

# Y10 Work Experience 2026

Mrs Jackson
Director of
Belonging
CEIAG Lead

29 June 2026 - 3 July 2026

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Mrs Jackson

Director

of Belonging,

**CEIAG** Lead

Date	Event			
Wednesday 2 October 2025	Launch WEXP Assembly including using Unifrog Letters to parents/carers sent out			
Wednesday 8 October 2025	Parent/carer information event			
January – April 2026	Student form time preparation sessions			
Monday 16 March 2026	Futures Day – including mock employer interviews			
November – May 2026	Finding of placements Placement information inputted into Unifrog			
March – June 2026	Checking and administrative management of placements Reminders sent out for H&S information			
Monday I June 2026	Deadline of placement information			







- Unifrog's Placements tool is a work experience admin management tool. It helps with getting all the necessary information and agreements for work experience to take place.
- The tool also includes a searchable database of placement contacts, to help schools and colleges source placements for students.
- Students should only log a placement in the Placements tool after they have agreed a placement with an employer.





# Introduction to Unifrog and WEXP system





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# What is Unifrog?

- Unifrog believe that destinations where students end up after school is even more important than their academic performance. They partner with schools to support students to progress into the best opportunity for them.
- Unifrog do this by providing a one-stop-shop where students can explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their best next-step after school.
- Unifrog is an online careers platform used by over half of the secondary schools and colleges in the UK. The platform has various tools to help students research careers and future pathways, draft CVs and personal statements, and manage work experience.





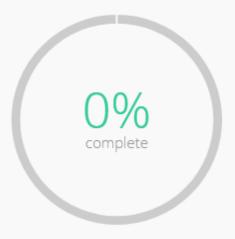
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Be Reflective

**Be Positive** 

Be Kind

Hello Claire, here's a summary of your progress so far...



Want to move things forward? We recommend you...

Complete a post-school Shortlist

**Be Positive** 

**Be Kind** 

8.2%

See all your tasks >

https://cdn.unifrog.org/video/y1k9j77e83/480.mp4



# **Using the Unifrog Placements tool**

**After** the student has agreed a placement with an employer, they need to log into their Unifrog account to log the Placement.

After the student completes the first form:

- •The system emails the employer to complete their form
- The parent/guardian form comes next
- •The school/college completes their permission form





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# **Next steps**

#### Students

- Agree a placement with an employer.
- Log the information on the Unifrog placements tool.

#### Parents/Carers

- Support your child to source a placement. Encourage them to log it on Unifrog.
- Look out for an email from Unifrog once the student and the employer have completed their forms.





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Happy Hands Pre School Added 22 Jan 25

Dates: 7 Jul 25 - 11 Jul 25

Placement address: McIntyre Road Stocksbridge Sheffield S361DG

Employer number: +44 0114 2886262

Placement coordinator: Mrs Claire Jackson Type: In-person

Convert to interaction: Already converted

Student initial Employer initial P/G agreement

Permission School check-in (2) Employer review

Student reflection





Guy Cutler, Head of IT, guy.cutler@kingsleybond.co.uk, +44 Employer placement lead

07837386323

worked on a Client Onboarding Project. He worked Did the placement happen?

mostly accross microsoft power platform. He designed a

power pages form and initegrated into a Power

automateworkflow which he also built.

Punctuality and reliability Excellent

> Overall attitude Excellent

Communication Good

Problem solving Excellent

Teamwork Good

Independence Excellent

Strongest skill, and example

Problem solving: When and an into an issue with

the workflow researched and offered solutions to the

issue.

What improvements did the student make from the start of the placement to the end?

Mention: technical skills, employability skills,

Communication. He was very nervous at first but became

very outgoing throughout the week.





# **Finding placements**

Our big tip is around finding high quality placements. Many schools consider that this the hardest part of running a placement programme.

It would be great if all schools had an enormous address book of fantastic local employers delighted to host work experience, and also an amazingly well-connected parent body who easily find their children's placements and even pass on keen employers for other children.



### It's what not where

**What** you do on a placement is more important than **where** you do it. For example, every employer now has to deal with cybersecurity (so you can get first hand experience of this sector almost anywhere), and you can learn about healthcare when work shadowing in lots of non-hospital environments, e.g. at a care home.

In an ideal world: students should think carefully and laterally about what they want to learn on their placement, and they should also communicate it in advance to the employer.

It should all be about they skills you are going to acquire on that placement.





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# Students being proactive

Proactive students can generally secure work placements for themselves. They need to think carefully about what sort of employer they are interested in, do some research online to find contacts, then send emails and make phone calls.

Some schools make time in the school day for students to learn how to write a good cold email and find employer contact details online. This is probably one of the most transferable skills these students will ever learn at school!





