

World of Work LLR

Information for young people on industries across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland



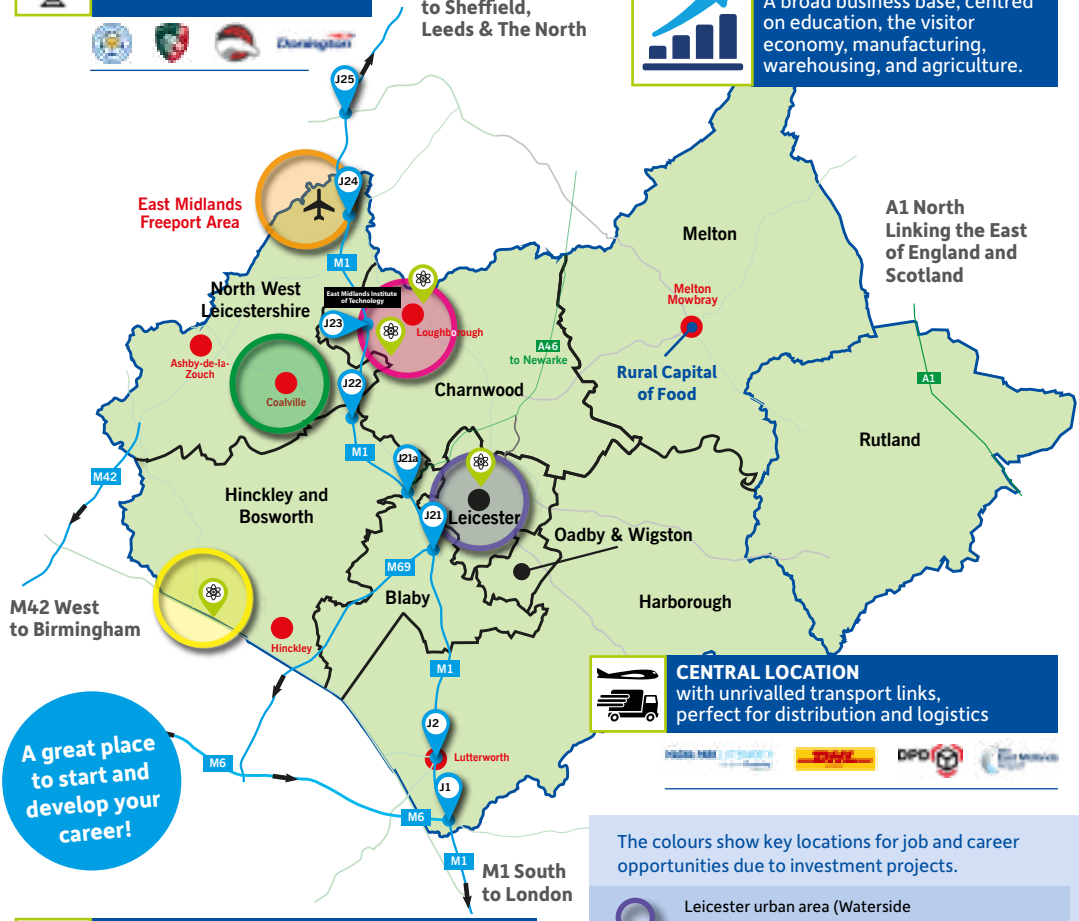
2026-27 - FREE - 2026-27 - FREE - 2026-27 - FREE

Three world-class universities with thousands of graduates entering the workforce each year

FOOD & DRINK COMPANIES
Many local and national products made here

Home of
SPORTING EXCELLENCE

Rutland
A broad business base, centred on education, the visitor economy, manufacturing, warehousing, and agriculture.



CENTRAL LOCATION
with unrivalled transport links, perfect for distribution and logistics

A great place to start and develop your career!

SEVERAL RETAIL HEAD OFFICES
are based here

PROFESSIONAL & FINANCIAL SERVICES
companies choose Leicester

STRONG ADVANCED MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING SECTOR

The colours show key locations for job and career opportunities due to investment projects.

- Leicester urban area (Waterside project, city regeneration areas)
- East Midlands Enterprise Gateway, a booming area for growth and jobs across five sites. East Midlands Airport is part of the freeport* area
- Coalville Growth Corridor
- Loughborough (Loughborough University Science & Enterprise Park)
- South West Leicestershire (MIRA Technology Park Enterprise Zone)
- Enterprise Zones

*** The East Midlands Freeport will bring thousands of jobs to the area, see: www.emfreeport.com**

Introduction

Welcome to World of Work LLR (Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland), a guide to industries across the area, to help you to plan your future.

This resource also includes information on qualifications and pathways, and advice on looking and applying for jobs or apprenticeships.

If you are starting to career plan, it is helpful to be aware of the wide range of roles across work sectors, and trends on what skills are needed.

There are many large employers in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, such as Sytner, Barratt Developments, Hanson UK, Access Technology, IBM, Ceva Logistics, Next, Caterpillar, Triumph, Dunelm, Santander and Samworth Brothers. Along with well-known names, there are thousands of micro, small, and medium-sized employers, who also offer fantastic career opportunities.

With over 44,965 registered businesses in the area, read on and find out more!



Did you know?
Over the last 12 months over 130,000* job opportunities have been advertised in the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland area



*Data source from LIghtcast, 130, 350 vacancies across 9,638 employers

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The world of work

The world of work is continually changing, and you might wonder what future employment opportunities will look like. Looking at trends, the area around you, and the different ways in which we work can help you to plan your career.



What is the 'labour market'?

Labour market information can tell you:

- What jobs and skills employers are looking for
- Which industries are recruiting and where they are located
- The number of people in certain types of jobs
- Growing or declining job areas and general employment trends

See the grid opposite for some key factors that can affect the labour market.

Work facts for the 21st century

Lots of new jobs are going to be created over the next 15 years. How much do you know about the jobs listed below? They are all out there right now!

- NANO-MEDICINE TECHNICIAN
- CYBER CALAMITY FORECASTER
- AUTONOMOUS CAR MECHANIC
- AVATAR TUTOR BROKER
- AUGMENTED-REALITY JOURNEY BUILDER
- SMART HOME DESIGNER
- GREEN FUNERAL DIRECTOR

Many future jobs need at least level 3 qualifications because many roles are increasingly using advanced technology.



What is STEM?

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and maths. Employers value the skills you develop in STEM subjects and careers. Why? Because there are going to be more skilled jobs available in these areas in the future and young people like you will be needed to do those jobs. Being creative is also important, to be innovative in solving challenges.

What kind of STEM jobs exactly?
Some really exciting ones, such as:

- Creating a new clean energy source
- Curing an illness or disease
- Forecasting earthquakes to keep people safe
- Designing the biggest rollercoaster in the world
- Building an eco-friendly skyscraper



The changing world of work





What is changing?	How can it affect jobs and careers?	Think about it!	Which job areas will be important?
New technology is being developed all the time. 	New technology is the main reason for old jobs disappearing. Most jobs today involve using digital skills in some way.	Self-service machines. Robots on production lines. Greater demand for people with IT, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and engineering skills to fix them and develop new ones. 	Quantum computing Automation and robotics engineering Creative technology Data science and machine learning Aerospace Cyber security 
People are living longer. 	People will need more health and social care support. 	More health and social care workers are needed. Demand for housing and leisure activities aimed at an older population. More products and technology that assist the elderly.	Health care Social care Life sciences Pharmacology Health data analysts
The pace of change in the workplace is speeding up. 	People need to be able to adapt to learn new skills quickly.	Amazing new jobs that have never existed before, along with current jobs evolving. Being able to work alongside AI and new technology.	All sectors will innovate and evolve, so useful skills are: Creativity Adaptability Flexibility Problem solving Resilience 
The skills of people around the world are improving. 	More competition for jobs from other countries.	Higher numbers of graduates, degree-level apprentices and high-level technically qualified people in other nations. There are increasing numbers of remote and physical working offers open to a global employee pool.	Education Science Engineering Creative and media (including gaming) Manufacturing Digital Finance
There is more awareness of environmental issues. 	More research into saving energy and developing greener technologies across industries.	Low carbon transport options and skilled mechanics to maintain them. Greener construction techniques. Making processes and products more efficient and sustainable. Activities to reduce pollution.	Engineering (including motor vehicle) Chemical processing Recycling Agriculture Energy and utilities Innovation 
People are thinking carefully how they spend their money, especially on their well-being.	Demand for services such as catering, fitness, health spas and gaming.	Farms offering tourism experiences alongside agriculture. More hotels offering spa facilities. Fitness monitoring and nutrition. Workplace wellness.	Health and beauty Sport and leisure Hospitality and tourism Creative and media Sales and marketing

Local sectors of work

Over the next few pages you can see some of the main industries* across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland; many of which employ a lot of people. You will see that there are lots of career opportunities across the area.

*** An industry is a group of businesses or employers that produce similar goods or services.**

A guide to the sector pages

The industry pages show:

- An introduction to each sector
- A range of job roles in that sector
- Average national pay rates*
- What is happening in that sector locally
- Some local employers
- Useful skills
- Websites where you can research more

TOP TIP!

Unsure of what a job role is?

Explore short films of different roles across industries on www.icould.com

*** Across the sector pages national average pay rates are shown; these indicate what you could earn once you are established in a role, but initially your pay will be lower! As experience, skills and progression evolves, pay will usually increase.**

Some pages show 'entry' roles, these are typical roles through which young people can enter a sector after school or college. There are lots of pathways into industries, be it apprenticeships, T Levels, college courses, on-the-job training or university.



How much will I get paid?

Your pay will depend on your qualifications, skills, experience and whether you're doing an apprenticeship or other training programme. There are different levels of minimum wage:

£8 an hour for under 18 year olds (must be above school leaving age).

£10.85 an hour for 18-20 year olds.

£12.71 an hour for ages 21 and over.

£8 an hour for apprentices age 16-18 or in their first year (many employers pay more than this).

Based on the minimum wage, the starting salary for an 18 year old could begin at £20,875 a year for a job working 37 hours a week.

Pay scales correct as at 1 October 2026. Minimum wages increase each year (in April) see: **www.gov.uk**

See current apprenticeships at: **www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship**



TOP TIP!

You can 'earn as you learn' if you do an apprenticeship!

Health

There are over 350 different careers in this sector. Many roles work with patients while others support behind the scenes, but they all make a difference to people's lives! Health is about the treatment, control or prevention of disease, illness, injury or disability, either in hospitals, health centres or the community. Want variety and progression? You could work in the NHS, a charity or a partnership between the NHS and a local authority department, such as children's services. There are careers in nursing, specialist consultancy, pharmacy, therapeutic roles or scientific roles in laboratories. There are also dynamic emergency services roles (paramedic, technician, control room) as well as wider support roles in IT, finance, data, security and maintenance.



Useful subjects for medicine, nursing or scientist roles
Maths, science, biology, chemistry, physics, English, ICT, psychology, sociology

What is happening?

- The NHS is the employer that advertises the most jobs locally, and there is also a growing private healthcare market.
- People are living longer and the population is growing; 43,354 people are employed in the sector locally, and area employment is set to grow by 9.6% by 2030.
- The governments 10-Year Health Plan, and New Hospital Build programme, will include the upgrade and transformation of the three main city hospitals, making the NHS the most AI-enabled health system in the world.
- The area is world-renowned for services in cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, and cancer and kidney disorders.
- Technology use is growing, such as:
  - AI and robot-assisted diagnosis and surgery
  - Using data analytics to predict and prevent diseases
  - Wearable health technology, home monitoring, and telecare reminders for medication.
- **Communication skills are important** – as well as softer, social and care-oriented skills – to support an ageing population. Roles in mental health support are growing.
- 22% of roles locally are in nursing, with high demand for A&E, paediatric and theatre nurses.

