SOUTHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

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CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

Listen to this newsletter

OPPORTUNITIES

National Coding Week takes place from 16th - 23rd September, it aims to help adults and children learn and share their digital skills. There are many benefits of learning to code. It's a useful and important skill for the future.

Coding is the process of translating instructions into a language computers and machines can understand and execute. Programmers write code, which allows websites and apps to operate. For anyone interested in a career in coding, learning more about the types of jobs available may help them find a role that suits their individual skills and qualifications. In this article, you can read about nine types of coding jobs, along with average salaries, primary duties and required skills.

Different coding languages can be difficult to understand. From popular ones like Python, JavaScript, and Java to powerful low-level languages like C and C++, plus web essentials like HTML/CSS, modern innovations like Rust, and database languages like SQL, this video breaks them all down quickly and simply.

Here are a few places where you can complete free online coding courses:

- Brilliant.org: Interactive problem solving that's effective and fun. Master concepts in Python, programming, algorithms, and beyond.
- freeCodeCamp: Offers hands-on, project-based certifications covering responsive web design, JavaScript algorithms, and Python fundamentals.
- Codecademy: Provides free introductory interactive courses for programming languages like Python, SQL, and HTML/CSS.

- School of Code: A highly popular, fully remote, 100% free coding bootcamp open to anyone in the UK. It takes you from a complete beginner to a job-ready software engineer through collaborative, real-world project work.
- Code First Girls: Dedicated to women and non-binary individuals in the UK. They offer free online "MOOCs" and intensive coding courses covering web development, Python, and data science, often connected to hired employment placements

This forbes article, entilted "Programming In The Age Of AI: Why Code Still Matters" outlines why it is so important for us (humans!) to learn and understand code.

If you have any questions or need support, please email careers@southlands.lancs.sch.uk

JOB OF THE WEEK

Software Developer

A software developer designs, builds, tests, and maintains computer programs and applications to solve user and business needs.

Writing code is a major part of the job, but a developer's work covers the entire life cycle of a project. This can include designing systems, debugging, updating software and working as part of a team to overcome challenges.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Here are the top five best paid roles that involve coding in the UK. This shows their average salary.

Chief Technology Officer (CTO) - £110,000
Software Architect - £92,000
Machine Learning / AI Engineer - £84,000
DevOps / Platform Engineer - £78,000
Data Engineer - £73,000
Source

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OPPORTUNITIES

The government has committed a further £9 million to Discover Creative Careers, DCMS's flagship programme connecting young people with creative careers & this time delivered by a fresh collective (Futures For All, Creative UK and Creative Access). The funding targets 11–24 year olds from under-represented backgrounds and underserved regions. Head to their website to learn more about how they can support you.

The government is introducing a bursary of up to £4,500 a year for some families on benefits whose children start an apprenticeship, to offset the Universal Credit they currently lose. The £30million fund follows a report warning the benefits system was actively discouraging apprenticeships for families on low incomes.

Advertising is a dynamic industry that uses creative storytelling to inspire and influence how we think, behave, and consume. Over 600,000 people are employed directly in the advertising and marketing industry in the UK, across agencies and in-house marketing teams. And these jobs are spread right around the UK, with 60% of industry employment based outside of London. Check out these career simulations to learn more about what it's like to work in the advertising industry.

The Solent University 52 Weeks to Go guide is a step-by-step countdown program designed to help prospective students prepare for university life over the course of a year. It will helpl you with future planning, including exploring career goals, lifestyle choices, and deciding if university is right for you.

Apprenticeships are real jobs with real employers, allowing you to work, earn a salary and gain valuable qualifications and experience. With over 700 different apprenticeship standards covering everything from accountancy to zoo keeping, there is an apprenticeship out there for everyone. Apprenticeships offer choice, opportunity, qualifications, support and a head start into a future career. Explore these resources to discover everything you need to know about apprenticeships.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"At JPMorganChase, we drive innovation and gain valuable skills for the future with opportunities catered to students and graduates interested in pursuing a tech career.

Our slogan is "Make dreams possible for everyone, everywhere, every day"

You'll find a variety of career paths and opportunities to learn and grow. We're committed to supporting our employees and helping them succeed every step of the way."

UNI SPOTLIGHT

The University of Glasgow, founded in 1451, is one of the UK's oldest universities and a member of the Russell Group. Located in Glasgow, Scotland, it offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

It is known for excellent research, historic architecture, diverse students and a vibrant student experience.

You can learn more about University of Glasgow here.

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UNIFROG

As a school we invest in Unifrog, an online platform that provides a plethora of resources for pupils to tap into, from looking up career pathways to taking personality quizzes to help make informed choices about their future. An Introduction to Unifrog presentation can be found here. All students will be introduced / re-introduced to the platform by the end of the Autumn term but are able to access resources now using their school email address and selecting forgotten password to reset account.

As part of our careers education programme, students will be introduced to a different career pathway each month through the curriculum. They will hear from professionals or university students who will share insights into their career or subject area, helping students to broaden their understanding of future opportunities.
Following each session, students will be encouraged to reflect on what interests them and what they may find less appealing about the career or subject. They will also make connections between the featured profession or discipline and their own skills, current studies, and future aspirations. You are able to

Career of the Month

- Year 7: Baker
- Year 8: Sustainability Analyst
- Year 9: Social Media Manager
- Year 10: Radiographer
- Year 11: Environmental Engineer

Subject of the Month

- Year 7: Archaeology
- Year 8: Sports Science
- Year 9: Geology
- Year 10: Social Work and Community Care
- Year 11: Physics

We encourage parents and carers to continue these conversations at home by asking their child about the featured career and subject. Discussing what they found interesting, what surprised them, and how the role or subject connects to their strengths and aspirations can help deepen their understanding and broaden their awareness of future opportunities. Simple questions such as "What skills would someone need for that job?", "Could you see yourself doing something similar?" or "How does this link to what you are learning in school?" can support meaningful reflection and career planning.

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