



Blackpool Sixth Careers Programme 2025/2026

(Gatsby benchmark 1 - A stable careers programme)
 Part of Blackpool Sixth's strategic plan.
 Including governance involvement & senior leadership oversight.

Notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Our careers programme is shaped by student aspirations and destination data, with insights gathered from upper sixth exit reviews to inform and refine delivery. ✓ We work closely with the Platform Youth Hub to understand local NEET trends and the underlying causes, allowing us to provide more targeted support, to ensure next step aspirations are realistically met. ✓ We actively engage with the Blackpool Business Leadership Group network to stay informed about the evolving needs and priorities of local employers. ✓ Digital resources used are: Springpod, Morrisby, Skills builder, Cedar, Compass. 	
Month	Activity	Gatsby benchmark
Aug	<p>Month theme- 'Shine bright' (<i>Sun theme for social media</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IAG for last minute new enrolment entries <u>throughout July & August</u> (Supporting referrals to the Platform youth hub & Fleetwood youth hub) • A-level results day including advice from Heads of Department, Progress mentors and Careers team • GCSE results day and Blackpool Sixth enrolment including advice and guidance when choosing courses • Enrolment advice and guidance (table in enrolment area) • Drop-in day for upper sixth students to support those who have not yet made a choice-Including digital referral support to the Platform youth hub, Catch 22, Adult learning providers & Fleetwood youth hub. 	<p>3 - Addressing the needs of each student</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