Getting in



- **Routes into health** are expanding, with growing numbers of apprenticeships available from level 2 to degree level.
- **There are roles in health at all levels:** Domestic and portering roles may require few or no qualifications. Administration, patient services, and HR roles may need GCSEs or higher. Scientific, technical and clinical roles need higher skills. Explore local work experience and jobs on the 'your future' website below.
- **Skills shortages** include neurologists, A & E doctors, GPs, psychiatrists, nurses, sonographers, occupational therapists, orthoptists, bio scientists and radiographers.

Other local employers include:

- NHS hospitals (University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust)
- Health centres
- Private health care e.g. Nuffield Health, Rutland Health Suite and Spire
- Community health (Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust, including Rutland Memorial Hospital)
- Charities like LOROS
- Local authorities and district councils
- East Midlands Ambulance Service



WHAT YOU COULD EARN*

Pharmacist	£40K-£65K
Optometrist	£40K-£65K
Hospital Porter	£25K-£27K
Paramedic	£32K-£45K
Dental Nurse	£28K-£39K
Nurse	£32K-£48K
Biomedical Scientist	£30K-£53K
General Practitioner (GP)	£79K-£119K
Clinical Psychologist	£49K-£65K

Skills and qualities
Communication and literacy, calmness under pressure, customer awareness, negotiation skills, ICT, team working

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www.your-future.co.uk | www.stepintothenhs.nhs.uk | www.emas.nhs.uk
www.healthcareers.nhs.uk | www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

*A word on pay - a guide to pay is on page 6. Across sector pages national average pay rates are shown; these indicate what you could earn once you are established in a role, but initially your pay will be lower! As experience, skills and progression evolves, pay will usually increase.

Tourism and Hospitality



The dynamic, thriving, Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland tourism and hospitality sector offers an exciting, flexible and varied area to work in, with many career opportunities, plus the possibility to travel and progress quickly. The sector employs 48,483 people and city and county areas continue to grow their visitor numbers. The region had over 34 million visitors in 2025. The sector includes indoor and outdoor tourism attractions, events, accommodation from glamping to hotels, restaurants, cafes, pubs, travel agents and tour operators, and festivals. Twycross Zoo is an award winning attraction that helps conservation, or how about working in a castle, theme park, exclusive restaurant or being a tour guide?

What is happening?

- Sector employment is highest in tourism retail, and food and drink, however all areas continue to see growth in employment (i.e. accommodation, recreation and transport).
- Tourism is very competitive, with virtually all attractions using social media or apps, especially Facebook, Instragram and Pinterest. **Customer-centric skills are key**, with high customer expectations, and review-driven markets.
- Locally, staying in self-catering accommodation (holiday cottages, caravans, glamping and camping sites) is growing in popularity, and outdoor attractions such as the National Forest, Rutland Water and Bradgate Park are also busy.

There's lots happening locally:

- Visit Leicester launched its "Green Days, Green Stays and Green Ways" campaign in 2026 to promote eco-friendly travel and support independent, sustainable local businesses.
- Leicester Railways Station's entrance hall area will be turned into a new plaza for shopping, food and drinks.
- Melton's Stockyard project will see the town's historic cattle market cattle market offer events in an enhanced space, and it will have a new cultural hub.

- Local exciting experiences for visitors include: brewery tours, gin schools, pork pie making experiences, kayak and camping breaks, alpaca walks with afternoon tea, hovercraft and tank driving, holidays on a boutique narrowboat, and E-bike holidays.
- Organisations are growing customer numbers by enhancing facilities, such as play areas, tea rooms, new exhibition spaces; but also increasingly adding virtual or augmented reality offers.

Getting in

- Loughborough College have a travel and aviation course where students can train in an airline cabin simulator. Travel & Tourism courses are also offered at NWSLC and Leicester College.
- Attractions are increasingly using volunteers, which is a great opportunity for young people to gain experience and skills.
- **33.5% of employees are 24 or under**. Many companies train people on the job, with apprenticeships and management schemes.
- **Skill shortages** include chefs, management roles, language skills, front of house, catering support, housekeeping, tour guide, and airport ground handling staff.
- **Work can be seasonal**, and additional languages are useful.

Other local employers include:

- The National Space Centre
- De Montfort Hall
- Stoney Cov
- The National Forest and Conkers
- Cattows Farm
- Bosworth Battlefield
- Belvoir Castle
- Everards Meadows
- Hambleton Hall
- The King Richard III Visitor Centre
- Twin Lakes
- Wistow Maze
- Local museums and tourism centres
- Hotels, B&Bs, camping and glamping sites
- Bars and restaurants
- Major sporting and leisure venues
- Conference centres

Casual work is often available through festivals, seasonal and sporting events



WHAT YOU COULD EARN	
Business Development Officer	£24K-£34K
Barista	£22K-£26K
Hotel Manager	£30K-£55K
Events Manager	£26K-£40K
Chef	£22K-£40K
Visitor Attraction Manager	£24K-£45K
Travel Consultant	£22K-£28K

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careerscope.uk.net | www.visitleicester.info | www.eastmidlandsairport.com
discover-rutland.co.uk | www.goleicestershire.com | www.ukhospitality.org.uk
www.abta.com

Engineering and Advanced Manufacturing

This dynamic sector allows you to be at the forefront of innovation, working with new technology. Engineering uses scientific and practical knowledge to invent, design, and construct everything around us! Manufacturing produces goods from raw materials into finished products, often using high tech systems. **Many different products are made across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland**, from precision tools, electricals, adhesives and packaging; business include Triumph (motorbikes), Caterpillar (construction machinery), Navigator Tissue UK and Sofidel UK (tissue paper), Urban Apothecary (luxury candles), SPS Technologies, JJ Churchill (both aerospace components), and Hammonds Furniture. 68,270 people are employed in the sector locally, 47% above the national average.

Useful subjects Maths, physics, chemistry, English, biology, ICT, languages, design

What is happening?

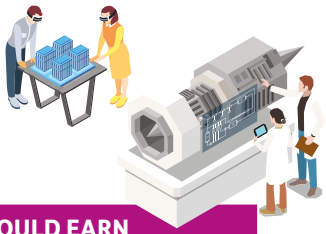
- Area employment in the sector is set to grow 3.1% by 2030. It is the **third highest paying industry**, also offering useful skills, knowledge, and pride in seeing the final product.
- Careers involve research, testing, developing prototypes, production engineering and maintenance. Facilities are often hi-tech and include sectors such as chemicals, space, and health products.
- Zeeco Europe (Woolfox) have their European HQ in Rutland, specialising in combustion and environmental technology, with fabrication, project management, and technical engineering opportunities.
- **Robotics and digitalisation** are boosting productivity and safety across the sector, with UK adoption up 50% in 5 years. Medical technology, low carbon transport, green energy products and future food products are key growth areas.
- Parker Plant, a Leicester-based manufacturer for more than 100 years, is set to create new jobs as it redevelops its site in Viaduct Works.
- Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park houses 90 high-tech companies; many link to manufacturing.
- MIRA Technology Park (Hinckley) is the largest automotive research and development park in Europe. The site is expanding, and will create 2,500 new skilled jobs.

Getting in

- **There are routes in at all levels;** some production line roles prioritise hands-on vocational learning and skills over academic qualifications. Engineering and manufacturing is the third highest sector for apprenticeship starts in the area, and there are graduate schemes too.
- **Roles in demand** include electrical, mechanical, digital and artificial intelligence engineers, production managers and engineers, 3D printing technician, process operators, research and design engineers and machine programmers.
- Progression opportunities are excellent, especially for those with technical skills.
- Communication, creativity and problem solving skills are very important across the sector.
- The sector welcomes more females; it is 74% male at present.

Other local employers include:

- Michael Smith Switchgear
- Taylor Hobson
- Emerson
- Fisher Scientific
- Bostik
- Preci-Spark
- Druck
- Nylacast
- Coba
- Winbro Group
- Rutland Plastics
- Ametek
- Crown Bevcan
- ADS Laser Cutting
- Blackrow Group
- Babcock International
- Rutland Pumps
- Blanson Ltd
- Cook Optics
- Oadby Plastics
- KJN Automation
- Kaby



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Materials Technician	£23K-£30K
Robotics Engineer	£27K-£54K
Project Manager	£25K-£50K
Auto Electrician	£23K-£38K
Manufacturing Systems Lead	£26K-£50K
Aerospace Engineer	£27K-£60K
Welder	£25K-£45K
CAD Technician	£23K-£40K

Skills and qualities
Problem solving, communication, creative thinking, leadership, attention to detail

www.thisisengineering.org.uk | www.lusep.co.uk | www.makeuk.org/future-makers
www.miratechnologypark.com | miratechnologyinstitute.co.uk
www.theiet.org | www.engineeringuk.com | www.themanufacturer.com

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Also see our Enterprise Zone page 25 to read about the MIRA Technology Park (Hinckley) and LUSEP.

Social Care

Want a meaningful and rewarding career enhancing the lives of others? Social care means you make a real difference - providing a vital service across society with personal, practical care and support to help people live their lives. There is ongoing demand for workers at all levels, creating excellent job opportunities. You could support people with physical or learning disabilities, autism, or care for older people. A role in social care could also include supporting people with acquired brain injuries and mental health conditions. This could be within their own home, in the community, in a residential home, supported living apartments or within retirement housing.

Useful subjects Health and social care, psychology, sociology, science, English, maths, ICT, business studies

What is happening?

- **A career in social care** offers long term employment and career progression prospects, with 33,700* people employed in adult social care alone. 75% of roles are in direct care
- **Different jobs within the sector** include front line care staff to seniors, co-ordinators, team leaders, service managers, area managers, directors and even owning your own business! Other careers include social workers, nurses, occupational therapists, housing support officers, activity co-ordinators and support roles such as HR, recruitment, finance, IT, catering and many more!
- Health and social care services are working more closely so there are lots of new roles and opportunities to progress.
- Technology is increasingly transforming care services. This includes digital care records, remote monitoring systems, assistive technologies in people's homes, and video consultations with healthcare professionals.
- There is growing demand for care delivered at home and in community settings, supporting people to live independently for longer.
- Training and development opportunities are excellent in this fulfilling sector, with clear pathways from entry-level roles through to senior and specialist positions.

Getting in

- **The Inspired to Care project**, from Leicestershire County Council and part funded by Leicester City Council, is a great place to start for local information on careers in care. A free Level 1 introductory pathway course is available, see: inspiredtocare.co.uk/education
- **Employers value applicants** with the right values, behaviours and attitudes to work well with people, you do not always need prior experience or qualifications.
- There are many pathways into the sector, including apprenticeships from entry level through to degree level, allowing you to earn while you learn.
- **Good social skills are important;** you interact with the people you help, along with their relatives and colleagues. Additional languages are also useful across communities.
- Care vacancies are in the top five most advertised jobs locally. Only 22% of the workforce is male.

Other local employers include:

- Local care organisations and nursing homes
- Supported housing organisations and day centres
- Domiciliary care agencies
- Community services
- Individual employers who recruit their own staff
- City, county and district councils (local authorities)

Rutland has an above average retiree population and hence lots of opportunities to get into social care.



