing focus and determination. The formal Maths assessment, held in the sports hall, gave them valuable experience of GCSE-style exams and helped build confidence.

We'll end the year with a Rewards Assembly to celebrate the many successes across Year 8. Looking ahead, we're excited to offer more STEM opportunities and guide pupils as they begin choosing GCSE options. Next year, we'll continue to nurture character development — helping pupils grow into kind, responsible, and resilient young people who live our school values every day.

We wish all our families a lovely summer holiday! We look forward to welcoming your child into Year 9, ready to learn and we are ready to support them excel in all they do.

Thank you, Mrs S Ley (Head of Year 8)

Leadership School Action Group Visit to Charnwood Care Home

Our year 8 Leadership School Action Group spent a wonderful afternoon at Charnwood Care Home as part of their community project. Pupils brought along flowers and worked with the residents to plant them in the garden.

Both pupils and residents got fully involved, chatting, laughing, and enjoying the activity together. The residents commented on how lovely the flowers were and how much the visit had brightened up their flower bed — and their day.

We are incredibly proud of our pupils for their kindness, teamwork, and the positive impact they continue to make in our community.



MIRA – STEM speed networking

Year 8 pupils took part in an exciting STEM Speed Networking event, designed to inspire them to think about future careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Throughout the session, pupils interviewed a range of industry professionals from STEM backgrounds.

They asked thoughtful questions about:

- Job roles and what their work involves
- Qualifications and skills needed in different STEM fields
- Day-to-day responsibilities in real workplaces
- Career journeys and how each professional reached their current role

The event gave pupils a valuable opportunity to explore the huge variety of STEM pathways available and to understand that there is no single route into a successful STEM career. Many professionals shared how their interests developed over time, how they overcame challenges, and what motivates them in their work today.

Our pupils represented the academy brilliantly showing curiosity, confidence, and maturity. Experiences like this help them make informed choices about their futures and highlight the exciting possibilities that STEM can offer.





The Big Idea

The Dell "Big Idea" workshop led by the Talent Foundry successfully brought Year 8 students together as a team to tackle a real-world social issue and map out a concrete plan to solve it. To sharpen their communication skills, students were challenged to craft a compelling elevator pitch for their ideas.

As a fun, low-stakes practice run, the teams were given bizarre tasks: they had to pitch impossible products, like selling a chocolate teapot and marketing a holiday to a rubbish dump. By forcing them to accentuate the positives of these absurd scenarios, the dry run proved incredibly useful when it came time to sell their actual social impact ideas.

The final test came when presenting in front of almost 50 of their peers. The true victory was seeing how remarkably others picked up the ball and ran with it, delivering passionate, creative pitches. Quite a few of our Year 8 students went home a really proud yesterday.

The Big Bang - NEC

On 11 June 2026, our Year 8 pupils visited The Big Bang UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair at the NEC in Birmingham.

They explored hands-on workshops, interactive activities, and exciting live shows, discovering the incredible world of STEM careers. Pupils met scientists, engineers, and technicians, asking insightful questions about their work and learning how science and technology shape our future.

From flying drones and flight simulators to wildlife habitats, everyone enjoyed a day packed with discovery and inspiration. It was a fantastic experience that sparked curiosity and creativity in every student!



Year 7 & 8 Rounders tournament

Our Year 7 and 8 girls took part in the Area Rounders Tournament on 15th June, showing fantastic teamwork and determination throughout the event.

They secured a brilliant win against Hastings, narrowly missed out against St. Martins, and finished strong with a final victory over Dixie. Their batting and fielding skills were outstanding, demonstrating great technique and spirit.

The girls finished 3rd overall — a wonderful achievement! Well done to everyone for your hard work, teamwork, and support for one another.



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Year 8 Girls' X-elle Sporting event - Hartshill Academy - 18th June

Our UL Advisor, Rachel Clayden, hosted Heath Lane Academy's Year 8 girls at Hartshill Academy alongside other local UL schools for a fantastic opportunity to inspire and engage girls in a positive and empowering sporting experience.