<h1>Sept</h1>	<p>Monthly theme: 'Start strong: Find your vibe' (Circus strong man theme for social media)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome lunchtime stall every Wednesday, throughout September. To introduce the Careers team and its services (based main area near reception) 12.30-1.30pm • Promotion campaign for TikTok page to students for online resources & support • Promotion campaign for Facebook page to parents for online resources & support. • Promotion campaign for LinkedIn page to local employers for online resources and support around work placements, workplace support of young new employees and apprenticeship recruitment • Parent/carer Q&A online session-careers advice, guidance and parental support: How to support your child through the next steps (<i>Done through social media platform</i>) • Launch of the parent/carer guide booklet to next steps • Membership registration desk for the Career's academies-In the foyer area throughout September • Welcome sessions for the career academies • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • Course change window for lower sixth, including support and advice from the admissions & curriculum teams- Careers team to support with IAG • <i>'You & Your Career Mindset' workshops-In collaboration with the wellbeing team. <u>Workshop to include allocated time for SEND and disadvantaged students.</u></i> 	<p>3 - Addressing the needs of each student</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>7- Encounters with further and higher education</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p> <p>2 - Learning from career and labour market information</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting pastoral mentors (PM) “Life Links” sessions on next steps after college. (Linking our resources with their scheme of works) • Part time & volunteering hub board to support external activities (Student self-led) • Personality quiz to better understand soft skills (Student self-led) • Careers treasure hunt throughout college, to support campus awareness (Student self-led) • Meet the world of work: QR codes to see quick videos of locals talking about their career, to be put up around college (Student self-led) • Cool jobs you never knew existed Displays! (e.g forensic botanist, VR designer, ethical hacker, pet food taster!) (Student self-led) • No 1:1 sessions to be done in September, to allow for onboarding to take place across college 	
Oct	<p>Monthly theme- ‘No tricks, just career treats’ (Halloween theme for social media)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <u>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, resource banking.</u> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <u>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</u> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <u>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</u> • Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm-See the end section for more info. <i>This addresses the equity of access (e.g. spotlight on vocational routes, different pathways etc)</i> • UCLAN Q&A stall-HE options (External guest) 	<p>6 - Experiences of workplaces</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>3 - Addressing the needs of each student</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • Halloween event- <u>"Frightfully good futures: A spook-tacular career"</u>. (Friday 17th Oct, as closed for Halloween) In which the students can do a variety of activities, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ A Halloween themed career quiz-(Student self-led), ➢ Jobs that go bump in the night display- Showcasing night jobs such as paramedics, zoo keepers, crime scene cleaners, night porters, nurses, security, A&E staff, bakers etc (Student self-led) ➢ Trick or treat table with conversation starters about careers and next steps (Student self-led) • Launch of Employability passport/skills tracker for uppers: <i>'My futures file'</i> To help students recognise, track and reflect on their employability skills throughout their time. <u>This allows individual tracking for each student. Using the digital platform 'Skills Builder'.</u> • <i>'Learn a new skill/hobby'</i> workshop-Learn which other skills would be useful, that they are not currently studying: Languages, culinary skills (great for uni life), budgeting, mental health, body language, first aid, fitness...) In collaboration with local trainers/coaches/businesses. • Alumni highlight-Invite an alumnus to deliver a lunch time stall to chat with the students about their chosen pathway • <i>Work placements drop-in. To discuss work experience</i> • Promotion of the Northwest Apprenticeship expo-Bolton stadium (22nd Oct-during half term) • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) • <i>World mental health day: 'Commercial awareness' workshops & social media campaign:</i> Explain about workplace ethics, HE, Health & safety, Workplace wellbeing, Neurodiversity in the workplace. (In conjunction with local HR specialists) 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which way to go? Support on pathways (university/apprenticeship/employment/gap year) through PM support, stalls, visual resources • Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
Nov	<p>Monthly theme: 'The power of plan B' (<i>Lightning strike & energy theme for social media</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> • Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • UCLAN Q&A stall-Personal statements • <i>Alphabet planning' workshop-To ensure uppers have alternate plans to their main choice, in case their circumstances change (grades, career focus etc)</i> • <i>13 November-World kindness day: Confidence & kindness in the workplace' workshops-In collaboration with the wellbeing team (covering wellbeing, teamwork, soft skills)</i> • Creative Careers week 10th-14th Nov. Creative/PAMM • Seasonal mini jobs fair (for seasonal/Christmas jobs) • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) 	<p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p> <p>4 - Linking curriculum learning to careers</p> <p>2 - Learning from career and labour market information</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mock interview event (Inviting local employers to volunteer to give mock interviews) • Attend a network meeting with upper business students, to introduce them to the world of business networking • Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
Dec	<p>Monthly theme- 'Wrap up your year & unwrap your future' (Christmas theme)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> • Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • UCLAN Q&A stall-University life • <i>'The LinkedIn lounge' Workshop. To support students to create their own professional account, to help them network and explore the world of work.</i> • Focus tree: Reflecting, goal-setting notes to add to the Christmas tree (Student self-led) • 5th December National volunteer day: Encourage the students to volunteer (Student self-led & lunch time stall topic) 	<p>8 - Personal guidance</p> <p>3 - Addressing the needs of each student</p> <p>2 - Learning from career and labour market information</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career advent calendar-Daily social media posts, with hints & tips for getting career ready. Students to complete a virtual or paper advent calendar with bite-sized daily career facts & challenges (Student self-led) • 12 jobs of Christmas-quiz to guess what job the props represent on the table (Student self-led) • Themed drop-in: 'Careers & Cocoa' Festive drop-in for students who want to talk goals, options or are feeling lost for their next steps • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) • Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
Jan	<p>Month theme: 'Level up: 2026 loading....' (Gamer theme for social media)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> • Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • UCLAN Q&A-Student life • UCAS Deadline month-resources support, Q&A's • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) 	<p>4 - Linking curriculum learning to careers</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college • Attend a network meeting with upper business students, to introduce them to the world of business networking 	
Feb	<p>Monthly theme- 'Love what you do' (<i>Heart theme for social media</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> • Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • CYBERFEST-Digital event to promote careers within cyber, computing and I.T • UCLAN Q&A-What's next after uni offers? • <i>'Experience 6 hub'-Work placement workshop. To support students finding work placements.</i> • <i>CV clinic drop-in workshop-To support students with cv's and cover letter writing.</i> • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) • Apprenticeship week 7th-13th 	<p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>7 - Encounters with further and higher education</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
Mar	<p>Monthly theme- 'Jump forward with both feet' <i>(Clocks theme for clocks going forward at end of March)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) National careers week 2nd-7th March-stall With resources from Inspira Careers based drop-in workshop Neurodivergent workshop-getting workplace ready (Neurodiversity week 16th-22nd) plus a lunchtime stall-With resources from Connectiverse magazine Neurodiversity in the workplace drop-in workshop British science week 6th-15th March-stall on the 11th March-With resources from the Science Boffins Ltd Careers in STEM led drop-in workshop Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm UCLAN Q&A stall – Degree course info Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) 	<p>2 - Learning from career and labour market information</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend a network meeting with upper business students, to introduce them to the world of business networking • Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
Apr	<p>Monthly theme- 'Careers in bloom' (Flowers theme for social media)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> • Lunch time stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) • Daily drop-in chats, open to all students to ask general questions about an industry or chosen career Everyday 3-4pm • Earth day- April 22nd Looking at green energy and gap years with environmental groups and eco charities (Workshop/stall) • Green energy drop-in workshop • National librarian day-Careers in literature-With resources from the national literacy trust. • BookTok drop-in workshop • National gardening day-With resources from the Grange community hub. • Careers in horticulture & agriculture workshop • Building Futures event – Cross-college organised careers fair with a range of higher education providers, training providers, apprenticeship providers and employers 	<p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) • Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
May	<p>Monthly theme- 'Keep calm and career on!' (<i>Water theme for social media</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAREER ACADEMY SUPPORT <i>Working with subject teachers with activities such as CPD, lesson linking, digital resource banking.</i> • WORK PLACEMENT SUPPORT <i>Working with the Work placement officer to feed placement ideas, career intentions and resource banking.</i> • FOUNDATION PROGRAMME SUPPORT <i>Working with Foundation progress mentors to support students with confidence and skills building, next steps and commercial awareness.</i> • Lunchtime stalls every Wednesday near reception. 12.30pm-1.30pm (See the end section for more info) • Daily drop-in's move to all day 10am-3pm to support next steps Q&A • University visits (<i>Shared responsibility with Progress team</i>) • Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice (1:1 IAG sessions) • Exam support (<i>Shared responsibility with Progress team</i>) • Alternative next steps mini events throughout May-With external guests • <i>'Application Station' workshop. Supporting students into summer part-time work</i> • Attend a network meeting with upper business students, to introduce them to the world of business networking 	<p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>7 - Encounters with further and higher education</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	
June	<p>Monthly theme-'Dive into your next steps!' (Ocean theme-Ties in with world oceans day on the 8th)</p> <p>(No lunch time stalls during June due to all day drop-in)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Daily drop-in's move to all day 10am-3pm to support next steps Q&A</u> Year 10 Experience Day (<i>Cross-college shared collaboration & responsibilities</i>) World oceans day- 8th June-Resource support from Fleetwood nautical college-careers in engineering, Sea life centre-careers in environmental support. Maritime careers workshop STEMFEST event-In collaboration with BSIT team Futurepreneurs event-In collaboration with the BSIT team Alternative next steps mini events throughout May-With external guests Year 11 Taster days (<i>Cross-college shared collaboration & responsibilities</i>) Level 6 Careers Advisors available in Futures for individual and independent careers advice Building Futures careers fair- Cross college event, offering support for lower sixth students on making progress with their plans to secure positive progression after college including talks about labour market information; higher education, apprenticeships, work with training, gap years and entrepreneurship are all represented. Supporting Progress Mentors pastoral curriculum sessions on next steps after college 	<p>2 - Learning from career and labour market information</p> <p>3 - Addressing the needs of each student</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>8 - Personal guidance</p>