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Social Worker	£32K-£48K
Care Home Assistant	£22K-£28K
Residential Home Manager	£25K-£55K
Mental Health Nurse	£32K-£48K
Advocacy Worker	£22K-£30K
Housing Officer	£23K-£35K
Occupational Therapist	£32K-£48K

Skills and qualities
Treating people with dignity and respect, calm, motivated, responsible, good team worker, digital confidence, emotional resilience, good communication skills, kind, trustworthy

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www.skillsforcare.org.uk/thinkcarecareers | www.inspiredtocare.co.uk
www.everydayisdifferent.com | www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

*Data from Skills for Care.

Creative

The creative industries are all around us, seen in the clothes we wear, our buildings, books, music, apps we use and much more! **The sector is all about generating original ideas and products** and is split into three parts: arts, culture and creative media. Job areas include design, film and video, marketing, advertising, music, crafts, photography, computer games and animation, plus museums, galleries and performing arts. Locally 22,714 people are employed across the sector, with large areas of design and digital. Broadcasting, performing arts, film, music and VFX (visual effects) are all growing here. The new Creative Trade Forum, a partnership between government and industries, will boost UK creative businesses, and increase sector exports.

Useful subjects English, maths, ICT, engineering, art, music, science, psychology, design, chemistry, media

What is happening?

- **Many people are freelance or self-employed;** for example, freelancers make up 70% of the UK's theatre workforce - so there's less job security. Some work is project based, so collaboration, team work and negotiation skills are useful.
- Sector roles with the most expected employment growth to 2030 include graphic and multimedia designers, audio visual and broadcasting operators, and design and creative IT.
- **CreaTech is growing** - the merging of creativity and emerging technologies such as virtual reality and AI to create new cultural experiences or to solve problems.
- Leicester is home to many creative businesses at the LCB Depot (which provides workspace for creatives), Curve, Canopy, Makers Yard and Phoenix Square.
- Rutland has a Creative Barn to support local creatives. Harborough has an Artists Cluster to promote art, and other county creative offers include the Ferrers at Staunton Harold, the Atkins Building (Hinckley), Charnwood Arts and Melton Space.
- Holovis, in Hinckley, use state-of-the-art technology to design and install world-class experiences for global themed entertainment and visitor attractions.
- Skills gaps across the sector include app design, 3D modelling, UX design, data analysis, editing and filming.

Getting in

- Technology in the sector is evolving so skills need to adapt. The growth of virtual production has changed job roles, creating areas such as virtual production supervisor.
- Area festivals, music and art events can offer valuable work experience or paid work in the sector.
- **Creative entry level roles include** production assistant, visual effects (VFX) artist, apprentice light technician, apprentice animator, community arts assistant and stagehand assistant.
- **Job competition can be high.** You need to be tenacious with strong networking skills. Opportunities are often with very small businesses or non-profit organisations. Combined skills sets are valued, such as artistic and scientific skills, passion, motivation, a creative spark, and a willingness to learn.
- There's a high percentage of graduates in the sector and growing technical routes in, with apprenticeships and T Levels.

Other local employers include:

- We-Fab
- Orange Fox Studios
- Matchingham Games
- Rutland Creative
- Rock Kitchen Harris
- Twist and Shout Communications
- Pyramid International
- VeriVide
- Go Inspire
- Rare Ltd
- Affixxius Films
- Soar Valley Press
- Seed
- Thinklab
- Bulb Studios
- Colab Creation
- Blueprint Interiors
- Caged Fish
- Galleries
- Cinemas
- Local theatres



Sector employment set to grow **4.6%** by 2030

WHAT YOU COULD EARN

TV, Video and Audio Engineers	**£25K-£45K**
Computer Games Developer	**£25K-£70K**
Make-Up Artist	**£22K-£35K**
Exhibition Designer	**£22K-£38K**
User Experience (UX) Designer	**£24K-£38K**
Graphic Designer	**£22K-£40K**
Advertising Art Director	**£24K-£40K**

Skills and qualities

ICT, problem solving, attention to detail, team work, communication, planning, creativity, presentation skills, leadership, innovation, business and entrepreneurial

leicestercreative.business | https://getintotheatre.org/ | discovercreative.careers
www.thecreativeindustries.co.uk | themightycreatives.com | www.screenskills.com

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*2026 data, from Lightcast.

Sport and Physical Activity

In the **exciting world of sports**, careers extend far beyond the playing field! From coaching teams, analysing data to drive up performance, or developing business opportunities for sports organisations, there are **many diverse careers**. Leicestershire and Rutland have some **fantastic opportunities in its vibrant, growing, sports and physical activity** sector. It is home to local research-driven expertise, globally recognised sports teams, athletes and facilities. The area has 13 major sporting venues/clubs hosting national and international events, including Leicester City Football Club, Leicester Tigers, Leicester Riders, Leicester Hockey Club plus motor racing at Donington Park and Mallory Park, and horse racing at Leicester Racecourse see: **www.active-together.org/premierlocation**

Useful subjects Biology, maths, PE, psychology, physics, English , IT and data analytics

What is happening?



- Regionally sports employs 15,593 people.
- Rutland Water is a key area outdoor sports site, offering water sports, sailing, cycling, walking and running.
- The sector comprises mainly of sports clubs, sport and fitness facilities, sports manufacturing and the sale/ rental of sports equipment, but also online and virtual reality sports activities. The interest in health, wellness, fitness wearables or fitness apps, weight management and cycling will increase career opportunities.
- **Loughborough University is ranked number one in the world for sports-related subjects**, with specialisms including health, engineering, rehabilitation and sports performance. SportPark, at Loughborough University, is home to many of England's top sports governing bodies and national sports organisations.
- **Careers include** coaching, teaching, nutritionist, leisure assistants, green keepers, social media and marketing roles, retail sales, data analytics, project management, sports development roles, physiotherapist and design and manufacturing roles.



Getting in

- Volunteering is one great way in; the sector has lots of sports clubs and businesses who have volunteers working with them, who could be approached for experience to enhance your skills, and your CV.
- The workforce is young! 46% of employees are 34 or younger and there are many 'first job' opportunities in leisure centres, sport and fitness clubs, plus hospitality and events.
- **The most advertised sports roles*** locally are sports coach, personal trainer, fitness instructor and lifeguard.
- Sector employers* rank recruiting through 'word of mouth' as positive in the sector, so if you already know people working in sports do ask if any vacancies are coming up.
- **The top two skills*** most valued by area employers in sport are communication skills and teamwork.
- Apprenticeships include community sport and health officer, sports turf operative, and sports coach.

Other local employers include:

- **Leisure operations** such as Everyone Active, Active Leicester, and area golf clubs and tennis courts
- **Exercise and fitness** such as Hot Pod Yoga, fitness studios and gyms
- **Adventure sport** such as Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Centre, Beaumanor Hall Activity Centre, Field Sports UK, motorsports employers
- **Community sport** clubs and facilities
- **National Sports organisations** such as Sport England, the Youth Sport Trust, CIMSPA, Swim England, England Volleyball
- **Health and wellbeing** such as Four Roots Wellbeing, Rutland, and Live Well Leicester.
- **Professional sport** which includes 13 major clubs (see introduction for link to full list).



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Leisure and Sports Manager	£24K-£60K
Coaches, Instructors, and Officials	£19K-£70K
Fitness and Wellbeing Instructors	£19K-£35K
Sports and Leisure Assistants	£19K-£27K
Sports Physiotherapist	£32K-£48K
Sports Scientist	£25K-£48K
Sports Development Officer	£23K-£35K

Skills and qualities
Coaching, business development, communication, teamwork, leadership

EXPLORE CAREER IDEAS @

www.active-together.org/careers | www.careers-in-sport.co.uk
www.cimspa.co.uk | www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship | www.sportpark.org.uk

Also see the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Skills Plan: cimspa.co.uk/local-skills/leicester-leicestershire-and-rutland

Food and Drink

Leicestershire and Rutland are two of the key regions for agriculture and food and drink manufacturing in the UK, offering innovative and varied careers. From farm to fork, roles include ingredient growing, product development, food manufacturing, quality assurance, sales and distribution. Area businesses span from micro handcrafted goods companies to large producers such as Pukka Pies, Walkers (PepsiCo) and Samworth Brothers. The global diversity of the area offers a number of producers of spices, sauces and traditional ethnic foods. Trends include the increasing use of manufacturing technologies – data analytics in forecasting needs, food processing technologies (robots or automated production), and the use of eco-friendly or refillable packaging.

Useful subjects for technical roles: English, maths, chemistry, biology, business, catering, ICT, nutrition

What is happening?

- **Many area start-ups** are in food manufacturing, with a huge variety of foods made here- from American style cookies, artisan cheeses, speciality breads, through to Chinese delicacies.
- 16,815 people are employed in the sector locally, 118% above the national average.
- Many area producers want to offer healthy products; for example, Belvoir Fruit Farm uses fresh local ingredients and no artifical flavourings. Other manufacturers are reducing sugar and adding protein or fibre to foods.
- Hambleton bakery in Rutland is a leading area bread producer, using traditional processes to create its award winning produce.
- Area specialisms include bakery, dairy, meat products, snacks, confectionery, chilled and frozen products. Rutland is known for both crop and livestock production.
- **There is a growing artisan food market**, focusing on hand-made and locally-sourced goods. For area producers a go-to destination in Melton is the Stockyard.
- The Leicester Food Park provides high quality food manufacturing space with purpose-built units, to support new and established food businesses.
- Local produce such as Red Leicester, Stilton cheese and pork pies are internationally known, and Pukka Pies are nationally sold across fish and chip shops, and football grounds.
- Bramble Foods, one of the UK's leading fine food manufacturers and wholesalers, has a new distribution centre in Harborough.

Getting in

- There are over 100 different job roles across the sector, and a range of skills levels, so something for everyone.
- **Careers include** product development technician, production operative, quality assurance technician, production planner, chef, chocolatier, brewer, and food scientist and a wide range of apprenticeships such as baker, butcher and food technologist.
- **There are vital engineering roles** to support production lines, and desk roles in sales and marketing.
- **Roles can be very hi-tech and creative;** companies look for ways to be one step ahead of the competition!

Other local employers include:

- Geary's Bakeries
- Refresco Drinks
- Delifrance
- Everards
- Belvoir Fruit Farms
- Everest Dairies
- Fiona Cairns Bakery
- Yummy Yum Foods
- Leicester Bakery
- Two Chimps Coffee
- Cofresh
- Tuk in Foods
- KP Snacks
- Blackfriars Bakery
- Kirtons Bakery
- Long Clawson Dairy
- Charnwood Brewery
- Pladis Global
- Vittles Foods
- Area farms, dairies, butchers



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Horticultural Technician	£22K-£40K
Business Development Manager	£22K-£38K
Baker	£19K-£35K
Food Scientist	£24K-£45K
Technical Manager	£30K-£50K
Quality Assurance Technician	£24K-£35K
Food Production Operative	£21K-£29K
Consumer Analyst	£22K-£45K

Skills and qualities
Problem solving, team work, customer awareness, creativity, communication, people management, negotiation

www.tastycareers.org.uk | www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
nsafd.co.uk | jobs.foodmanufacture.co.uk

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Business, Finance and Professional Services

The high-powered business, professional and financial services covers a range of activities – including head office functions, finance, insurance, digital services, accountancy, legal services, property services, research, design, scientific, and business consultancy; and support roles such as business administration and customer service. **Companies welcome young people with motivation, enthusiasm and strong communication skills.** Many areas rely on the expertise of staff to win clients, so good interpersonal skills and continually updating your sector knowledge are key. There are 90,422 people employed locally, with an even split of males (53%) and females (47%).

Useful subjects English, maths, ICT, languages, business sociology, psychology

What is happening?

