



George Eliot Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Careers Bulletin

December 2025

ECOSYSTEM

An ecosystem is a geographic area where plants, animals, as well as weather and landscape, work together to form a unit. Ecosystems contain biotic or living parts which include plants, animals and other organisms, as well as abiotic factors, or nonliving parts including rocks, temperature, and humidity.

There are two types of ecosystem: Terrestrial Ecosystem and Aquatic Ecosystem. An ecosystem can be as small as an oasis in a desert or as big as an ocean, spanning thousands of miles.

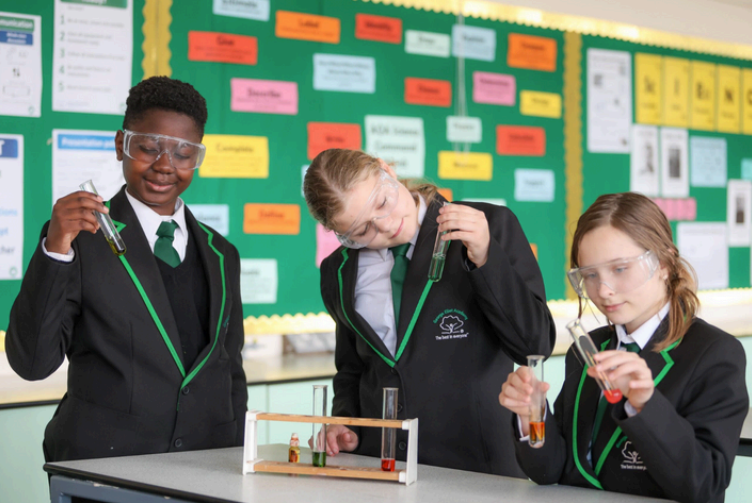


Self-Discipline

Tenacity

Ambition

Responsibility



Careers Newsletter

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

Opportunities

- Who's in Charge Here? - Free Online Business & Leadership Taster Session. Thursday January 29 , 17:00 - 18:00. Are some people born to lead or can leadership be learned? In this session we'll ask loads of questions: what do leaders actually do? Sign up here: [Who's in charge here? Are some people born to lead or can leadership be learned? | Bangor University](#)
- In this episode [Navigating freelance life: From tax returns to firing clients - Future You: achieve your career goals | Podcast on Spotify](#) of the Prospects Future You Podcast, Liam Taylor, a seasoned freelancer dives into the realities of freelancing and the lessons learned along the way. From navigating tax returns and self- assessment to dealing with clients, Liam shares his experiences, including the challenges of being self-employed without formal education.
- Here is a helpful video [An Introduction to the Russell Group and Why Choose to Study There? Sept, 2025 - PupilStream](#) that provides an Introduction to the Russell Group Universities and considers why you should choose to study there. This is a recording of a live webinar that took place in September 2025.

Job of the month

[What's an entrepreneur and what skills do they need? | Prospects | Prospects.ac.uk](#)

Entrepreneurs are people who create, develop, and manage businesses - often from the ground up - with the goal of making a profit, solving a problem, or delivering value in a new way. They need to be able to take on financial and professional risk, navigate uncertainty and failure, learn from mistakes and pivot when necessary.

Labour market information fact

"As of the second quarter of 2025, there were around 4.4 million self-employed workers in the United Kingdom. Approximately 1.9 million people aged 16-25 in the UK were self-employed, which represented about 4.9% of the total population in that age group."

Source – [UK self-employment rate by age 2025 | Statista](#)

British Army insights: A guide for Parents and Carers Event:

Date: Tuesday 20 January
Time: 18:00 – 19:00

Register Now: <https://britishar.my/GTQfiD>

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How to support your child with careers?

At George Eliot Academy, we use Unifrog as our main online careers and destinations platform. It helps pupils explore their interests, research career pathways, and record the skills and experiences that will support their future applications. Parents and carers can play a vital role in supporting this process from home.

Below is a step-by-step guide on how you can use Unifrog to help your child plan their next steps.

Logging in

- Pupils can access Unifrog via www.unifrog.org using their school email address.
- They should already have login details — if not, please contact Sophie Smith at Sophie.smith@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk.
- Parents can also create their own login using a special sign-up code provided by the school. This gives you access to the same resources your child sees.