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**DK** construction Nandos, meadowhall **Voyager Art Space** Global Travel & Tourism Partnership (GTTP) **D Allot Engineering Graystone Action Sports Cubley Hall** ARUP design programme Pets at home transport **High Green Community Shop** Berneslai homes construction services Alan Crooks Ltd Dr.windscreen ltd New leaf garden services Swann-Morton Ltd Stocksbridge Junior School **Timpsons** St Ann's Catholic Primary School sunshine valley tanning salon Monteney primary school stocksbridge community leisure centre Stocksbridge infants school **TIR lettings Early Steps Nursery** Stocksbridge Junior School stocksbridge nursery infants school **Marlcliffe Primary School** bridie brows academy torlane Wharncliffe Side Primary School Stocksbridge junior school **Yvonnes hairdressers Sheffield Museums** Royd nursery infant school Cafe pie South Rd. **Ecclesfield garage** Sheffield museums **Getting into the Fitness Industry** Regatta Chique hair and beauty **Kingsley Bond Solicitors** speakers for schools Sheffield Music Hub Chique **National Trust Longshaw** O clough farriery Foresteers St Ann's Catholic Primary School **Snap Fitness** Eurosafe Foresteers Outdoor Preschool Stocksbridge golf club **Snap Fitness Sparky Paul** Flower Bowl Live and learn Aviva **Stocksbridge Leisure Centre Happy Hands Pre School Thurston's Group** asphalt grid sws Stocksbridge High School **Antscapes and Groundworks Ltd WEBTEK GB LIMITED** Stocksbridge Golf Club **Little Rascals Nursery Element material technology sheffield** LALLU LTD **MPCT Cakes By Beccie Derbyshire Healthcare NHS FT Arches School Sports Partnership** motivational preparation college for training **Cubley Hall** Garden of eden Woolley wood school **Green touch gardens** Independent Electrical Wholesalers Limited (IEW) Equi-Trek **Richard Hollings Auto Services** Springpod Dearadu Zú **Sheffield Hallam University John Crawshaws Butchers** Field stocksbridge nursery infants school Sherwin-Williams UK Ltd First Group







# Communicating with parents

• Most parents will be able to find good placements you if they are motivated to do so. If they are employed, they can contact their own employer, or they can ask a friend's employer.

Many schools now start the process by sending a letter or email to the parents, inviting them to a virtual information evening about placements.

You can maximise the chances of being successful by:

- Communicating with parents early;
- The parents being clear on the benefits to their child of doing a placement;
- The parents being clear on the parameters (mainly when the placements should happen and for how long they should last);
- The parents being clear on the next steps (i.e., their child needs to iron out the placement details with the employer, and then use the Unifrog placements tool to get things started).





# In a nutshell...

- In most countries:
- The placement provider (i.e. the employer) has primary responsibility for the health and safety of the student;
- The school's/college's role is solely to take reasonable steps to satisfy themselves that the employer is acting responsibly;
- Young people on placements are considered like normal employees of the host, so a company's normal Risk Assessment (RA), Health & Safety (HS) and insurance policies are sufficient. The employer just needs to make sure that what they have in place is appropriate for the age of the people hosted on the placement. For example, the RA and H&S policies need to take into account young people who might not be familiar with workplaces.
- Parents / guardians of students under 18 need to agree to the student going on a placement.





#### **Key Responsibilities**

- **Employers are primarily** responsible for the health and safety of students during placements.
- Schools/colleges must take reasonable steps to ensure employers are acting responsibly.
- Students are treated like employees for insurance and safety purposes.
- Parents/guardians must consent for under-18s to participate.

#### **Common Myths Debunked**

- No specialist qualification is needed to approve placements.
- Not all placements require inperson visits.
- **DBS** checks are not automatically required for placements over 3 days.
- Schools not using third-party services are not inherently at risk.

#### **Safeguarding**

- **Employers should be informed** of safeguarding procedures.
- Concerns must be reported to the school's safeguarding lead.
- Physical contact should be avoided unless necessary.
- **Employers should avoid** situations where students are alone with adults.

#### **Data Protection**

- **Employers must comply with** local data protection laws.
- Students must give consent for data use.

#### **Family Member Placements**

- Same legal standards apply as with other placements.
- Schools must ensure insurance and safety policies are in place.

#### **Volunteers**

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- May be considered employees for insurance and safety purposes.
- Judgement call based on role and responsibilities.





#### **DBS Checks**

Employers may need DBS checks only if:

- Student is under 16,
- Placement is over 3 days or overnight,
- Student is alone with an adult.

Students may need DBS checks if working with vulnerable groups, unsupervised, or for extended periods.

Under-16s cannot undergo DBS checks.

#### **Insurance**

- Employers' Liability Insurance (ELI) is legally required for most placements.
- Public Liability Insurance is optional but recommended.
- Sole traders and certain public bodies may be exempt from ELI.
- Employers must ensure their insurance covers young people.