- **Key employers** based here include Melton Building Society, Berkeley Insurance, Santander, Mattioli Woods and Hastings Direct. Other employers include area lawyers, accountants, architects and surveyors.
- Legal businesses like Freeths, Gateley, Howes Percival and Shakespeare Martineau have offices here. The area also hosts regional offices for national accountancy firms like PWC and Grant Thornton as well as key offices for Newby Castleman, Mazars and Cooper Parry.
- **Financial adviser, legal manager and mortgage adviser** are in the top 20 career roles with the most expected employment growth to 2030.
- AI is increasingly being used across financial services, especially in fraud detection (spotting patterns), and credit risk; but also to analyse client needs and assess market trends.
- Across the sector AI literacy is a key future skill, alongside data analytics, strong project management, and automation capabilities.
- Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG), cyber security, risk management, compliance, legal services, data protection, tech-led innovation and management software services are all thriving areas.
- **International finance** - dealing with the financial interactions that happen between two or more nations is thriving as global services grow; it is helpful if you are multilingual.

Sector employment set to grow **6.9%** locally

Getting in

- **Entry roles** include trainee positions in sales, payroll, insurance, marketing, property services and accountancy roles. There are a wide range of apprenticeships across the sector.
- Specialist positions in the sector require specific qualifications, such as lawyer, accountant or financial adviser and once you have completed your degree or apprenticeship, you will need to study further in your role.
- In other roles employers are willing to recruit and train people 'on the job' if they have good customer skills, resilience and flexibility. Some companies will take on school and college leavers.
- Accounting, law and business development roles feature in the top 12 most advertised job roles locally.*

Other local employers include:

- WBR Group
- Global Payments UK
- AXA Healthcare
- Nelsons
- Knights
- Croner
- Fisher German
- Dodds
- PPL PRS
- Anthony James Insurance
- Cheyettes
- Macildowie
- Meridian Mortgages
- RSM UK
- Rutland Finance
- Cambridge and Counties Bank
- Bright Legal
- EMB Group
- Blythin and Brown
- Nest Estate Agents



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Tax Adviser	£25K-£55K
Human Resources Officer	£22K-£35K
FinTech Solutions Architect	£32K-£55K
Business Research Professional	£22K-£45K
Insurance Account Manager	£24K-£60K
Solicitor	£30K-£70K
Mortgage Adviser	£24K-£45K
Contact Centre Adviser	£22K-£28K

Skills and qualities
Communication, problem solving, presentation, analytical skills, organisational, negotiation, calm under pressure

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www.cipd.co.uk | www.efinancialcareers.co.uk | www.lawsociety.org.uk
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship | www.icaew.com | www.insurancecareers.co.uk

* Advertised vacancy analysis across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, 2026, from Lightcast.

Education

You can inspire and make a difference every day in the education sector! This is extremely rewarding work as you see your students succeed! Numerous opportunities in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland link to the many **schools, academies, colleges and area universities**. There are also several **training providers** here, and local authority offers that provide training, skills or learning support roles. Teaching assistant vacancies feature in the areas top ten most advertised roles. Locally 51,404 people are employed in the sector, 10% above the national average. There is a growing use of **digital and technology in teaching**, also known as EdTech, which is beneficial as it mirrors real working life.

Useful subjects English, maths, sciences, languages, ICT, history, geography, RE, design & technology

What is happening?

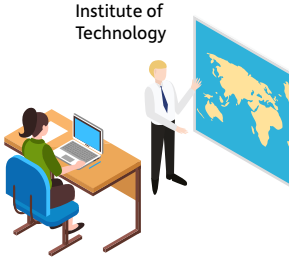
- **There is a shortage of teachers** in subjects such as maths, technology, physics, chemistry, history and design technology.
- In FE and HE, tutors with an industry background linked to their specialism are highly sought after to enhance technical and work-linked education, particularly within construction and engineering.
- Information needs to be put across to learners in a dynamic, engaging and clear way - which involves lots of creativity, collaboration and planning, but this can help students to succeed.
- Some education roles are term-time only and actual pay can vary by hours, grade and contract.
- The use of AI and Augmented Reality can help to monitor student progress and support with diverse learning experiences.
- The take-up of online courses has increased across all ages, and can fit around peoples lifestyles. This also means opportunities to design and develop content, marketing and e-product user support.
- Rutland has two well-known boarding schools, and over 20 schools in total – most of which are rated as outstanding or good, offering great careers.
- There are training roles in the workplace, helping employers, as there is an ongoing need to upskill and reskill adults in the workforce as new technologies are introduced across industries.
- Area colleges offer lots of different roles and include the Loughborough College Group, Leicester College and NWSLC.

Getting in

- **The most advertised jobs** in the sector locally are from universities, colleges, schools and adult skills support.
- **Roles include** secondary education teachers, teaching assistants, adult tutors, English as a foreign language (EFL) tutors, primary and nursery education teachers, adult education and senior education professionals, plus areas such as learning and student support.
- For most teaching roles you need a degree but wider roles can be entered at a lower qualification level, such as learning support assistant. Apprenticeship options in the sector are growing.
- Colleges can support teaching qualifications for candidates with relevant good industry experience.
- There are fulfilling careers in employability support to help people with barriers when seeking work, such as ex-offenders.

Other local employers include:

- Sixth Form and Further Education colleges
- Primary and Secondary schools, academies, special schools
- De Montfort University
- Loughborough University
- University of Leicester
- Leicester City Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Rutland County Council
- Language schools
- Children's centres
- Training providers
- Private tuition organisations
- East Midlands Institute of Technology



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Nursery Worker	£16K £24K
Secondary Teacher	£32K-£49K
Head Teacher	£59K-£130K
Education Technician	£23K-£32K
EFL Teacher	£21K-£32K
Training Officer	£22K-£40K
Adult Tutor	£23k-£33K
E-Learning Developer	£25k-£45K

Skills and qualities
Presentation skills, creativity, problem solving, communication, people management, planning, patience, digital skills, listening

getintoteaching.education.gov.uk | www.eteach.com
www.tes.com | www.tefl.org.uk | www.et-foundation.co.uk

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* Advertised vacancy analysis across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, 2026 from Lightcast.

Space

Space is one of the fastest growing sectors of the local economy and will give you a career that's out of this world! **Leicester and Leicestershire is the UK's leading location for space**, and as our reliance on space technology and applications grows, we need a strong workforce to support it. **Space information supports our modern life**, including areas like medical devices, SatNav, climate monitoring, high-speed communications and technology "spin-offs" including new camera technologies. The region has local university expertise, the iconic National Space Centre attraction, the globally recognised National Space Academy, Space City Leicester and an existing business base. Space Park Leicester is the **2nd largest space innovation community in the UK.**

Useful subjects Engineering, maths, physics, science and computing skills (especially in programming and data analysis/management). Geography is useful for Earth observation.

What is happening?

- Regionally the sector is one of the highest paid, with an average wage of £51K pa for established professionals. Area employers have strengths in **product innovation** and **research and development**.
- The space sector is broadly made up of:
  Science and research: including astronomy and astrophysics, cosmology and planetary science, and Earth observation science.
  Space engineering: planning, building and maintaining space-related instruments for exploration or communication systems.
  Business: using satellite data for business products (such as weather forecasts, precision agriculture, and cyber security).
- **Space City Leicester** is part of the UKs 'space spine', and home to multiple space-related UK organisations such as Rolls-Royce, the UK Space Agency and the National Centre for Earth Observation. Businesses at the Dock* work spaces at the site link to downstream space, in high tech, sustainability and innovation.
- The Leicester University Institute for Space has specialist space missions expertise. Every year since 1967 has seen a Leicester-built instrument operating in space, including current involvement in the BepiColombo mission, with local expertise in equipment designed to study the surface of Mercury.
- Space Park Leicester is a world-leading space hub, translating Earth Observation (EO) data into commercial services, plus space research and satellite production. Space engineers, scientists and entrepreneurs will be trained onsite, creating 2,500 jobs.

Getting in

- Careers in space cover everything from building spacecraft and designing satellites, to co-ordinating disaster relief.
- **Most careers in space** need high-level engineering, physics, maths, science or computing skills, but there is also a need for engineering, or roles using entrepreneurial and sales skills. There may also be support roles in areas like finance or marketing.
- The UK's first ever post-16 **Space Engineering course** is offered by Loughborough College jointly with the National Space Academy. The UK Space Systems Engineering degree apprenticeship was developed in Leicester.
- Emerging tech is in high demand, with skills in AI, machine learning, software and systems engineering mentioned most often as needed by sector employers in 2026 research.

Other local employers include:

- Open Cosmos - satellite production and data
- Magna Parva - space hardware company
- Catapult - satellite applications
- Surface Generation
- Third Planet Orbital
- Dynamic Aerospace Fabrications
- Bromford Precision
- CGI
- ITP Aero
- SafeTTy Systems - software for space-based systems
- Airbus - aerospace services
- Bluesky - aerial survey services
- Hownet Aerospace



WHAT YOU COULD EARN*

Propulsion Engineer	£25K-£70K
Space Lawyer	£24K-£70K
Communications Engineer	£24K-£50K
Data Scientist	£25K-£70K
Planetary Scientist	£24K-£50K
Electronics Technician	£24K-£45K
Business Development Lead	£24K-£50K
Disaster Response Coordinator	£25K-£45K

Skills and qualities

Innovation, creativity, adaptability, problem solving skills, team work, communication skills. Additional languages are useful as projects may use international collaboration. Business skills are useful for the commercial sector.

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www.spacecareers.uk | space-city.co.uk* | www.space-park.co.uk
www.nceo.ac.uk | https://nationalspaceacademy.org
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship | www.spacecentre.co.uk

*Docks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and the Exploration Drive development are a cluster of high-tech business and industrial incubator workspaces which are part of the Space City site.

Construction

This dynamic, critical sector includes the planning, design and creation of buildings or infrastructure such as roads, bridges or railways. **Construction offers amazing career opportunities to develop and travel**, and has **higher pay rates** than most other sectors. Ongoing demand comes from housing, environmentally friendly construction, commercial buildings and improving infrastructure - due to population growth, increased economic activity, and meeting new regulations. There are over **180 different roles**, not just those on a building site! There is also growth in large offices and empty retail space being converted into smaller units, or housing. There can be a lot of travel, with early starts, but great opportunities to progress. Area sector employment is set to grow 13.5% by 2030.

Useful subjects Maths, sciences, ICT, geography, design and English

What is happening?

- Employing 37,006 people locally; some of the sectors best paid roles are in quantity surveying and project management.
- **Energy efficiency** brings more retrofit roles such as heat pump installers, along with insulation and solar panel fitters. Sector innovation includes the use of modular and off-site construction, and using digital technology to construct buildings as 3D-models before they are built in reality.
- With the increasing use of **hi-tech machinery** the need for technical and digital skills are growing, but traditional, **skilled trades** are still vital.
- One of the East Midlands biggest area construction builds will be the new prison HMP Welland Oaks in Harborough.
- Morro Partnerships have opened an area Innovation Hub dedicated to timber frame manufacturing to support the growth in timber constructed homes.
- The East Midlands Freeport's (EMF) sites offer construction opportunities across industrial, commercial and infrastructure. There are thousands of new houses being built across the region, area demand for logistics centres, and ongoing railway and highway upgrades.
- Local companies Ibstock Brick, Holcim UK, Caterpillar and Breedon Group support construction with products and services.

