

Name: _____

Form: _____

COTTESLOE FUTURE FEST

12TH FEBRUARY 2026
9AM TO 3PM

STUDENT PREPARATION BOOKLET



cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk/curriculum/careers-hub/



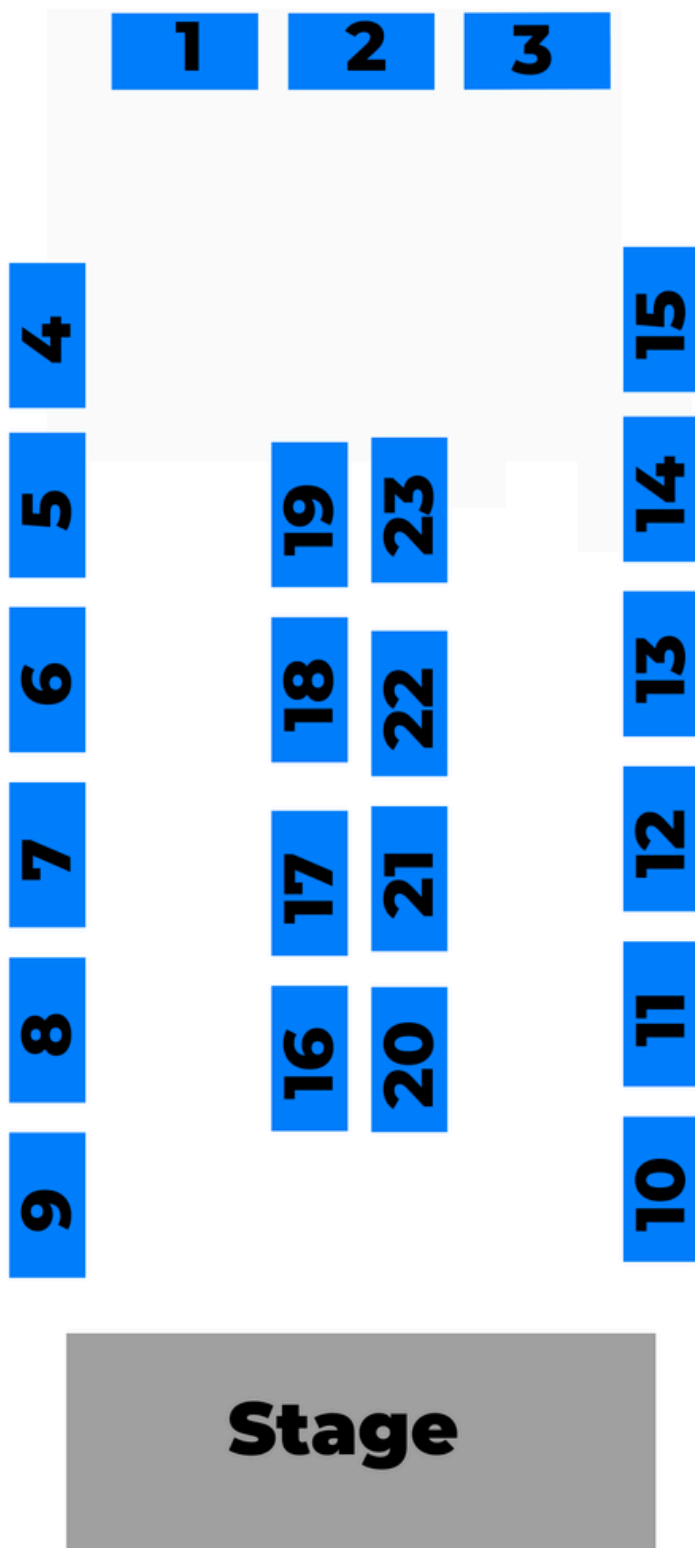
Contact Us

careershubs@cottesloe.bucks.sch.uk

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EXHIBITORS PLAN



Organisation	Positi on Table No.
The Vale Federation	1
Mission EmployAble	2
British Gas	3
Thames Valley Police	4
Buckinghamshire Supported Internship	5
The University of Buckingham	6
Royal Navy	7
BASE	8
Tiggywinkles Wildlife Hospital	9
Your Virtual Marketing Team	10
SOAS, University of London	11
Buckinghamshire College Group	12
Association for Project Management	13
Central Training Group and KC WEX Training Ltd	14
Future Training / The Future Games / Kidz Zone Club	15
University of Hertfordshire	16
Buckinghamshire New University	17
Gemini Rail Services	18
Shuttleworth College	19
Buckinghamshire Adult Learning (Buckinghamshire Council)	20
Department for Work and Pensions	21
University of Leicester	22
RAF	23



PRE-FAIR PREPARATION



PREPARE

There will be a large number of representatives of different careers and education/training organisations at the fair. You should have time to speak to all of them.

PRE-FAIR RESEARCH

Write down one fact found online for each of their "Top 5" exhibitors before you arrive.