The pupils took part in Tag Rugby and Cricket, finishing the day with a friendly cricket tournament. The girls showed brilliant teamwork, enthusiasm, and sportsmanship throughout — supporting one another and enjoying every moment.

It was a wonderful day that celebrated confidence, collaboration, and the joy of sport!



Year 5 Experience Day at Heath Lane Academy

Year 7 pupils proudly supported visiting Year 5 pupils this week as they explored a range of lessons at Heath Lane Academy. Pupils from our local primary schools took part in Art, Music, Science, Food and PE, gaining a real insight into life at secondary school.

During the day, they created impressive artwork inspired by David Hockney and baked delicious cookies to take home — a highlight for many. Our Year 7 pupils were excellent role models throughout, guiding and encouraging the younger pupils with maturity and kindness.

It was a fantastic day of learning, creativity and collaboration. Well done to everyone involved.





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Summer Fair

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along to support our School Summer Fair! Despite the warm weather, it was fantastic to see such a great turnout. Your support, generosity, and enthusiasm helped make the day a wonderful success.

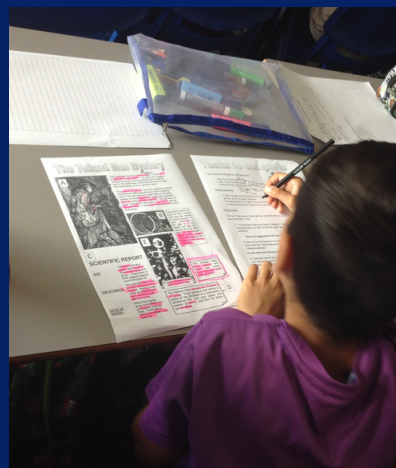
A big thank you also goes to all of our amazing student volunteers, staff, and everyone who donated prizes, ran stalls, or helped behind the scenes. We couldn't have done it without you!

We hope everyone had a fantastic time, and we look forward to seeing you all at our future events. Thank you for making our school community so special!



Year 6 Transition days

Our upcoming pupils enjoyed their transition days at Heath Lane Academy, experiencing a range of lessons and meeting their new teachers. They learned about school routines and expectations, helping them feel confident and prepared for the exciting journey ahead. We look forward to welcoming all our new pupils to Heath Lane in August.





CAREERS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Careers Newsletter. Throughout the year, we continue to provide students with a wide range of careers education, information, advice and guidance to help them make informed decisions about their future pathways.

Our careers programme supports students in developing the knowledge, skills and experiences needed to prepare for further education, apprenticeships and employment.

Labour Market Information (LMI)

What is LMI?

Labour Market Information (LMI) provides up-to-date information about the world of work, including:

- Employment trends
- Growing industries and sectors
- Skills employers are looking for
- Salary information
- Education, training and apprenticeship opportunities
- Local, regional and national employment opportunities

Using LMI helps students make informed decisions about their future education, training and career pathways.

Current Labour Market Trends

Students are encouraged to explore opportunities within a range of growing sectors, including:

- Healthcare and Social Care
- Digital and Technology
- Engineering and Manufacturing
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Green Energy and Sustainability
- Education and Public Services

Employers continue to highlight the importance of key employability skills such as:

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Problem-solving
- Resilience
- Digital literacy
- Organisation and time management

How We Use LMI in School

Labour Market Information is embedded throughout our careers programme and is delivered through:

- Careers lessons and tutor activities
- Assemblies and workshops
- Employer encounters and guest speakers
- Careers fairs and events
- Apprenticeship and further education presentations
- Work experience preparation
- Individual careers guidance interviews

This ensures students understand current and future employment opportunities and can make informed decisions about their next steps.