Getting in

- **The area roles in highest demand** are: technical office-based staff, civil engineers, project managers and labourers, but also needed are: plumbers, floor fitters, electricians, roofers, ground workers, wood trades, surveyors, architects, interior fit out, smart building technicians, crane operators, scaffolders, plasterers, painters and decorators and bricklayers. All areas will need IT and office-based staff like buyers, legal, design, sales and HR.
- **There are over 30 different apprenticeships** in construction, and a range of graduate schemes.
- The area Construction Skills Hub can help local people into the construction sector. See: **www.leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk**



Other local employers include:

- Davidsons Homes
- DAB Civil Engineering
- Jelson Homes
- East Midlands Housing Group
- C3 Construction
- William Davis
- EE Smith
- Barratt Redrow
- Galliford Try
- Walter Miles
- Central Flooring Services
- Bloor Homes
- Danaher and Walsh
- Mellor Bromley
- CR Civil Engineering
- Company Image Ltd
- SML Group
- Rutland Building Services
- Allison Homes
- Vistry Group
- Pick Everard



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Carpenter/Joiner	£28K-£45K
Architect	£30K-£55K
Project Manager	£26K-£60K
Painter and Decorator	£22K-£45K
Electrical Trades	£25K-£60K
Civil Engineer	£28K-£60K
Quantity Surveyor	£25K-£80K
3D Visualiser	£22K-£35K
Plumber	£24K-£45K
Energy Assessor	£24K-£36K



Skills and qualities
Problem solving, attention to detail, communication, team working, leadership

www.goconstruct.org | www.architecture.com | www.citb.co.uk
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship | www.housebuildingcareers.org.uk

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Logistics and Distribution



The logistics sector is at the heart of modern life! This **exciting, innovative and vital industry** supports everything we need or use, from medicine supplies, food, international trade, and everything else in-between. Products need to be delivered to the right place at the right time, involving the **efficient flow of goods and services locally, nationally or internationally** across road, rail, air or sea. This is a global 24-7, 365 days a year industry. Driving and delivery roles are in demand, but there are also options in supply-chain, ICT, engineering, front-line operations and support; these include transport planning, rail freight, aviation, finance, HR, customs, warehouse management and security.





Useful subjects English, business and admin, maths, languages, sociology, ICT, sciences

What is happening?

- The sector employs 43,667 people, (59% above the national average), and this is set to grow 6% by 2030.
- With Leicestershire's central location, 95% of the UK population can be reached within a four-hour drive, so companies base centres here.
- Many sites are automated and **IT and engineering teams** play a huge part to keep centres running: the kit inside is very hi-tech and offers some exciting roles!
- A lot of logistics companies are moving to cleaner fuels, such as LNG (Liquid Nitrogen Gas) to reduce carbon emissions; **Asda** has the largest number of LNG trucks and has invested into the refuelling infrastructure.
- Existing area distribution sites include Mercia Park, Optimus Point and Griffen Park.
- Enderby Logistics Hub and Mountpark Hinckley are two new sites that will bring thousands of jobs to the area.
- **Magna Park** is Europe's largest distribution centre and is growing - likely to employ 15,000 people! It includes employers such as Unipart, Primark, and BT; an onsite training centre CLEAR (Centre for Logistics, Education and Research), has opened.
- **East Midlands Airport** is the UK base for FedEx, Royal Mail, DHL and UPS; it is the UK's busiest pure cargo airport, and part of the East Midlands Freeport, bringing new jobs.
- **SEGRO Logistics Park**, by East Midlands Airport, provides thousands of jobs; it is rail, road and air connected, with state-of-the-art facilities from employers like GXO and The Very Group.

Getting in

- **The sector welcomes young people** with a range of skills; progression prospects are excellent for those with a 'can-do' focus. Vacancies in logistics often appear in the top five most advertised jobs locally.
- **Entry-level roles** include distribution clerk, some transport, warehouse and delivery roles, sales, IT and customer services which provide a stepping stone to career progression. The sector also has apprenticeships, and graduate schemes
- State-of-the-art logistics sites offer interesting roles - mechanical or electrical engineering skills are useful, along with computer science, robotics or artificial intelligence qualifications.

Other local employers include:

- Bleckmann
- Ceva Logistics
- Rhenus
- Toyota Logistics
- HW Coates
- Fred Sherwood group
- Pall-Ex
- Rutland Worldwide Freight
- Maersk
- Armstrong Logistics
- Neovia
- Pinnacle International Freight
- Moran Logistics
- Stephen Sanderson
- Crowfoots Carriers
- East Midlands Trains
- Oakland International
- Kuehne and Nagel
- Translink Express
- Emkat solutions
- Maritime



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Air Traffic Controller	£30K-£70K
Transport Coordinator	£22K-£35K
Rail Engineering Technician	£24K-£40K
Automation Engineer	£30K-£55K
Supply Chain Manager	£24K-£48K
Warehouse Operative	£22K-£32K
Import Export Clerk	£22K-£30K
Software Development Lead	£28K-£55K
Airport Baggage Handler	£23K-£30K
Large Goods Vehicle Driver	£27K-£55K



Skills and qualities
Team work, communication, attention to detail, problem solving, good organisation, leadership, driving skills

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generationlogistics.org | www.eastmidlandsairport.com | lutterworth.magnapark.co.uk
www.novus.uk.com | www.ciltuk.org.uk | www.slp-emg.com | www.ioc.uk.com

Advertised vacancy analysis across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, 2026, from Lightcast.

Low Carbon

This **groundbreaking, evolving, growing sector offers a range of exciting careers** along with supporting the protection of the environment! Jobs vary and include a countryside ranger apprentice, smart energy expert, solar panel installer, recycling operative and wind turbine technician, data analyst and farm manager. The sector covers employment in an activity that contributes to protecting or restoring the environment, including those that mitigate climate change. Locally the area has key strengths in **wind, low carbon building technology, alternative fuels and photovoltaic.** The area universities of De Montfort, Leicester, and Loughborough all have excellent low carbon research centres.

Useful subjects Maths, English, ICT, geography, physics, chemistry, biology

What is happening?

- 4,881 people are employed in **energy** locally, 116% above the national average; employment in the sector is set to grow by 13.7% by 2030.
- Centrica Park is a new £35m research and training facility in Lutterworth, which supports green energy transition via specialist research labs, innovation and apprenticeships.
- MIRA Technology Park (Hinckley) has globally innovative clean energy generation and hydrogen electrolysis on-site.
- Cavendish Nuclear in Leicester lead the development and operations of new nuclear projects to support UK net zero.
- A HGV fleet charging facility will open at Magna Park in 2026, featuring high-capacity HGV chargers and serving 179 lorry bays. As EV vehicle usage grows, servicing, repairs and charging installation roles will grow.
- **Other growth work areas** will be in household energy efficiency, sustainable food production, animal welfare, carbon zero construction, and wind turbine maintenance.
- The Woolroom in Rutland is a fast-growing brand focused on sustainable bedding and natural wool products, with roles such as e-commerce, ethical retail, or digital marketing.
- The area is home to much of the National Forest providing sustainable timber and environmental/eco-tourism.

Getting in

- **Skills in demand** are scientists, production engineers, power distribution engineers, civil engineers, plumbing and heating engineers, wind and solar energy technicians and electric vehicle engineers.
- Graduates in physics, chemistry and geology are needed for research into greener technologies. Engineering and practical skills, as well as design, ICT and project management are also useful.
- **Apprenticeships are growing** in areas such as sustainability advice, electric vehicle technician, forestry and low carbon heating engineer.
- The top 'green' advertised job roles locally* are safety managers, low carbon construction professionals, and health and safety coordinators.

Other local employers include:

- Trina Solar
- Smart Power Systems
- Intelligent Energy
- Flogas Britain
- CENEX
- Rutland Renewables
- National Grid
- British Gas
- Octopus Energy
- Earth Nrg
- Environmental Energies Ltd
- Herd Energy
- DNV
- Severn Trent
- Casepack
- EarthSense
- Sav-eco Packaging



Low carbon skills will play an important role across all industries, so future jobs could be in any sector. It is worth researching a wide range of employers.



WHAT YOU COULD EARN

Climate Monitoring Technician	£24K-£38K
EV Charge Point Installer	£24K-£44K
Forestry Worker	£22K-£35K
Wind Turbine Engineer	£25K-£55K
Recycling Operative	£23K-£29K
Energy Data Analyst	£28K-£40K
Gas/Heating Appliance Installer	£28K-£35K
Environmental Consultant	£25K-£40K



Skills and qualities
Practical skills, design, ICT, project management, problem solving, innovation, attention to detail, creative skills, customer service skills

www.greencareershub.com | www.euskills.co.uk/careers/ | www.tcv.org.uk
www.environmentjob.co.uk | thisisengineering.org.uk
www.greenjobs.co.uk | www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

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*Advertised vacancy analysis across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland 2026, from Lightcast.

Other key local sectors

Life Sciences

- The sector in Leicestershire is booming, with 7,439 people employed, and workforce growth of 7.9% by 2030.
- The sector is one of the highest paying locally, with average wages of £43K per annum.
- **Health life sciences** uses biology and technology to improve health, including medical technology, genomics (DNA), diagnostics and digital health, generating products using precision medicine and technology (like AI). Work is fulfilling – changing lives via new medical discoveries.
- **Charnwood Campus**, Leicestershire is the UK's first Life Sciences Opportunity Zone – an innovation site focussed on the biopharmaceutical sector; with over 800 scientists, and the potential for 5,000 jobs. It is home to Medilink Midlands who support medtech and life sciences innovators to grow, from early ideas to selling services.
- **Area employers** include Almac, who have contributed to over 50% of new medicines approved over the last 5 years, Kindeva Drug Delivery who invented the first pressurised Meter Dose Inhaler (pMDI) for asthma, and lead the way in greener inhalers, Solventum (formally 3M, with 70 years of delivering healthcare innovation, and Weiss Technik, world market leader for environmental simulation systems.
- Other employers are Inspiration Healthcare, Rutland Biodynamics, Crown Bioscience, Spirit Healthcare, Thermo Fisher, Bioxhale and Myonex.
- The area has an **Institute for Precision Health**, a joint venture between the University of Leicester and University Hospitals of Leicester, to enhance health research.
- The region is well-known for clinical research on chronic disease treatment and prevention, sport and exercise science and rehabilitation, drug development, and medical device manufacturing.
- DNA fingerprinting was discovered in Leicester* in 1984



Getting in

- **Roles include** research scientist, laboratory technician, microbiologist, medical sales lead, manufacturing operators, analytical chemists, regulatory affairs professionals, and engineering roles like biomedical, process and mechanical.
- Loughborough College and **Charnwood Campus Talent and Skills Institute** help learners access careers through placements, T Levels, apprenticeships, and other training.
- Degrees in biology, pharmacology, ecology, environmental science, life science or chemistry are useful, but not essential; many pathways in exist – including apprenticeships. There are also roles in research and development, drug manufacturing, and quality control, or areas like HR, accountancy, and management.

www.charnwoodcampus.com
www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/healthcare-science/life-sciences
le.ac.uk/research/institutes/precision-health



*At the University of Leicester by Professor Sir Alec Jeffreys

Textiles and Fashion



- The Leicester and Leicestershire area is at the heart of garment making in the UK, with diverse, talented, businesses including dyers, designers, printers, knitwear manufacturers, garment makers, fashion houses, and fabric and label services. 5,517 people are employed in the sector locally, 355% above the national average.
- **This creative, fast-moving sector offers great career progression**. UK designers are some of the best in the world and British manufacturing offers heritage and quality.
- Rutland is well known for independent artisan designers
- Artificial Intelligence (AI), 3D digital design, smart textiles technology and virtual sampling are becoming common across the sector, helping businesses design products faster, reduce waste and improve efficiency.
- The area produces some globally-known products: Freed (Blaby) is the world's leading designer and maker of professional dance shoes; Urgo (Shepshed) manufacture and sell 'healing' medical bandages and compression hosiery
- There is growth in circular fashion, including garment repair, remanufacturing, upcycling and textile recycling. With brands needing to respond to environmental legislation and changing consumer expectations, skills are required in sustainability, product lifecycle management and circular manufacturing
- Speed of response fashion is a significant part of area textiles, (including knitwear). Designers need a **high commercial awarenes**s to minimise costs and reduce waste.
- Local employers include Barrie Knitwear, TDP Textiles, Meesha, Rutland Merchandise, Avinci Ltd, Basic Premier, Euro-Rose Knitwear, 23 Foxes, Fashion Fabrics, and Fashion UK.