1

2

3

4

5

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FURTHER EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITIES



**Buckinghamshire
College Group**

Aylesbury Wycombe Amersham



THE UNIVERSITY OF
BUCKINGHAM

**University of
Hertfordshire UH**



**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
NEW UNIVERSITY**

EST. 1891

SOAS
University of London



**UNIVERSITY OF
LEICESTER**



**SHUTTLEWORTH
COLLEGE**

Part of The Bedford College Group

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EXAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR...



USEFUL QUESTIONS:

You may want to use some of these questions to help you when talking to people at the stands. Make a note of the answers given to questions at the fair so that you can follow up any suggestions/emails.

FURTHER EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITIES:

About Life at Uni/College

- **What is the biggest change?** "How is being at university different from being in a classroom at school?"
- **What does a normal day look like?** "How much of my day is spent in lessons, and how much is 'homework' or independent work?"
- **What is the best part?** "What is the one thing students love most about your campus or city?"

About the Courses

- **What do I need to get in?** "What subjects or grades do I need to be studying now to take this course later?"
- **Is it all exams?** "How do I get my marks? Is it mostly big tests, or do I get marks for projects and practical work?"
- **What if I get stuck?** "If I find the work really hard, who can I talk to for help?"

About the Future

- **What jobs can I do?** "What kind of jobs do people usually get after they finish this course?"
- **Is it expensive?** "I know uni costs money, but are there any extra grants or 'free money' (scholarships) I can apply for?"
- **How do I choose?** "If I like two different subjects, how do I know which one is the right one for me?"

Expert "Insider" Questions

- **The 'Top Tip' question:** "If you were me, what is one thing I should start doing now to make my application look amazing in a few years?"
- **The 'Surprise' question:** "What is something about this course that most people don't know?"



CAREERS AND WORK-RELATED LEARNING:



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INCLUSIVE EMPLOYERS



Mission
EmployAble



Buckinghamshire
Children & Young
People's Partnership

Working together to reach our goals

CENTRAL
TRAINING GROUP



**Buckinghamshire
Adult Learning**

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EXAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR...



CAREERS AND WORK-RELATED LEARNING:

What is the job actually like?

- **What would I do all day?** "If I worked for you, what are some of the tasks I would do on a normal Tuesday?"
- **Is it fun?** "What is the best part of working at your company?"
- **The 'Vibe':** "Is your workplace quite formal and quiet, or is it busy and social?"

How do I get there

- **What do I need now?** "What subjects should I focus on in school if I want to work for a company like yours?"
- **Skills vs. Grades:** "Besides good grades, what 'people skills' (like teamwork or talking to customers) do you look for?"
- **When can I start?** "How old do I have to be to start a training course or an apprenticeship with you?"

Training and Learning

- **How do I learn?** "If I joined you, would I be learning while doing the job, or would I go to a college for part of the week?"
- **How long does it take?** "How many years does it usually take to become fully trained?"
- **Money and Tools:** "Do I have to buy my own uniform or tools, or does the company help pay for them?"

The Application Process

- **How do I apply?** "Is there an interview, or do I have to do a practical test to show what I can do?"
- **Are there many spots?** "Do you hire lots of new people every year, or just a few?"

Future Growth

- **Can I move up?** "If I start at the bottom, can I work my way up to a manager or a boss one day?"
- **Big Degrees:** "Do I have to go to university to get a high-level job at your company, or can I work my way up without a degree?"

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TOP 10 EXHIBITORS

Use this page to plan who you will prioritise to see:



1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

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CONTACTS

Networking:

Use this page to staple/stick business cards or to write down email address and contact information



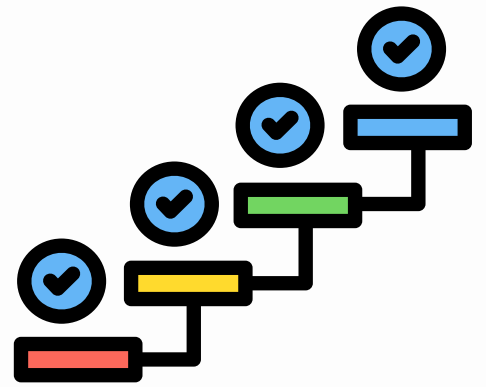


KEY TAKEAWAY
FROM OUR
CONVERSATION:



Exhibitor Name	Key takeaway from our conversation	Next steps for me: (e.g., check website, email, apply)

POST-FAIR "NEXT STEPS" CHECKLIST:



Action:

Add a "Next Steps" checklist for the day after the fair.
Next step for me (e.g., check website, email, apply

Review my notes and highlights.
Send a follow-up email to [Name] at
[Company].

☐

[Discuss two interesting findings with my
tutor or parents.

☐

Research [Course/Job] further on the
Careers Hub website.

☐

GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK ON THE EVENT



<https://forms.gle/fwJnoH2fpYU7THBv7>

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Remember a career is more than just a job; it is a lifestyle. You may not know exactly what you want to do and the fair may help you ask more questions rather than identify answers.

Attend with an open mind, be **respectful and **reflective** and most of all **enjoy it**.**

YOUR FUTURE SELF WILL THANK YOU!



PREPARE



ASPIRE



SUCCEED

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