Explore careers and pathways

- Click on the **'Careers Library'** to explore hundreds of job profiles, each with information about salary, skills needed, and routes into the role.
- Use the **'Subjects Library'** to see how school subjects connect to real-world careers.
- Browse the **'Careers Quiz'** to help your child match their interests and strengths to potential jobs.

Research education and training routes

- Use Unifrog to compare college courses, sixth forms, apprenticeships, and university degrees all in one place.
- Each option includes entry requirements, location, and application guidance.
- Pupils can shortlist their favourite courses or apprenticeships to review later.

Build skills and confidence

- Encourage your child to complete the **'Competencies'** section, where they can reflect on skills such as teamwork, leadership, and communication.
- Help them record extracurricular activities, volunteering, or part-time work under **'Activities'** — this information can be used in CVs and applications later.



Support with applications

- When the time comes to apply for post-16 options, Unifrog helps pupils write personal statements, apprenticeship applications, and CVs.
- Parents can review their child's drafts and offer feedback or encouragement.
- The platform also provides tips and guides to help pupils present themselves professionally.

Talk about careers together

- Ask your child to show you what they've been researching on Unifrog — it's a great conversation starter!
- Explore career options together and discuss the skills, qualifications, and pathways they might need.
- Encourage them to keep their profile up to date as they gain new experiences and achievements.

Need Help?

If you have any questions about using Unifrog or supporting your child's careers journey, please contact:

Sophie Smith – Careers leader – Sophie.smith@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk

Career Events in School

Year 7 Visit to Coventry University – 1st December 2025

Our Year 7 pupils enjoyed an exciting and inspiring visit to Coventry University, designed to broaden their horizons and support their developing aspirations. Travelling in two groups, pupils took part in a full programme aimed at giving them a taste of university life and helping them imagine the possibilities ahead.

The day began with a warm welcome talk, introducing pupils to the wide range of opportunities that higher education can offer. This set the tone for a day filled with curiosity, discovery, and hands-on learning.

Pupils then explored a variety of subject sessions across different academic fields, including Forensic Investigations, Mechanical Engineering, Mental Health Nursing, Creative Media, and Media. These interactive workshops allowed pupils to experience university-style learning and gain insight into the pathways that could lead to future careers. Many pupils remarked on how exciting it was to try subjects they had never encountered before.

Both groups also enjoyed a guided campus tour, giving them the chance to explore lecture theatres, specialist facilities, and pupil spaces. Seeing a university campus first-hand helped pupils visualise their own potential futures and understand the steps that can take them there.

Throughout the day, pupils demonstrated excellent behaviour and represented the school proudly. Lunchtime provided a welcome break and a chance for pupils to share what they had learned, with many expressing new interest in subjects and careers they had not previously considered.

The visit was a powerful way to bring our STAR value of Ambition to life. By experiencing a real university environment and engaging with future-focused subjects, pupils were encouraged to aim high, believe in their capabilities, and recognise that their dreams can be achieved with determination and effort.

The day ended with pupils returning to school motivated, inspired, and full of exciting ideas about their futures.

Year 11 Application Clinics

Miss Suchak has been delivering a series of Application Clinics to support Year 11 pupils with their post-16 applications. We are pleased to share that many pupils have attended these sessions, demonstrating notable ambition and self-discipline as they take important steps toward securing their chosen pathways for next year. Their proactive approach is highly commendable and reflects their growing maturity and readiness for the next stage of their education.

Year 7 Enterprise Challenge: Brewing Up Bright Ideas at George Eliot!

5th November 2025 was an inspiring and energetic day for our Year 7 pupils, who took part in this year's Enterprise Challenge Day — an exciting, hands-on opportunity to put their creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills to the test.

The challenge? To turn around the fortunes of a struggling high street coffee shop. Working in small teams, pupils stepped into a variety of real-world business roles — from marketing and finance to interior design, event planning, and menu creation — all under the leadership of their own team managers.

Throughout the day, pupils showcased essential enterprise and employability skills, including:

- Communication
- Teamwork and Leadership
- Organisation and Time Management
- Creativity and Innovation
- Problem Solving
- Use of ICT and Numeracy



Year 8 Enterprise Challenge: Revamping Fawlty Towers with Creativity and Confidence

On Wednesday 5th November 2025, our Year 8 pupils at George Eliot Academy took part in an inspiring Enterprise Challenge Day, designed to spark creativity, teamwork, and business innovation.

This year's theme was the iconic "Fawlty Towers" — and pupils were set the exciting task of reviving and rebranding a struggling hotel. Working in small business teams, they stepped into professional roles across key departments, including Interior Design, Food & Beverage, Events Management, Marketing, and Finance.