#### **Risk Assessment**

- Employers must assess and manage risks, especially for young people.
- Written assessments are not legally required for businesses with <5 employees but are good practice.
- Schools do not approve risk assessments but should review them.

#### **Missing Paperwork**

- Schools can approve placements without all documents if they believe the employer is acting responsibly.
- Lack of paperwork may justify refusal if safety cannot be assured.

#### **Health & Safety Policy**

- Should outline responsibilities and procedures.
- Required in writing for businesses with ≥5 employees.
- Employers must manage health and safety for placements.

#### Fire Risk Assessment

Required for all workplaces in England. Responsibility may lie with the landlord or employer.









# Safeguarding Guidance for work placements:

#### If a Student Discloses a Concern

- Listen openly and without judgment.
- Do not promise confidentiality.
- Record the disclosure in detail.
- Pass the information promptly to the school's safeguarding coordinator.

# **Best Practices for Schools/Colleges**

- Provide employers with safeguarding procedures and contact details of the designated safeguarding lead.
- If using Unifrog's Placements tool, this info is shared via the Employer Initial Form.

#### **Definition:**

Safeguarding means protecting young people from physical, emotional, or sexual abuse during placements, and ensuring employers report any concerns about a young person's safety.

# **Best Practices for Employers**

- Ensure staff interacting with students are mature and professional.
- Avoid physical contact unless absolutely necessary (e.g., demonstrating machinery).
- Immediately report to the school if:
  - A student is absent,
  - An accident occurs,
  - There's serious misconduct.





- We strongly advise the employer that it's not a good idea for the person working with the young person to be alone with the young person.
- If the student is likely to ever be on their own with an adult, without a second adult present, AND the student is pre-16 at the end date of the placement, AND the placement will last more than 3 days, we:
  - Ask the employer if they can ensure that relevant adults are not barred from working with children, and explain that this normally means that they have had a DBS check
  - If the employer says 'no' to the above, we flag this fact extremely clearly to the school/college placement coordinator, explaining that they should likely refuse permission







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# When does a STUDENT need to have a criminal records check (e.g. a DBS check)?

If a student is going to be doing a placement:

- Working with people under the age of 16, or who are otherwise particularly vulnerable
- Significantly without supervision by an adult who has had a criminal records check
- For an extended period of time (i.e. longer than 2 weeks)
- Then the employer **may** require the young person to have a criminal records check it is at the employer's discretion.
- It's best practice to make the whole placements process as straightforward as possible, so employers shouldn't require a student to undergo a criminal records check (which can take a lot of effort and some expense) unless it's really necessary.
- One other thing: it's not possible for someone under the age of 16 to have a DBS check.





# 10 Huge Benefits of In-Person Work Experience

I. You'll enter the job market

- 6. You'll become familiar with a new industry
- 7. You'll build your professional network
- 2. You get to apply your skills in a new context
  - 8. You might find a career mentor

3. You'll gain new skills

- 9. You'll identify your strengths
- 4. You'll begin to understand the industry
  - 10. You might land your dream job
- 5. You get to learn about a new employer





# **Other Types of Placement**

# Virtual placements

- Unifrog -
  - log in and search through the 'Courses' Tool
- Springpod
  - Gain Virtual Work Experience. Earn certificates 100% free! | Springpod
- Speakers4school
  - Unlock Exciting School Work Experience Opportunities!
- MYPATH programme in school





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#### cdn.unifrog.org/video/n193u79dee/720.mp4





# The Unifrog tools

Access all tools on Unifrog to learn what options are available, access good quality information, and search for opportunities to support your child.

Quizzes	Exploring pathways	Recording what you've done	Searching for opportunities	Drafting application materials	Making applications
Interests profile	Careers library	Activities	UK universities	UK Personal Statement	Post 18 Intentions
Personality profile	Subjects library	Skills	US universities	Classes	Locker
Work environments	Know-how library	Interactions	European universities	Subject References	Applications list
profile	MOOC		Oxbridge	CV / Resumé	
Skills profile	Webinars		Canadian universities	Writing tool	
	Read, Watch, Listen		Asian universities	Common App Essay	
			Australasian universities	US recommenders	
			MidEast and Africa unis	Notes for Reference writers	
			Irish universities	Wilters	
			Special Opportunities		
			Events		



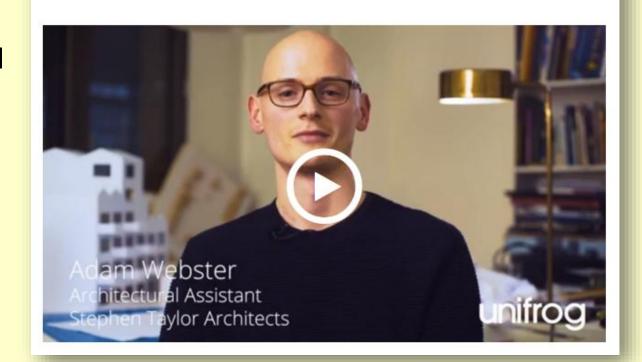


# **Careers library**

- Over 1000 career profiles
- Presents information from a range of sources, including local and national LMI
- Includes qualifications and skills needed, interviews with industry professionals and labour market information
- Explores progression opportunities and what a working week really looks like