Employment

75.8% of people are employed



Higher than the UK average of 75.6%



Data source: Nomis

Unemployment

4.4% of people are unemployed



Slightly above the UK average of 4.3%

Salary



£30.K pa meridian advertised wage

Largest Hirer



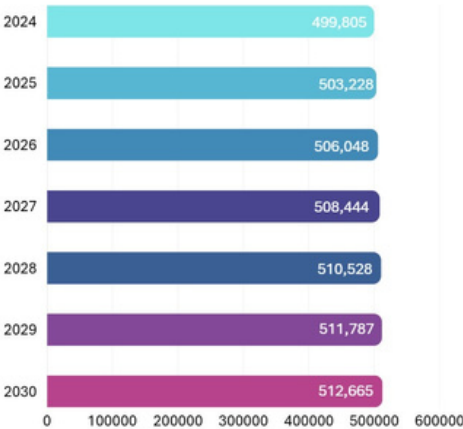
The NHS advertised 3,659 jobs between Jan 25 –Jan 26, followed by Loughborough University, Leicestershire County Council and SamworthBrothers

Where?

Just under50% of jobs advertised are in Leicester,followed by Charnwood,Hinckley and NW Leicestershire

Data source: Lightcast Job Analytics and Nomis

Predicted Job Growth



+12,860 newjobs by 2030 in Leicester and Leicestershire, in addition to those created by retirement/leavers

Area Industries Set To Grow The Most



Transportation and Storage



Manufacturing



Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities

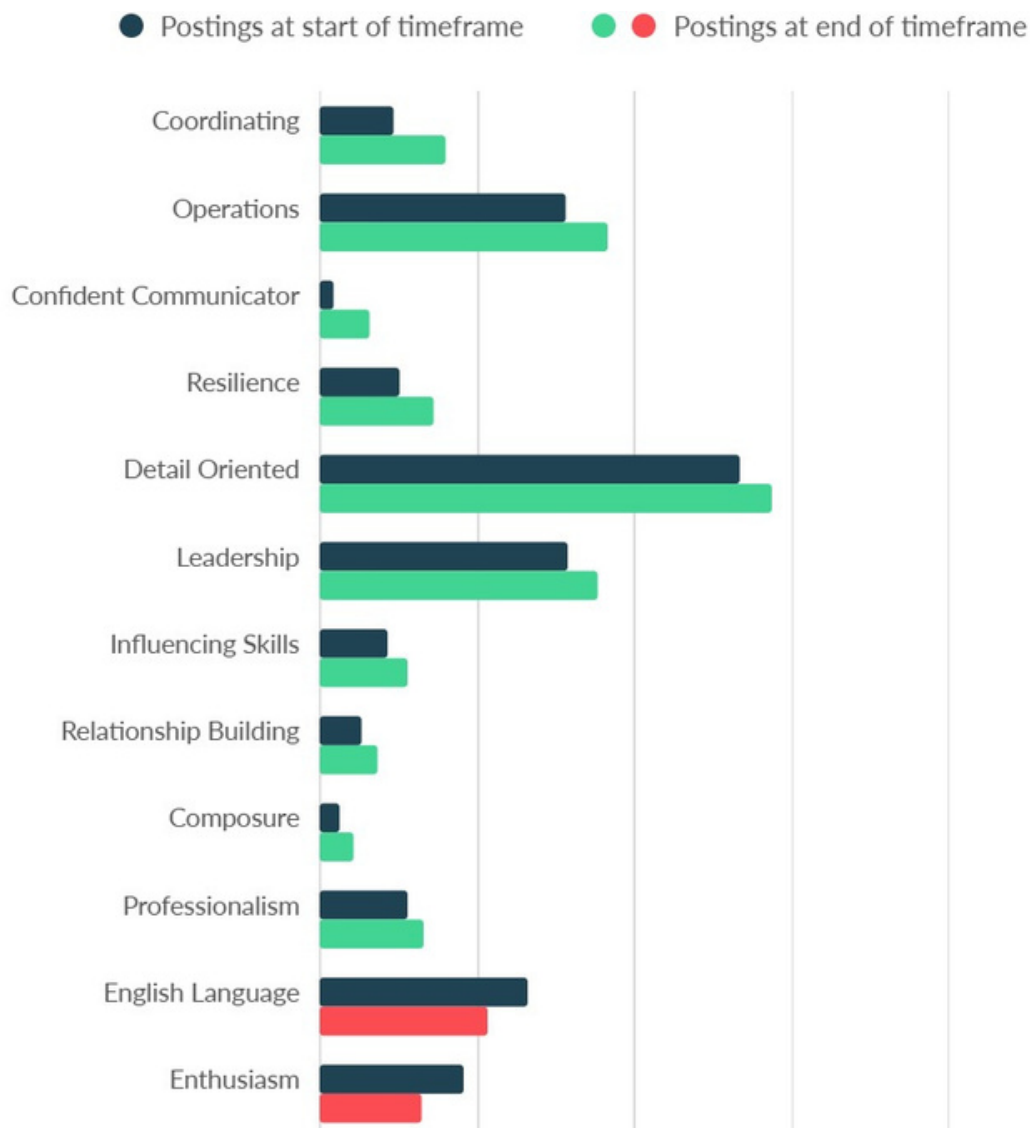
Data source: Lightcast Occupations and Highest Ranked Industries