Getting in

- There are some entry roles like trainee machinist, trainee designer, buying, merchandising, entry IT roles, packaging or pressing and the opportunity to gain skills and advance.
- **Jobs In demand include**: product technologist, multi- skilled machinist, pattern cutter, CAD designer, print technologist, knitting machine technician, marketing and digital roles.
- The Leicester-based **Fashion Technology Academy** offers courses with accredited training from Level 1 to Level 4 in industrial stitching, garment construction, pattern cutting, and tailoring, plus apprenticeships.
- De Montfort University has a contour fashion department, with acclaimed textiles courses.

fcfta.com (Fashion Technology Academy)
www.ukft.org
www.drapersjobs.com
leicestermade.co.uk



*Advertised vacancy analysis across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, 2026, from Lightcast.

Other key local sectors

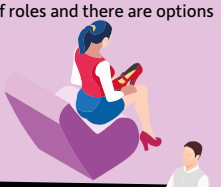
Retail



- Employing 40,296 people, retail is a significant sector here with large shopping centres, like Highcross and Fosse Park, boutique areas like St Martins and market towns with attractive shopping offers. There is a trend to shop more locally.
- This is a dynamic, fast-moving, vibrant industry as retailers try to respond to - and predict - customer demand and trends.
- AI-powered smart shelves and video analytics in stores give insights into shoppers' behaviour and help retailers with queue management, stock replenishment and optimizing store layout.
- Many shops sell online as well as in-store, and offer delivery services. The use of self-service is also growing.
- **Next, Topps Tiles, Watches of Switzerland, Marks Electrical** and **Dunelm** have their headquarters here. Sytner in Leicestershire is a huge retailer of very prestigious car brands.
- The UK base for the global retail brand **Lands' End** is in Oakham, offering great career opportunities.
- Area districts and boroughs are investing in enhanced shop fronts, market areas and events to attract shopping footfall.
- Rental of goods is increasing, in areas like fashion, furniture and white goods. There's a shift towards sustainability and the repair and refurbishment of products is growing.
- **Online shopping offers opportunities in** digital marketing, coding, website development, user experience, online security and cyber security. Customer data helps retailers to offer tailored services.
- Online shopping is growing but there is still demand for in-store spending, as customers appreciate the tangibility of assessing products, and retail parks have fared well.

Getting in

- 25% of the sector is aged 24 or under, and young people can progress through on-the-job training or apprenticeships
- **Retail roles** include sales, customer care and behind-the-scenes jobs such as buying, merchandising, stock control, logistics, accountancy, store operations and data analytics. Customer service, marketing and management skills are useful.
- Supermarkets offer a wide range of roles and there are options to progress to management.
- Many retailers have a X (Twitter) or TikTok feed posting vacancies. Roles may include weekend, shift or seasonal work; shops are often open seven days a week.





www.retailchoice.com
www.highcrossleicester.com/jobs
fossepark.co.uk/jobs
www.leicestermarket.co.uk
www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk

Digital



- **This is a fast-growing and rapidly changing sector,** as technology is revolutionising how we live and work. It includes the operation of computers, networks, data analysis, cyber security, and the trading of goods and services online.
- **Companies need data experts** to manage data quality and accuracy, and in todays fast-paced world, real-time analytics is growing, creating opportunities including those in fraud detection and critical situation monitoring.
- AI is increasingly used in Healthtech, Foodtech, and Climatetech, but is also changing roles across all sectors, so young people will need confidence in using AI and data, alongside critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Locally 13,907 people are employed in the sector, which is relatively young; 41% of employees are 34 or under. The sector is 68% male and 32% female.
- Area employers are investing in online offers alongside their face-to-face work; some are investing in digital offers to operate more efficiently or grow services
- Software company The Access Group has a head office in Loughborough; other local employers include Jadu, Swipe & Tap, TESTQ Technologies, CloudCall, IBM, Mobius Networks, Welcomm, Hermitage Innovation and Intercede.
- **Area digital skills shortages include:** cyber security, cloud, data, business analysis, digital marketing, programmers and AI-enabled roles.
- The East Midlands Cyber Security Cluster is a key area organisation and helps in developing cyber skills, promoting careers and supporting regional cyber resilience.

Getting in

£
2nd highest average wage across all local sectors (45K per anum)

- With the rapid pace of technological evolution, continuous learning and adaptability are vital.
- All sectors need digital so you could work in any area - in MI5, space, or the NHS, for example.
- **Digital entry level roles include:** apprentice IT technician, digital marketing assistant, IT assistant, helpdesk support, and digital content roles.
- Next and other large employers such as BAE and Amazon advertise regularly for digital roles.
- Software development, computer support and systems engineer are the areas most advertised job roles in the sector.

www.itjobboard.co.uk
www.techuk.org/pathways-into-digital-careers
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticehip
www.youthemployment.org.uk/digital
ukcybersecuritycouncil.org.uk/careers-route-map/



Public Services

- Progression opportunities are great in this varied and rewarding sector. It currently employs 24,119 people across the area and includes the civil service, local government, emergency services, tax, libraries, immigration, and prisons.
- **Local authorities and district councils* have a wide range of careers**, including roles in culture and tourism, housing, transport, schools, business support and regeneration, leisure and recycling. Improving services offers the opportunity to innovate and can be very fulfilling.
- Employment in the sector is set to grow 7.5% by 2030.
- The army, navy and airforce also have multiple career options within them, both in frontline roles and support services, such as engineering, intelligence, IT support and medicine.
- Jobcentre Plus (DWP) provides interesting roles helping people into work. There's also a focus on reducing fraud and an increasing use of digital self-service tools.
- In prisons, probation and courts, AI will be used to better track offenders and assess risks. The region has four prisons - Gartree, Stocken, Fosse Way and HMP Leicester with unique roles to reduce reoffending.
- Fraud, cyber crime and shoplifting are increasing and are a focus of police work. Algorithms, data analytics and facial recognition tools are increasingly used to aid police work, for example by using data to identify crime patterns.
- In the fire and rescue service, a lot of focus is on community safety and fire prevention.

Getting in

- There are a broad range of entry roles and apprenticeships across the sector, from IT support, customer services, and trainee finance, housing or project roles.
- **Good communication skills** are essential across roles, as many involve dealing with the public. Chatbot use is growing, to allow staff to focus their efforts on more complicated queries.
- **Digital skills** are key as new technology is used throughout organisations to monitor and enhance services.
- Leicestershire Police, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council, Rutland County Council, district and borough councils, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, the army, navy and airforce regularly feature in area analysis of employers who advertise the most jobs locally.

*The seven area district and borough councils are: **Hinckley and Bosworth, Charnwood, Melton, North West Leicestershire, Harborough, Blaby, and Oadby and Wigston.**

www.civilservice.gov.uk/recruitment
https://leics-fire.gov.uk/
www.leics.police.uk
www.leicestershire.gov.uk/jobs
www.leicester.gov.uk/jobs
www.prisonandprobationjobs.gov.uk



Early Years

- **Looking for a job where you can truly make a difference?** Working with young children might be your calling!
- Early years focuses on helping children learn and grow in their first few years, offering a fun, creative, and rewarding career, while making a positive impact on the lives of children and families.
- Jobs in early years are hands-on and diverse and no two days are the same! Activity includes supporting the children's learning and development, in line with the early years curriculum to provide structured learning opportunities to support children's progress and development.
- Work is monitored through the completion of observations, assessments and end of term reports, with policies and procedures to keep children safe.
- Progression opportunities are excellent! Additional skills and qualifications offer scope to progress into early years advisors, school improvement advisors, Ofsted inspectors, trainers, lecturers, or tutors.
- The early years teams at Leicestershire County Council, Rutland County Council and Leicester City Council offer support to get into the sector and to access roles across the region.
- **Employers include:**
  - Nurseries and preschools
  - Primary schools (including before/after school clubs)
  - Childminding or nannying
  - Holiday clubs and play schemes, both in the UK and abroad!

Getting in

- There are opportunities to get in post school, college, or seeking a change, with plenty of ways to get started. A great start is being good with people, patient, creative, and communicating well.
- Employers often value life experience and teamwork, especially with children.
- Skills can be built through apprenticeships, childcare qualifications in colleges, part-time work, or volunteering. Some roles do not require formal qualifications, and you can learn as you go.



www.leicestershire.gov.uk/early-years-and-childcare
earlyyearscareers.campaign.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
www.rutland.gov.uk/rutland-information-service/earlyyears
childcare.co.uk/find/Jobs

These pages show the wide range of industries across the area, but it is not possible to show every sector or role. Use the websites across the guide to research career ideas and local opportunities further.

Build your future at East Midlands Freeport

Freeports are special areas that have been created by government to boost area business and investment, offering hi-tech, exciting jobs.

East Midlands Freeport is creating career opportunities across Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire,, across three sites. It is a growing employment hub located at the heart of the UK with world-class road, rail and air connections.

Careers that go further

Opportunities linked to East Midlands Freeport could include roles in:

- engineering and manufacturing
- logistics and transport
- clean energy
- business support and project delivery

Pathways for young people

East Midlands Freeport isn't just creating jobs — it's creating clear routes into work.

Working with employers, colleges, universities and community organisations, the Freeport supports:

- Apprenticeships
- Technical training
- Work experiences
- Upskilling and reskilling for future roles

The focus is on helping young people understand what's out there, build confidence and gain real-world experience.

Why it matters

The East Midlands has a strong industrial heritage, and East Midlands Freeport is helping create new opportunities for local people.

By investing in skills, employment and innovation, the Freeport is helping to create:

- Skilled jobs with progression routes
- Clear pathways from education into work
- Longterm careers that stay in the region

Ready to explore?

Whether you're choosing subjects, considering apprenticeships, or planning your next career move, East Midlands Freeport offers opportunities to build skills and find meaningful work in the region.

Find out more at **www.emfreeport.com**



Find a big opportunity in a small company!

Lots of larger companies are mentioned in the sector pages, but there are many benefits to working for a smaller company! Over 99% of local businesses are micro (0-9 staff), small (10-49 staff) or medium (50-249 staff) enterprises.

Benefits include:

- Your input will be valued - as part of a smaller team your contribution is more noticed.
- Lots of variety - you will learn about the day-to-day aspects of how a business works. This is great training if you ever want to run a business yourself!
- Quick progression - for those who show potential.
- Contact with senior managers - you can build a good relationship and raise awareness of your work ethic.
- You can move quickly on your ideas. If you have a proposal, you can try it out without a lot of red tape.

New and upcoming businesses tend to be micro, small or medium, so it is worth having a good look around you, keeping an eye on business news, or searching online via Google or Companies House.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are circa 44,965 registered businesses across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland!



About Enterprise Zones!

Enterprise Zones are designated areas across England that provide tax breaks and government support to businesses basing themselves within the zone. They are great places to work, with lots of exciting jobs across dynamic sectors with new and growing firms.