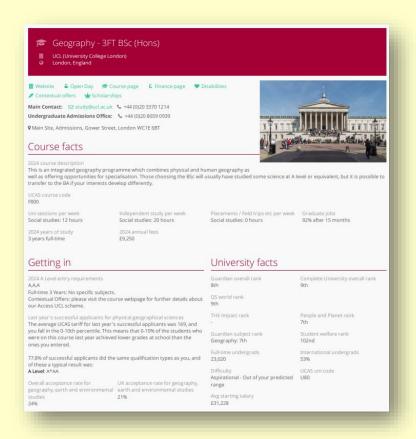
#### Architect

Architects design new buildings and the spaces around them, and work on the restoration and conservation of existing buildings.



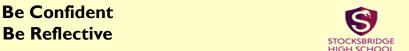


### **UK Universities**



- Students can enter subject of interest and projected grades to see all relevant university courses available in the UK
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like hours of lectures, price of accommodation and graduate job rates
- Get direct links to university information pages, with impartial information on courses and institutions
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later





# **Apprenticeships**



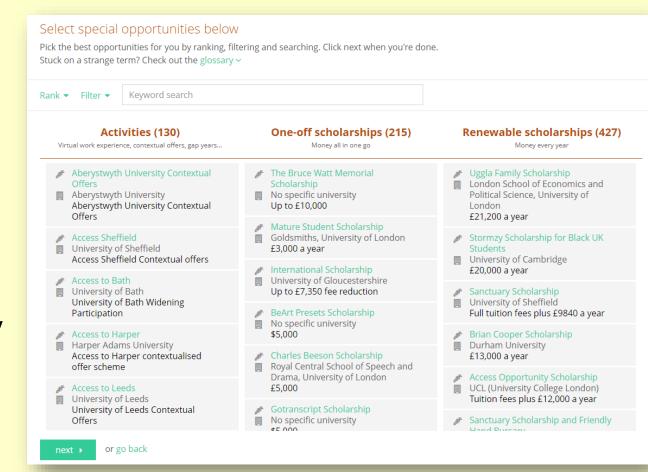
- Students can find live apprenticeship vacancies
- Vacancies are updated daily
- Rank and filter opportunities by factors like distance from home, weekly wage and application deadlines
- Direct link to the 'apply' page
- Each apprenticeship vacancy includes practical information about the opportunity, employer and training
- Save unlimited shortlists to refer back to later





# **Special Opportunities**

- Includes £5 million-worth of grants, bursaries, scholarships, contextual offers and extracurricular activities
- These can be filtered by circumstances or characteristics, depending on the access requirements of the opportunity
- Includes direct links for applying
- Unlimited shortlists can be created and referred back to



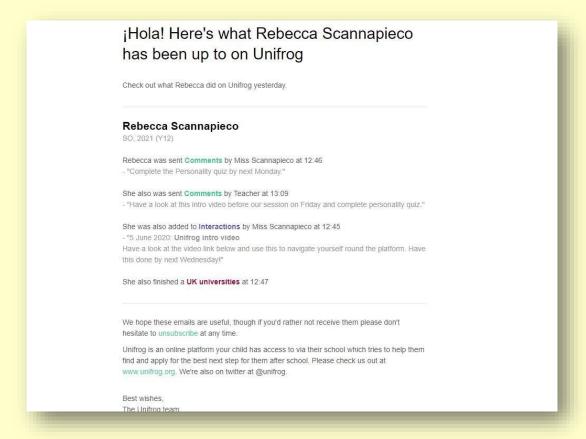


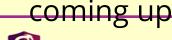


**PROUD** 

# Weekly summary emails

- Parents can sign up to receive weekly summary emails
- This summary will show you any shortlists your child may have made on the Unifrog platform
- It will also detail any interactions logged against your child, such as Careers Fairs taking place or careers interviews







**PROUD** 

### **GDPR**

GDPR is a regulation in EU law on data protection and privacy for everyone within the European Union and the European Economic Area.

Unifrog takes data security very seriously, and as such, has several features in place to protect school and student data.

We only use EU data centres, have multiple firewalls, layered-access security and more. Information on this can be found at unifrog.org/about#security



### Other cool stuff

The Unifrog platform contains so much more than what we can show you today, that was just four of their many tools.

So why not see for yourself? Sign up as a student and access the tools in exactly the same way that the students do.

You never know, there might be a new career just around the corner!



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