

# Careers: KS3

Mr Stuchfield, Careers Lead

Can anyone tell me...

... what a career is?

... what an A-Level is?

... what university is?



# Careers: KS3

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A career is... a series of skills and qualifications you gain over a working lifetime.

An A-Level is... a post-16 qualification – something you do after your GCSEs.

University is... an institution you go to after your A-Levels to study a degree.

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Can anyone tell  
me...

... what an  
apprenticeship  
is?



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*An apprenticeship is a paid job where you learn by doing. You work, study, and train at the same time, building skills for a future career.*



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It is currently National Apprenticeship Week.

**NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP  
WEEK 2026**

We will now look at exactly what an apprenticeship could look like for you.

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End of KS3: choosing your GCSEs

End of KS4 (16): GCSEs (your first qualifications)

End of KS5 (18): A-Levels or BTECs (your last qualifications at school)

After school: university or **apprenticeships**

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**Aisha, 18**, leaves sixth form and starts a **business administration apprenticeship** at a local company.

She **earns a wage while learning on the job**, supported by a mentor and one day a week in training.

After completing her apprenticeship, she **gains a recognised qualification** and moves into a permanent role with clear career progression.

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**Ben, 18**, enjoys practical work and starts an **engineering apprenticeship** after finishing college.

He spends most of his week **learning hands-on skills at work**, with one day in training.

By the end, he has **valuable experience, qualifications, and a clear pathway into a skilled job.**

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**Leah, 18**, is creative and interested in technology, so she begins a **digital marketing apprenticeship**.

She **earns a wage while learning** skills like social media, design, and teamwork.

After completing her apprenticeship, she has **real work experience and strong options for her next steps**.

# What does this mean for me?

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## Some jobs are in high demand right now

- Recent job-posting trends show strong growth in roles like **train and tram drivers (+134 %)**, **stonemasons and related trades (+64 %)**, and other transport and construction jobs — reflecting real demand in the labour market.

This is Labour Market Information.

# What does this mean for me?

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## Skills demand is rising in key job areas

- UK government forecasts show employment demand growing in priority sectors like technology, health and engineering — with demand in those sectors expected to increase by about **15 % by 2030**.

This is Labour Market Information.

# What does this mean for me?

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## Apprenticeship participation is growing

- In England there were **about 353,500 apprenticeship starts in 2024/25**, which is around **4 % higher than the year before**, and degree-level apprenticeship starts grew even more — up over **15 %**.

This is Labour Market Information.

# What next?

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You will have the chance to attend a careers fair where you will meet universities and apprenticeship providers.

You will take part in a careers drop down day, where you will learn more about the pathways available.

You will be emailed a quiz for you to complete.

Check your emails regularly and speak with your guardians.

# Ms Cooper / Mr Gentile

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... here to talk about a fantastic upcoming opportunity

# XFADE 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

# FADE



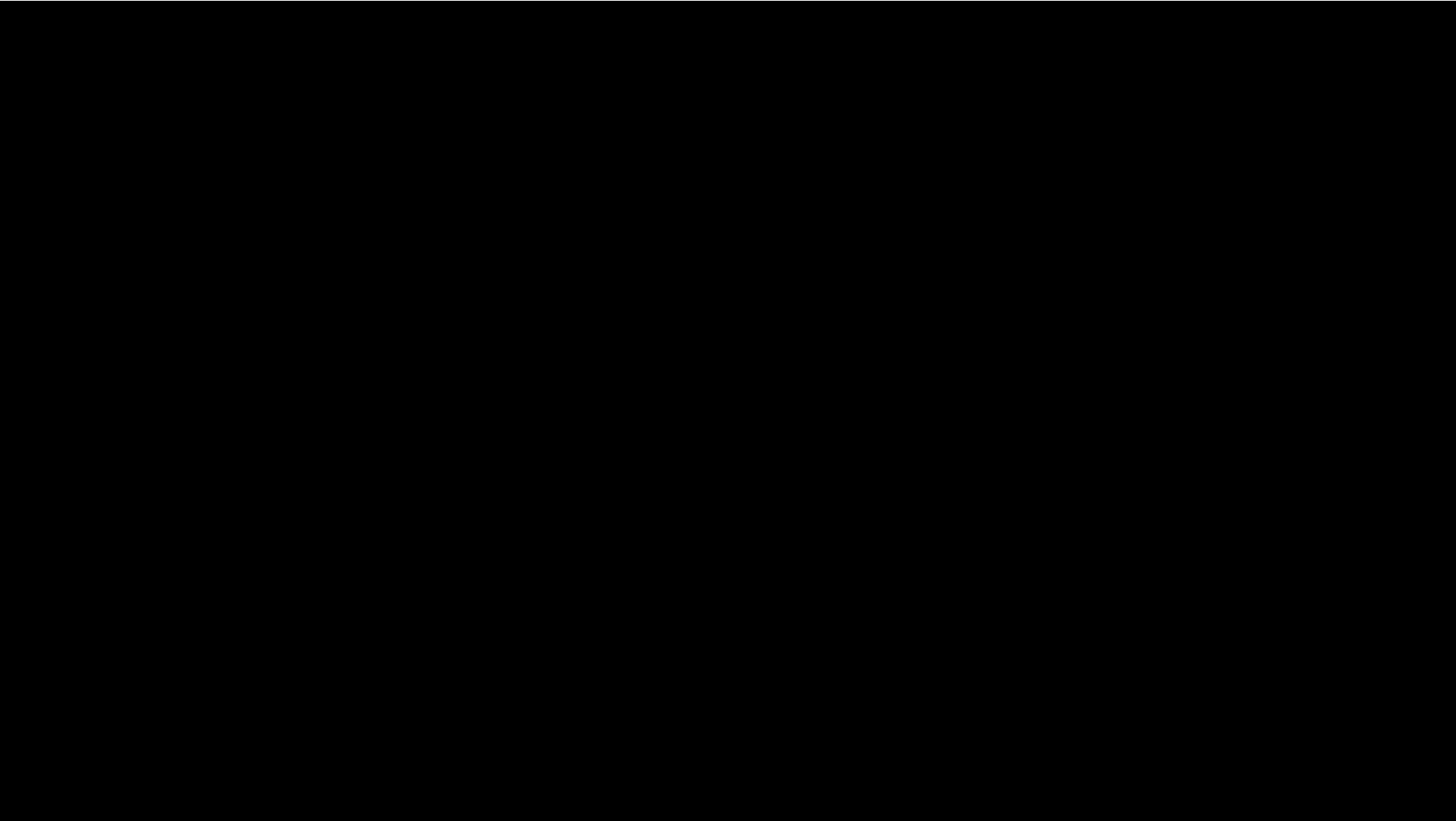
SAVE THE DATE

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>  
March**

Including signed artists (2  
grammy nominees) and touring  
musicians who originated at  
Sedgehill.

Tickets on ParentPay:  
£4 for students  
£8 for adults

■ Hard work ■ Integrity ■ Kindness ■ Excellence



Reading for as little as 6 minutes can



reduce stress by 60%, slow heart beat, ease muscle tension and alter your state of mind

# World Book Day: Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> March

- **Costume Competition:** Come dressed as your favourite book character and donate £1 to good causes. The more extravagant, the better!
- **House Competitions:** Reading-based competitions for each year group, with prizes and House Points up for grabs.