Area Jobs and Skills News

- ADS LaserCutting investmentwill support opportunities:
<https://www.eastmidlandsbusinesslink.co.uk/mag/featured/leicester-metalwork-firm-invests-in-capacity-and-systems-to-support-long-term-growth/>
- New partnership to support Heavy Vehicle Technicians shortages: Logistics UK and Loughborough College Group to supercharge industry skills - East Midlands Business Link
- Hinckley new Savers to open, creating jobs: Opening date set for new Savers store in Leicestershire town centre | Leicestershire Live
- **New stores for Highcross:** Highcross Leicester lands nine new lettings as retailers back centre despite tough market | TheBusinessDesk.com
- **Patt-Ex new HQ** will bring new jobs to the Bardon area:
<https://www.eastmidlandsbusinesslink.co.uk/mag/property/pall-ex-gets-go-ahead-for-80m-national-hq/>

Hot skills across Leicester and Leicestershire

See which skills are increasing the most in mentions across area job adverts, trends over the last 12 months to Jan 31st 2026. Data source Lightcast, 2026.



Recruitment insights

- Lots of free skills and recruitment support, skills check etc on: [Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources | National Careers Service](#)
- [British Job Market Trends: British Job Market 2026: Trends, Challenges & Opportunities](#)
- Interesting article about job hunting in a challenging labour market with lots of useful advice: [How to land a role in 2026's broken jobs market](#)

Area support

The Leicester Employment Hub website promotes a range of area events, courses, job and apprenticeship vacancies, see [Home | Leicester Employment Hub](#). DWP and many districts also offer ongoing job fairs and employment schemes too.

We also have an excellent area Construction Hub to help people into the sector, support is FREE, see: [Construction Hub](#)

See local labour market resources for young people on <https://llep.org.uk/careers-hub/wow/>, including an activity guide, Five Ways to use the World of Work, plus resources for adults here: <https://llep.org.uk/skills/information-and-resources-for-adults/>

See the area LSIP Collective Skills Observatory for lots of other regional data here: <https://www.insight-unlocked.co.uk/leicester-and-leicestershire/home.html>

LSR Online also offers some useful economic data about the area, see: [Leicester-Shire & Rutland Statistics & Research | LSR Online](#)



DWP Area Events

DWP are working hard with area partners and council to support jobs fairs and activities to drive area employment take up, please see below for some of the events coming up!

Coalville:

- Apprenticeship Recruitment Event and College Open Evening 10th Feb 26 at Stephenson college, LE67 3TN
- Job Fair – 19th March 26 at Stephenson College
- Inspiring Women event w/c 16th April at Stephenson College
- Job Fair 20th May at Stephenson College
- Employer Forum and Recruitment event – 9th July, Stephenson College

Coming soon! New huge, automated distribution site for Aldi in Bardon (North West Leics) bringing a variety of new jobs, more detail to follow but Aldi will be at the Hinckley Jobs Fair on 18th March and the Coalville jobs fair on the 19th March.