Throughout the afternoon, pupils collaborated to create imaginative hotel concepts — complete with redesigned interiors, themed menus, promotional events, and inventive marketing campaigns. Every idea reflected careful planning, teamwork, and a clear sense of fun. The focus was on standing out: what would make their hotel unique, attract new guests, and keep customers coming back?

Along the way, pupils demonstrated a wide range of vital enterprise and employability skills, such as:

- Communication and teamwork
- Leadership and organisation
- Problem-solving and innovation
- ICT, numeracy, and creative thinking

By the end of the challenge, each team presented their reimagined Fawlty Towers hotel to a panel of expert judges. The presentations showcased impressive confidence, originality, and professionalism — and the judges had the difficult job of selecting the winning team!

The day concluded with a celebration and prize-giving ceremony, recognising the creativity, effort, and enthusiasm of all participants.

Skye from Year 8 said: I really liked it as it taught me how to work with others to get things done. Aishat said: Creativity and teamwork is a big part of creating something amazing.

A huge well done to all our Year 8 pupils for their brilliant ideas, energy, and enterprise spirit. The future of hospitality and innovation looks very bright at George Eliot Academy!



Year 11 Open Event visits

Miss Suchak, Miss Sedgwick and Brian our mini bus driver have been busy supporting our pupils with their Post-16 pathways this term. They have been driving the school minibus to take groups of pupils to the NWSLC and KEGS open events, ensuring they have the opportunity to explore a range of courses, ask questions, and gain valuable insight into their next steps after Year 11. We are grateful for her commitment to helping our learners make informed and confident Post-16 choices.



Are you aged 11–18? Come along with your parent or carer to our exciting evening experience at the Warwickshire Skills Show, explore hands-on interactive activities and get inspired!

Highlights of the Event:

- ✓ Explore your next steps and post 16 options
- ✓ A talk on sourcing work experience placements
- ✓ Come and speak to employers about careers and pathways

Ready to take the next step?
Scan the QR code to book your **FREE** ticket or
email skillshub@warwickshire.gov.uk
for more information





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YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Warwick
29 JUNE - 3 JULY 2026

About the programme

This is a week-long project-based opportunity in either Engineering or Creative Arts for Year 10 pupils interested in these fields. Participants will be selected based on their application form, with priority given to individuals who meet at least one the Widening Participation eligibility criteria.

Key information

- 7 January 2026 - applications open
- 20 February 2026 - applications close
- Limited places available
- Further details will be sent to school careers leads in the spring term
- Takes place on campus at the University of Warwick

Contact us:

experiencewarwick@warwick.ac.uk

Eligibility criteria

- In receipt of, or has within the last six years been eligible for, free school meals
- Living in (or previously living in) local authority care
- Caring responsibilities
- Living in an area of high deprivation (measured by postcode, IMD 0-20%)

**Further
information
and how to
apply**



Find out more information here: [Year 10 Work Experience programme](#)

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Upcoming Open Events for post 16 providers

College & Sixth Form Open Events 2025 Update

Please kindly check event dates and times on individual organisation's website prior to attending as these could be subject to change

Organisation	Date & Time
NWSLC Nuneaton, Harrowbrook, Hinckley & MTI	Thursday 16 th October 4:00pm-7:00pm Saturday 22 nd November 9:30am-12:00pm
Coventry College	Thursday 16 th October 5:15pm-7:00pm Tuesday 2 nd December 5:15pm-7:00pm
<i>The George Eliot Academy Careers Fair</i>	<i>Thursday 23rd October 4:00pm – 6:30pm</i>
Higham Lane sixth form	Thursday 6 th November 5:30pm-7:30pm
Nicholas Chamberlaine 6th Form	Thursday 13 th November 6:00pm-8:00pm
King Edward vi College	Saturday 15 th November 9:30am to 12:30pm Wednesday 3 rd December 4:00pm to 8:00pm Thursday 22 nd January 4:00pm to 8:00pm
St Thomas More Sixth Form	Thursday 20 th November 6:00pm
Etone College	Thursday 27 th November 5:00pm-7:00pm

Please check events are still going ahead as scheduled and if pre-registration is required.

These are PROVISIONAL DATES

For further support, contact Ree Suchak (Careers Advisor)

ree.suchak@georgeeliotacademy.org.uk