Leicestershire has two Enterprise Zones which are:

Loughborough and Leicester Science and Innovation Enterprise Zone (three sites)

- Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park (advanced manufacturing, digital, sports science and low carbon)
- Charnwood Campus (life sciences/ biomedical)
- Leicester Waterside covers two City areas offering office space and hi-tech employment – including Space City Leicester.

The MIRA Technology Park – (automotive research and development)

- Europe's leading automotive technology park, with fantastic £300m test facilities; the site is expanding and will offer lots of new jobs.
- Over 35 renowned companies onsite and 40 major testing laboratories.
- Home to MIRA Technology Institute (MTI), a bespoke facility for engineering and automotive apprenticeships and courses.

See: **miratechnologyinstitute.co.uk**



Recent Enterprise Zone skills research highlights demand for:

- Advanced engineering and technical expertise
- Digital, data and AI skills
- Scientific and research capability
- Skilled technicians and applied technical roles
- Leadership and management development

Enterprise Zones

www.lusep.co.uk | www.charnwoodcampus.com | enterprise-zone-skills-review-assessment
www.miratechnologypark.com | www.space-city.co.uk

Be an entrepreneur



Starting your own business might sound daunting, but it can be a lot easier than you might think. Businesses come in all shapes and sizes, and you can sell your time or expertise as a service or sell products, online, or face to face.

Starting a business needs some thought, consider some of the pros and cons:

Running your own business:

- ➜ Independence: You can choose what work you want to take on, and how you deliver it – whilst incorporating the needs of your clients.
- ➜ Satisfaction: Running a successful business is a personal and financial achievement.
- ➜ Time: A business can be time-consuming, but it may also give you the flexibility to work when it suits you.
- ➜ Financial success: There is financial risk involved in setting up a business, but if successful, what you earn is yours.

Employment:

- ➜ Safety net: There can be greater job security working for someone else; you sign a contract, outlining the conditions of your role.
- ➜ Benefits: You may have benefits such as a pension scheme, paid annual leave and paid sick leave. Tax is also sorted out.
- ➜ Regular income: You normally get a consistent wage and are given a period of notice if the job has to end.
- ➜ Sociable: If you work for a company with several staff, you can make new friends, and a network of contacts.

Some top tips from Leicester Startups (www.leicesterstartups.com) include:

- ➜ Try running an experiment or a 'side-hustle' to test your idea before you jump in.
- ➜ Get to know other business owners through local networks.
- ➜ Get training and mentoring support.
- ➜ Look for a co-founder – you don't need to go it alone.
- ➜ Doing good research on the area of your start-up idea.



TOP TIP!

Want to run your own business? Get FREE impartial advice and help on

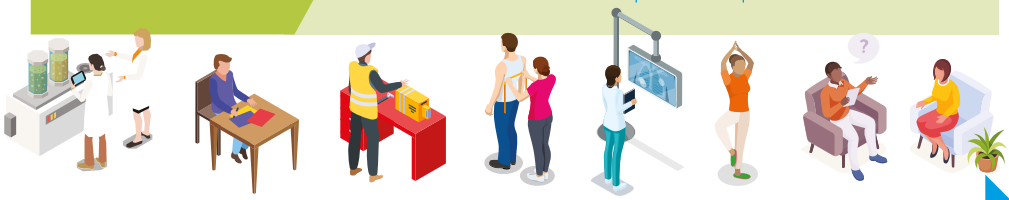
www.bizgateway.org.uk

The Kings Trust can help 18-30 year olds with business start-ups, see

www.kingstrust.org.uk

Qualifications and pathways summary

Qualification	Description	Length of Time	Assessment
Apprenticeships	A real job with training and a salary	Minimum of 8 months (new shorter apprenticeships)	End point assessment: can include observations, interviews, tests, projects and portfolio reviews
A Levels	An academic qualification, similar in style to GCSEs that prepares you for further study	2 years	Mostly exams at the end of the course
T Levels	A technical study programme, equivalent to 3 A Levels, with an industry placement that makes up 20% of the course. T Levels are designed to give you the skills that employers need	2 years	Exams, projects and practical assignments
Vocational Technical (VTQs)	Qualifications that teach you how to do tasks specifically related to the industry and role you want to be in	Course dependent	Course dependent (coursework and exams)
Supported Internships*	A structured study programme/ partnership based mostly with an employer	6 months - 12 months	A formal job or exit interview with written feedback. Coursework/ exams depending on any courses done as part of the programme.
Entrepreneurship	Setting up your own business, as either a freelance service, a registered company, or a sole trader	N/A	N/A



You can also go straight into work at 16! But you will still need to be doing part-time training or study at the same time.

* A supported internship can be accessed by 16-24 year olds with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

Level of Study	Award UCAS Points	Entry Requirements	Work Experience	What does it lead to?
2 to 7* (subject to criteria)	Yes	Employer dependent Age 16+ Evidence of interest and ability to complete	Yes paid role with off the job hours - dependent on apprenticeship	Higher level or degree Apprenticeship University/College Work
3	Yes	For individual schools and colleges to decide (commonly 5 GCSEs at grade 4 and above)	No	Apprenticeship University/College Work
3	Yes	Set by each school / college	Yes (80% classroom, 20% work)	Apprenticeship University/College Work
1+	Yes At courses for L3 upwards	Course dependent (coursework and exams)	Course dependent	Apprenticeship University/College Work
N/A	Yes	There are no formal entry requirements, it is up to the employer and the college	Yes	Work College/Apprenticeship
N/A	No	Industry dependent	Recommended before setting up your own business	Self-employment Funded support for research and development Product or service development and collaborations



Explore your options further at:
skillsforcareers.education.gov.uk/pages/young-people

Looking for work and apprenticeships

You can search for jobs and apprenticeships in lots of places:

Apprenticeships: Learn about apprenticeships and search for vacancies on the National Apprenticeship Service website: **www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship**

The Leicester Employment Hub: Local apprenticeship and job events: **www.leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk**

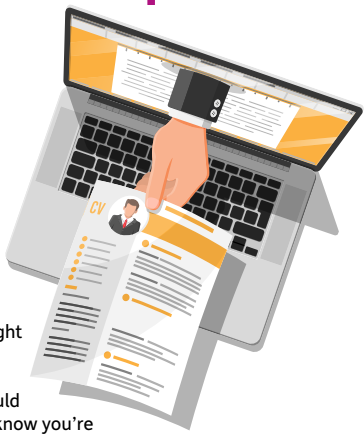
Youth Hubs, careers and jobs centres: Some areas have Youth Hubs to help young people. Job Centres and careers services can also help.

Social media and the internet: Many companies have a website with a careers section. Some companies advertise positions through Facebook, LinkedIn or X (Twitter). Or try a job search site such as Indeed or Reed.

A recruitment agency: Looks at your skills and experience and then matches you to a suitable job. Search **www.yell.com** or **www.agencycentral.co.uk**

Local and national newspapers and magazines: May have job pages and online job search facilities.

*A speculative cover letter and CV can be sent to a company that isn't currently advertising for staff. They outline your skills, experience and potential should any potential vacancies arise.



Local knowledge: Shops, cafes and other businesses sometimes advertise positions in their window showing how you can apply. Or try businesses or industrial parks near you.

Family, friends or other contacts: Might have a vacancy going at their workplace that would suit you. Let them know you're looking!

Speculate: Not all jobs are advertised, so try targeting companies that you are interested in working for; send in a CV and speculative letter.*

Seasonal work: There are vacancies over the summer (such as events or fruit picking) and at Christmas (retail, warehouse, production lines, hospitality).

Looking for work if you have a disability

You may be able to access a **supported internship** or **work experience** which can help you to gain employment.

If a job advert displays the disability confident symbol, you may be guaranteed an interview if you meet the basic conditions for the job.

It means the employer is committed to employing disabled people. See **www.gov.uk/looking-for-work-if-disabled.** Increasing numbers of local employers are signing up to be disability confident.

If you need support before you start to apply for jobs, a Disability Employment Adviser at your local Jobcentre can help you to gain skills, and give support and advice on any funding that might be available.

For advice see **www.gov.uk** or **www.disabilityrightsuk.org** or **www.evenbreak.com/uk**
Leicester and Leicestershire – Your Futures. workwell-in-leicester-leicestershire-and-rutland

Also see: the National Careers Service* - **nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/careers-advice**

disability confident



*In Oct 2026 this website will change to 'Get careers information and advice'

Show your skills!

As well as qualifications, employers also look for the skills people have when they're applying for jobs. Here are some of the attributes that employers are most looking for and how to highlight them:



Build a 'tool-box' of skills over time that you can take from one job to another.

Employers like someone who...	What you can do
Has good communication skills	Speak calmly and confidently, making eye contact with the employer. Answer questions 'fully', not just 'yes' or 'no'. If you've done a presentation at school, explain how you presented it clearly and what the impact was.
Is keen and enthusiastic	When applying for a job, think carefully about how you put yourself across. Be open to different tasks and ideas in the workplace.
Is adaptable	Show examples of how you've adapted to change, such as leaving school. Make it clear that you're willing to learn new skills.
Can work well in a team	Use examples of how you contributed as part of a team from school, groups you may be in (such as Air Cadets, sports teams, youth boards etc) or your hobbies to show how you can get on with others. Explain how you listened, discussed and negotiated as part of a team to complete a task.
Is reliable	When you get a job or an apprenticeship, be on time every day. Ring into work if you're unwell (but not just a headache) to let them know you won't be coming in.
Has commercial awareness	Research how the company you are applying to works, and makes a profit, and think about how it could grow.
Has customer awareness	Dealing with the public involves a range of skills and qualities. Show that you understand the need to communicate well and can remain calm in difficult situations.
Can problem solve	Explain how you would identify a problem and how you would solve it. Try to come up with different ways of tackling it and who else you would need to involve. If you can think of something you've had to resolve that was difficult then it shows that you're not afraid of a challenge
Has resilience	Work can sometimes be challenging, and your boss wants to know how you cope with set backs. Think of a time when you bounced back from difficult times.



Can you speak another language? Many companies trade globally so it can be a real asset.

Do you have good IT skills? Virtually all companies value strong IT skills, make sure you convey your skills and expertise in this area.

Skills Builder is a great website on building essential skills to get on in life, see: www.skillsbuilder.uk



Gaining work experience!

Work experience is really valuable - in recent research nearly 80% of employers said they prefer to recruit candidates with some experience of a working environment, whether paid or voluntary.

You can learn new skills and explore information about an industry by spending time in a workplace, seeing if a type of work will suit you. See some suggestions below about how you can get some work experience.

- Get a part time job (see next page).
- Take up work experience opportunities offered by your school or college, some employers also offer virtual (online) work experience.
- Does a family contact or friend run a business? You could ask if you can help out to get some experience.
- Attend school or college careers events to meet lots of employers in one go; sometimes employers have open evenings so you can explore the workplace.
- LEBC are local experts in work experience, see: **leics-ebc.org.uk/young-people**
- Volunteering for a charity or project is a great way to gain experience and skills and in doing so you can gain valuable contacts. You can choose a charity that you are passionate about. See: **valonline.org.uk** or **www.varutland.org.uk**
- Extra curricular activities like a theatre group, Air, Army or Sea Cadets or sports group will give you valuable team and problem solving skills.
- Help out at neighbourhood or community events, for example helping with the planning of a fete, or working on a stall.



Make a note of any skills you learn as part of your work experience, whether it is working to a deadline, customer service skills or resolving a problem. You can use examples as part of a formal job application process.

When can I get a part-time job?