Hinckley:

Quarterly Recruitment Events – some great Job Fairs are coming up at the Hinckley Hub* on 18 March 2026, 17 June 2026 & 14 October 2026, from 9.30am to 12.30pm (*Rugby Road, Hinckley LE10 0FR)

Loughborough:

- Loughborough Recruitment Event - Friday 27th of February, Careers & Enterprise Hub, 15 Market Place, Loughborough LE11 3EA 10:00am to 1:00pm

Market Harborough:

- Training and Support Provider Event – Thursday 22 January 2026 - 10:00am to 1:00pm - Ground Floor Symington Building, Adam & Eve Street, Harborough LE16 7AG

Market Harborough – Council Chambers

- 26th March, 4th June, 3rd September and 5th November

Lutterworth:

- The Wycliffe Rooms have exciting Jobs and Skills Fairs coming up on:
16th April and 8th Oct

Melton Mowbray:

- In partnership with the National Careers Service, DWP are running a group information session on the 25th Feb 2026 to (briefly) cover topics such as CV Top Tips, Interview Tips, promoting upcoming courses / SWAPs etc at Melton Mowbray Jobcentre
- There is an Open Door – Get into Construction Campaign ([Open Doors | Get into construction](#)) event taking place with Tilbury Douglas at Brooksby Melton College on the 25th March 2026. Tilbury Douglas have given Coalville Jobcentre and Melton Jobcentre a dedicated slot between 10am and 11am for a site visit with customers interested in getting into construction.



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Careers Guidance and 1:1 Support

All students have access to impartial careers guidance throughout their time at school.

This year, students have benefited from:

- One-to-one careers guidance interviews
- Personalised action planning
- Support with option choices
- Post-16 and Post-18 progression guidance
- Apprenticeship, college, sixth form and university information
- Interview preparation

Following each guidance interview, students receive personalised action points to support their future career aspirations and progression pathways.

Careers Events and Opportunities

Careers Fair

Our annual Careers Fair provided students with the opportunity to meet employers, colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers and training organisations.

Students were able to:

- Explore different career pathways
- Learn about local and national opportunities
- Gain valuable Labour Market Information
- Discover the skills and qualifications required for different careers
- Speak directly with professionals and education providers

The event supported students in making informed decisions about their future education, training and career aspirations.

Year 10 Work Experience

This year, our Year 10 students are undertaking work experience placements, giving them valuable insight into the workplace and helping them develop employability skills.

Work experience enables students to:

- Experience a professional working environment
- Develop confidence and independence
- Improve communication and teamwork skills
- Gain an understanding of employer expectations
- Explore career interests and future pathways

Year 10 Mock Interviews

All Year 10 students participated in Mock Interviews with employers and industry professionals.



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Students had the opportunity to:

- Develop interview skills and confidence
- Practise answering interview questions
- Understand employer expectations
- Receive constructive feedback
- Improve communication and employability skills

The mock interview programme prepares students for future interviews for work experience placements, apprenticeships, college applications and employment opportunities.

Looking Ahead

Over the coming year we will continue to:

- Expand employer engagement opportunities
- Develop links with local businesses and training providers
- Increase student access to apprenticeship information
- Promote further and higher education pathways
- Provide up-to-date Labour Market Information
- Support students in preparing for successful futures

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting young people with their career planning and future aspirations.

If you have any questions about careers education, apprenticeships, further education, higher education, work experience or post-16 pathways, please contact the Careers Team.

Booking an Appointment

If you would like to discuss your child's career plans or receive further careers guidance, you are welcome to arrange a meeting with a member of the Careers Team.

Appointments can be booked by:

- Contacting the school office
- Emailing the Careers Team
- Speaking to your child's tutor or Head of Year



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We are happy to support students and families with:

- Career planning and progression routes
- College, sixth form and university applications
- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Labour Market Information (LMI)
- Work experience
- Employability skills and future pathways

Contact Us

Careers Manager Email: Shamina.khan@heathlaneacademy.org.uk

Telephone : 01455845061 ext 231/ 07458005294

We look forward to continuing to work with students, parents and carers to support successful future career choices.

