

# CAREERS FEB 2026 AT PIGGOTT

## CAREERS NEWS

It's **National Apprenticeship Week** which I've really been looking forward to. I do love a well-run apprenticeship and schools are successfully promoting them as an excellent alternative to Further and/or Higher education.

Typically students seem pretty receptive, but whenever I speak to other careers leads they agree that bringing parents round to the idea can be a challenge, so I'd like to start by busting a few apprenticeship myths:

### Apprenticeships are only for blue collar jobs



There are over 500 apprenticeship frameworks from the 'blue collar' roles traditionally associated with the term (car mechanics, bricklaying etc.) to the extremely niche (Puppet Making for film and TV anyone?) to [Degree Apprenticeships](#) in banking, finance, engineering, the law and more!

Piggott's very own [Gabriel Burch](#), now in his fourth year of a Degree Apprenticeship with HSBC can attest to how incredible an apprenticeship journey can be!

### Apprenticeships don't give real qualifications



Apprenticeship qualifications are just as carefully regulated as A-Levels and University Degree programmes so they have to meet a certain standard in line with government's educational levels system:

- Level 1:** Entry level
- Level 2:** Equivalent to GCSEs
- Level 3:** Equivalent to A Levels
- Level 4:** HNC/Cert of HE
- Level 5:** HND/Diploma of HE
- Level 6:** Bachelor's degree
- Level 7:** Postgrad degree

*This is a slightly simplified representation - [see more here](#)*

### Apprenticeships stick you in one job for life



Apprenticeships are the same as any other qualification - they open doors! You'll learn how to 'do the job' but developing skills like communication, teamwork and leadership through your apprenticeship will put you in a good position to move along, up or change careers altogether!



*Miss Smith*

**CAREERS & GUIDANCE LEAD**  
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So keep an eye out for our apprenticeship events and activities this week and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

## SECTOR OF THE MONTH

### Corporate Social Responsibility

Those working in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) help their company keep up to date with legal and social expectations regarding sustainability and pro-community activities.

Read more about the role (including some great success stories) [here](#).



Growth sector in line with consumer demand for more ethical business practice



Starting salaries are typically average (£19,000 - £24,000) but top managers in the field can earn £55,000+



You can study all sorts of 'green' courses at uni, or get going in the career with an apprenticeship like [this one](#)

# WORK EXPERIENCE

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES



CLOSING  
SOON!

- 5 days in the Summer
- Mix of in person (London) and online
- Open to Years 10-13

If you've never seen yourself in banking before, this programme is designed to change that. It's about trying things out, building confidence, and discovering what you're capable of – in a supportive, welcoming environment.

**CLOSING DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> February**

[Find out more and apply here](#)



HALF TERM

- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February
- 10:00 - 14:30 (online)
- Open to Years 10-13

Are you interested in an exciting career in engineering and energy systems? Join us for a Virtual STEM work experience with National Energy System Operator (NESO) to discover opportunities in the engineering and energy sector and learn how you can help shape the future of sustainable energy.

[Register here](#)



HALF TERM

- 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> February
- In person in Wokingham
- Open to Years 10-13

CLOSING  
SOON!

Hone employability skills, take part in construction-related workshops, tour our latest development and register for live work experience and apprenticeship opportunities.

**CLOSING DATE: 13<sup>th</sup> February**

For more info, or to register contact  
[Katherine.Jones@wates.co.uk](mailto:Katherine.Jones@wates.co.uk)



- Various dates
- Online
- Open to Years 10-13

Get Into Medicine or Dentistry Conferences allow students to gain knowledge about the medical/dental school application process as well as an opportunity to network with medical and dental professionals and like-minded students.

[Click here for medicine \(22<sup>nd</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> Feb\)](#)

[Click here for dentistry \(1<sup>st</sup> March\)](#)



# APPRENTICESHIPS

## TOP PICKS

CLOSING SOON!



Former student Ben Lyttle came to talk to Year 13 last week. Describing himself as an 'entirely average' student, he went on to complete his Degree Apprenticeship in Quantity Surveying with Overbury (part of Morgan Lovell).

He speaks highly of the company culture - something further supported by the fact that 17 of his cohort of 20 have stayed on with the business!

Overbury offers a number of apprenticeships each year, in various locations but I've listed the London ones here.

Trainee Construction Manager

DEADLINE

Apply by 13<sup>th</sup> Feb

Trainee Design Manager

DEADLINE

Apply by 27<sup>th</sup> Feb

Trainee Site Manager

DEADLINE

Apply by 27<sup>th</sup> Feb



London



Not specified



2 years to Level 4  
5 years to Level 6



Start in September

Miss Smith LOVES

**BMW GROUP**



Rolls-Royce  
Motor Cars Limited

**CONTACT ME FOR DETAILS  
SMITHI@PIGGOTTSCCHOOL.ORG**

I mentioned them last month because their apprenticeships really are something special! BMW Group's roles have now gone live ([click here and filter by job type](#))

Because they only offer apprenticeships when they can ensure a job offer at the end of the programme, there's only 1 type (but multiple roles!) available at the Oxford plant this time around but it's always worth keeping an eye out.

Maintenance Technician (Level 3)



Oxford



£18,000 (pay rise every 6 months)



Start in September



4 year programme



Apply by 28<sup>th</sup> Feb

**CAREERS AT PIGGOTT**



# APPRENTICESHIPS

## TOP PICKS

As you can imagine, it's peak Apprenticeship season, with a lot of the bigger companies putting their roles live. There are too many great options to list individually so here are a few of the more interesting positions that have come my way:



The closing date for business roles has passed but there are still a lot of positions (Levels 3 - 6) available - including some surprising ones like Professional Arboriculturalist (Degree Apprenticeship).



If you're up for relocating, Dunelm have a range of roles from shop fitting (for those who like to work with their hands but want to progress into the business side of things) to retail buying, right up to a Degree Apprenticeship in Retail Management.



Another company who don't appear to have any local roles but can offer something really exciting (Wind Turbine Technician or Nuclear Engineering anyone?) is EDF. There's 58 roles listed, covering IT, Sales, HR and a wide range of engineering types.



Trowers & Hamlins have 2 spots available for Apprentice Solicitors in each of their locations (including London). The closing date for applications is the 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.



A construction and infrastructure company with an offering very similar to Overbury/Morgan Lovell, Kier has just launched 64 roles spanning Level 3 Business Admin in Birmingham to Level 6 Project Management in Kingston and so many more in between!



Leading Pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca has a number of Degree Apprenticeships (supported by Manchester Metropolitan University) available in Laboratory Science (various specialties) and Quality Control.



Nuclear security isn't going to be everyone's cup of tea, but there's no denying that AWE's apprenticeship programme is top notch (akin to BMW's offering). There are 3 programmes available to ages 16+ in Aldermasten.

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