The earliest that young people can start work is 13 years old. There is more scope for longer hours at 14 and then at 15, and restrictions on the types of work they may do. All young people of compulsory school age between the ages of 13 -16 require a work permit to work on a part-time basis and/or during school holidays.



What job can I do?

You could undertake newspaper deliveries, car washing (by hand in a residential area), domestic work in hotels (and other premises such as offices and shops), retail work, office work, hairdressing salon support, riding stables help, work in kennels and catteries (depending on the nature of the work) and cafes and restaurants (front of house only).

Other work areas (e.g. kitchen porter) may be possible but the child employment licence team will need to assess what is feasible, see the links at the base of the page to find out more.

Other paid roles to consider:

- **Babysitting** – ask relatives, neighbours or family friends if they need any help.
- **Dog walking** – ask around to see if anyone you know needs a dog walker.
- Helping neighbours with **gardening**.

You do not require a work permit to do odd jobs at your home or a neighbour's home, babysitting or work experience organised by your school.

'Word of mouth' is a powerful tool; let family/friends/neighbours know that you are looking for work; lots of people gain employment through knowing somebody else who is hiring!



Local case study:
One student got her first job by asking in her local cafe if she could help with serving customers at weekends. She was taken on immediately and after a few weeks got more hours and pay. At 16 she helped with the family business during school holidays and now works part-time at the Co-op whilst at college, it all looks good on her CV!

There's also a growing trend for young people to sell clothing or goods online to make some money, and some youngsters are also helping out in family businesses.

Businesses intending to employ school-age children must apply for a child employment permit (no charge). Contact either Leicester City Council, Rutland County Council or Leicestershire County Council (see links below) to download the relevant permit.

www.leicester.gov.uk/business/licences-and-permits/child-employment-licence
www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/child-employment
rutland.gov.uk/licensing/child-employment-performance-licences/child-employment

Job applications – covering letters and CVs

Many job adverts may ask you for a CV and/or covering letter.

What is a covering letter?

This is a summary letter capturing why you are applying for a role and to highlight how your skills and experience fit that role. There are online tools that can give you sample covering letter outlines for you to add to.

A professional covering letter, with a tailored CV can really make your application stand out! Most recruitment is online nowadays so the covering letter and CV can be done in Word and emailed to the company.

Employers will be impressed if you know something about them! Do some research on their company and tailor your covering letter to the job you are applying for.



Covering letters

- Write or type the letter out in rough first and check for mistakes.
- If you're replying to an advert, include the job title and reference.
- Include your full address, phone number, email address and the date.
- Highlight the skills and experience that you bring to the job, and how they match the specifics that the company is looking for.
- Be enthusiastic about why you want to work for that particular company - employers may get several CVs, so make sure yours stands out.
- Gain knowledge of the company or service and show it off! Do some research on the role and organisation and find out about the company goals.
- Check your spelling.
- Practice makes perfect! Once you have mastered one covering letter, the next one should be easier.

Top tips!

Adapt your job search to maximise your chances of finding employment.

1) Develop your online presence
2) Boost your skills through work experience, and free online courses
3) Use a range of websites to source vacancies
4) Be open minded to different opportunities

Writing your CV

What is a CV?

A CV (short for Curriculum Vitae) is a summary of your qualifications, skills, achievements and career to date, and is used to highlight relevant information to a prospective employer, to see if you are a good fit for a job.

Olivia Jones

Address: 123 Another Street, Anytown, AA15 0XX
Tel: 01799 010101 Olivia.jones@email.com

I am a hardworking person who is looking for a career in events management. I have good communication skills which make me a good team player and I enjoy talking to people. I enjoy organising and problem solving as my work experience shows. I would like to be able to use my creativity in the workplace.

Achievements, skills and qualities including work experience

- I was editor of my college magazine showing that I am prepared to take on responsibility, can make decisions and work to deadlines. I enjoyed the chance to be creative.
- I helped to fundraise for the school by organising a 'bake-off' showing that I have good organisation and team-work skills. I also promoted this event to pupils, parents and staff by designing and distributing a flyer.
- As a member of the county orchestra I travelled to several European cities, meeting [illegible] and showing commitment.
- My Year 10 work experience placement was with a local magazine where I learnt about the importance of deadlines, how desktop publishing works and how to put a magazine together. I returned for a short placement after I finished school.

Education

2023-2025	**East College, Anytown**			
Media	A level Grade B			
Business Studies	A level Grade B			
Photography	A level Grade B			
2018-2023	**Sandfield School, Anytown**			
English	GSCE Grade 8	Business Studies	GSCE Grade 8	
Psychology	GSCE Grade 7	Maths	GSCE Grade 8	
ICT	GSCE Grade 8	Biology	GSCE Grade 8	
Art and Design	GSCE Grade 7	French	GSCE Grade 7	
Geography	GSCE Grade 7			

Employment history

Waterside Funpark
I worked in the cafe at weekends and in the holidays. This involved taking money, serving customers and learning the importance of food hygiene. It was very busy at times and I enjoyed working under pressure.

TOP TIP!

Tailor your CV to the job that you are applying for! Use key words from the job advert, job description and person spec and give examples of how you meet these.



sample CV layout

- Keep it brief and to the point – no more than two pages of A4.
- Use a computer, use the same font throughout and use clear headings.
- Start with your name, address, telephone number and email address. Ensure that your email address looks professional.
- Write your current position or qualification first and work backwards.
- Include any achievements or courses you've been on outside of school (for example, passing music exams, getting a driving licence, getting a first aid certificate or doing voluntary work).
- Words that you use in a CV can help convey a positive message to the reader, words such as: reliable, trustworthy, logical, and hardworking.
- Include a covering letter with your CV. Read and check both for spelling or mistakes.
- Many websites, such as the **National Careers Service*** (**nationalcareers.service.gov.uk**) and **www.barclayslifeskills.com** have sample templates of CVs and more hints and tips.

* This website will be known as 'Get careers information and advice' from Oct 2026.

There is an increase in the use of digital CV's and video CV's, especially for creative jobs. Put a link in your contact details section to work you have produced and are showcasing on Instagram or YouTube.



Job and apprenticeship applications

TOP TIP!
More young people are using AI-generated content in applications, but be careful, as this makes it more likely to be generic and lacking the personal touch that only you can provide. Customise the output to reflect your unique experiences and personality.

Application forms

Some employers give you application forms to complete as part of the recruitment process, and most applications are done online.



Whether you apply online, or using pen and paper, the following tips will help!

- Read through the form first and the notes that go with it.
- Make a rough copy of your answers first, and be careful not to use 'text speak' on your final application.
- Make sure your answers are neat and clear and that you don't have any spelling mistakes.
- Make sure that your skills and abilities meet those needed for the job or apprenticeship. Demonstrate under each heading how you meet the criteria, giving examples.
- Get a friend or family member to check your application and give feedback.
- For your first referee, use your head teacher or principal if you are at school or college, and your current or last employer if you are working. For your second, use an adult who knows you well but not a relative. Don't forget to ask them first.
- Make sure you fill in every section of the form – use the space to sell yourself and what you can bring to the job or apprenticeship.
- Sometimes an employer brings the closing date forwards if they have already received enough applications, so send yours back as soon as possible.
- Keep a copy of the form to remind you what you stated in case you get selected for an interview!
- Don't be discouraged if you do not get an interview at first, stay positive and keep trying.
- There's lots of help on applying for apprenticeships here: **www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/apprentices**

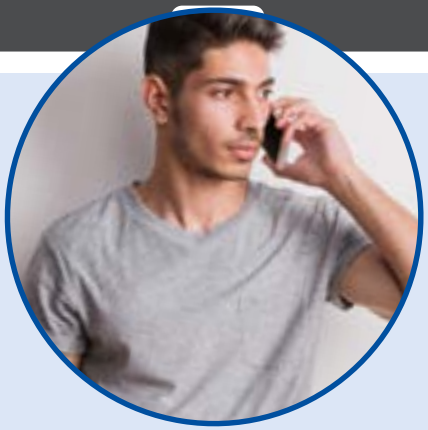


The way some employers recruit is changing! Many are using social media, such as X, LinkedIn, Snapchat and TikTok. Recruitment can involve a range of processes, so be prepared.

There is a lot of helpful job search and interview support online, look on:
www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize or
www.youthemployment.org.uk

look on YouTube for
'job interview questions'

Preparation can win you the job or apprenticeship; you can shine if you do some company research, rehearse interview questions and be enthusiastic!



Applying for a job or apprenticeship by phone

- Make sure you know the name of the person you need to speak to. If you're not sure, ask for the personnel or human resources department or main reception.
- Do some research about the company.
- Prepare the questions you want to ask beforehand and have them written down in front of you. Practice what you will say.
- Have a pen and some paper ready to write down anything you feel is important.
- Introduce yourself clearly and thank the person at the end of the phone call.
- Make sure you have enough credit on your phone!

Interviews

- Make sure you know where the interview is being held and that you can get there on time - leave some time for delays.
- Be polite, friendly and punctual and dress smartly.
- Research the company first, for example what they do and how big they are. Find out what their company values are.
- Prepare some questions that you want to ask about the job or apprenticeship.

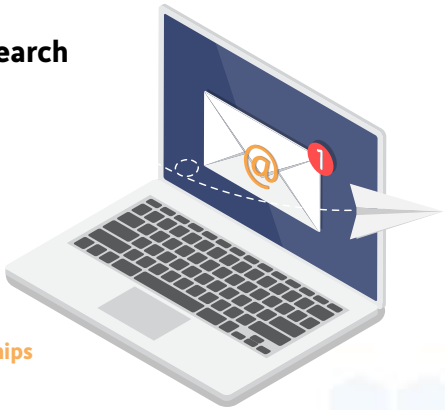


- Research common interview questions and prepare answers. Practice with a friend or relative.
- Try to answer all the questions with more than just 'yes' or 'no'. For example, tell them about a time when you have solved a problem, or worked as part of a team.
- Make sure you have everything you need for the interview such as certificates.
- Speak clearly, smile and thank the interviewer at the end.
- Be positive-show your spark and personality!

Online interviews are increasing! Make sure you practice potential questions and answers beforehand, and check that your IT works properly.

© This guide was collated by Anna Cyhan at the Leicester and Leicestershire Business and Skills Partnership. An online version of this guide is available on: **llbsp.org.uk**

Useful websites for further help or research



Job or apprenticeship vacancies

National Apprenticeship Service
www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
Find a job
www.jobhelp.campaign.gov.uk
Leicester Employment Hub
www.leicesteremploymenthub.co.uk
LEBC
www.leics-ebc.org.uk/young-people/apprenticeships
Leicester Mercury Jobs
www.leicestermercury.co.uk
Indeed - **www.indeed.co.uk**
LinkedIn- **www.linkedin.com**



Recruitment agencies

Find an agency
www.agencycentral.co.uk

Careers information and advice

National Careers Service*
www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk
Amazing Apprenticeships
www.amazingapprenticeships.com
The Student Room
www.thestudentroom.co.uk
Not Going to Uni
www.notgoingtouni.co.uk
Barclays Life Skills
www.barclayslifeskills.com
Youth Employment UK -
www.youthemployment.org.uk
Careermap - **www.careermap.co.uk**



Starting your own business

LLBSP Business Gateway
www.bizgateway.org.uk

Higher Education and graduates

UCAS - **www.UCAS.com**
Guide to university -
www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk
Prospects - **www.prospects.ac.uk**



Inclusive recruitment

Disability Rights - **disabilityrightsuk.org/resources/careers-and-work-disabled-people**
Even break - **www.evenbreak.com**

*** This website will be known as 'Get careers information and advice' from Oct 2026.**

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