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NATIONAL NEWS

[Labour Market Statistics from Office of National Statistics – April – June 2019](#)

The UK employment rate was estimated at 76.1%, the joint-highest on record since comparable records began in 1971.

The UK unemployment rate was estimated at 3.9%; lower than a year earlier (4.0%); on the quarter the rate was 0.1 percentage points higher.

The UK economic inactivity rate was estimated at 20.7%, a joint-record low.

[The value of a traineeship](#)

New research shows that traineeships are benefitting young people nationwide. 75% of trainees have a positive outcome in the form of a job, an apprenticeship or further study on completion of their traineeship. The Government are to introduce new traineeship achievement rates for 2019/20. For a useful traineeship factsheet click on this [link](#).

[New digital skills courses coming next year](#)

Before her departure as Skills Minister, Anne Milton has announced a plan to introduce FREE 'essential digital skills' qualifications from 2020 and [digital functional skills qualifications from 2021](#) aiming to raise the digital awareness of more people across the UK.

[Student Loans Interest and Repayment Threshold Announcement](#)

DfE have confirmed the annual updates to the Interest Rates and Thresholds of Income Contingent Student Loans. See the hyper link above for details.

[An apprenticeship with Ford](#)

There are a wide variety of apprenticeship opportunities available with Ford. These include roles for:

Car and Van Technician	Rapid Fit Technician	Service Advisor
Accident Repair Centre Advisor	Vehicle Body Mechanical Technician	Vehicle Body Panel Technician
Vehicle Body Paint Technician	Commercial Vehicle Sales Executive	Vehicle Sales Executive

To become an apprentice with Ford applicants must meet an acceptable academic standard – the preference being a minimum of 3 GCSEs, including English and Maths at grade C / 4 or above.

Although apprentices are usually recruited straight from school aged 16-19 years, opportunities exist for applicants outside this age range.

Suitable applicants will be invited to take a standard entry test to assess their aptitude. This will enable the dealer to choose the candidate(s) best suited to a place on the Ford Programme.

[A degree apprenticeship with Bourne Leisure](#)

Bourne Leisure operate the Warners, Butlins and Haven holiday groups and are offering three-year BA Hons Chartered Management Degree Apprenticeships. Those interested would need to be prepared to re-locate and hold two A-levels, a level 3 apprenticeship or equivalent, but not be the holder of a current management degree. Applications opened on 26th August.

[National Police recruitment drive](#)

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has announced a large recruitment drive for 20,000 extra police officers. The process is to be managed by a to be established national policing board, chaired by the Home Secretary. Previously people looking for recruitment and entry requirements for the police service were directed to the individual force. Links to all the police force websites can be found [here](#).

[Preparing for T-Levels](#)

A series of videos which allows you to hear from providers about how they are preparing to deliver T-Levels from September 2020.

[Good Career Guidance Perspectives from the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Sector](#)

Gatsby, in collaboration with Disability Rights UK and The Careers & Enterprise Company and Disability Rights UK have produced a publication which provides examples and advice on how the Gatsby Benchmarks are being used with students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

[Annual Screen Skills Assessment](#)

Report published by Screenskills which explores the state of the screen skills labour market. Some interesting findings including: *“The screen industries also continue to face significant skills gaps and recruitment difficulties. Employers said that the most common shortages relate to production and development roles and this sometimes has a negative impact on business activity. There are also significant shortages in advanced IT and in roles such as artists, technical artists and animators, particularly in animation, games and VFX”.*

[Extra funding for T-Levels](#)

Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sajid Javid has announced an additional £400 million of extra funding to support the new T-Levels.

LONDON AND REGIONAL NEWS

[Facebook to create 500 new jobs](#)

Facebook is to create 500 new technology jobs in London by the end of the year. 100 of these will work in artificial intelligence (AI).

[Vacancies in London up year on year](#)

According to the Association of Professional Staffing Companies (APSCo), professional employment vacancies have increased by 23% year-on-year. APSCo report that the greatest demand was for IT Professionals.

[LMI Bitesize Update](#)

We have published a new infographic featuring vacancies advertised online in London over the last 6 months. This can be accessed via our Supporting Inspiration Portal.



USEFUL WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

[The Hospitality sector](#)

'Check into Hospitality Careers Guide' has been published and provides some useful insight into the sector.

[So what is the FE sector? A guide to the further education system in England](#)

Simple guide produced by the Education and Training Foundation on the FE Sector in England.

[Amazing Apprenticeship Vacancy Snapshot](#)

Snapshot of live apprenticeship vacancies from various large companies including Transport for London, RSPCA and Pret a Manger.

[Amazing Apprenticeships Parents' Pack](#)

The latest Parents' Pack (August) from Amazing Apprenticeships is now available.

[Discover Uni](#)

Office for Students are launching a new website this month, 'Discover Uni' which will help students with decision making around university.

FUTURE EVENTS

[Tackling London's Disability Pay Gap: What Next for Policymakers?](#)

Thursday 5 September 2019, 8.30am for a 9am start – 10.30am

Location: The Cholmondeley Room, House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW

Email events@peabody.org.uk to sign up

[RCN Job Show](#)

17th and 18th September – RCN Job Show, Business Design Centre, London, 9.00 am – 6.00 pm

[London Student Jobs Fair](#)

22nd September – 29th September – Students Job Fair

[New Scientist Live](#)

10-13th October, ExCel London

[STEM Graduate Recruitment Fair](#)

October 11th – STEM graduate recruitment fair, The Barbican, 10.30 am – 5.00 pm

[The Careers Strategy: Meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks](#)

15th October 16.00-17.00, Webinar

[The Future of Women in STEM](#)

30th October – 9.30 – 16.20, Broadway House

[Skills London 2019](#)

15th – 16th November – Excel

[National Apprenticeship Week 2020](#)

3-7 March 2020

[National careers week 2020](#)

2-7th March 2020