<p>Through out the year.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academy-led events including enterprise challenges, subject specific talks, mock interviews, work experience and work placement across all year groups. (We would be a support factor only). • Careers website & social media including a careers blog, job skills information, job opportunities and links to relevant careers information websites. Plus, CPD training opportunities for parents to help support their child during college and online webinars via our social media platforms. • External digital support using Springpod, Skills builder and Morrisby. To support next step pathway research and work placements. • Liaison with curriculum departments to record in department employer talks, industrial and educational visits, volunteering and work placements- Using the online Cedar system. 	<p>4 - Linking curriculum learning to careers</p> <p>5 - Encounters with employers and employees</p> <p>6 - Experiences of workplace</p>
<p>Monthly stalls</p>	<p>Stalls will be held each Wednesday lunch time in the main area.</p> <p>3rd Sept- Week intro to careers stall</p> <p>10 Sept-Week intro to the Academies</p> <p>17 Sept-Week long intro to the Careers team intro/academies registration</p> <p>25 Sept-Introduction to industries</p> <p>1st Oct-Careers in health & social care spotlight</p> <p>8Th Oct- HE options-ULAN</p> <p>15th Oct-Careers in sport & Wellbeing</p> <p>29th Oct-Careers in engineering spotlight</p> <p>5th Nov-Personal statements support and Q&A-Hosted by ULAN</p>	



	<p>12th Nov-Day in the life of: An accountant/finance officer-Guest host</p> <p>19th Nov-Careers in Digital spotlight</p> <p>26th Nov-Careers in education spotlight</p> <p>3rd Dec-University life Q&A-ULAN</p> <p>10th Dec-Careers in law, society & public service spotlight</p> <p>17th Dec-Careers in tourism & hospitality spotlight</p> <p>7th Jan-Student finance & budgeting-ULAN</p> <p>14th Jan- Careers in retail & enterprise spotlight</p> <p>21st Jan-Careers in language & culture spotlight</p> <p>28th Jan-Careers in performance/performing arts spotlight</p> <p>4th Feb-What's next after uni offers-ULAN</p> <p>11th Feb-Apprenticeship pathway spotlight</p> <p>25th Feb-Careers in creative arts spotlight</p> <p>4th March-Careers week: Course information-ULAN</p> <p>11th March-Science week:Careers in science & tech spotlight</p> <p>18th March-Neurodiversity week: Different minds, different futures</p> <p>25th March-Gap year pathway spotlight</p> <p>15th April-Why university? With ULAN</p> <p>22nd April-Employment pathway spotlight</p> <p>29th April-A day in the life of: An engineer-Guest host</p> <p>6th May-UCAS Journey-ULAN</p> <p>13th May-Summer jobs & volunteering</p>	
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	20th May-A day in the life of: Hospitality manager-Guest host	
Summary of social media themes	<p>August-‘Shine bright’ (<i>Sun theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>September-‘Start strong: Find your vibe’ (<i>Circus strong man theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>October-‘No tricks, just career treats’ (<i>Halloween theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>November-‘The power of plan B’ (<i>Lightning strike & energy theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>December-‘Wrap up your year & unwrap your future’ (<i>Christmas theme</i>)</p> <p>January-‘Level up: 2026 loading....’ (<i>Gamer theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>February-‘Love what you do’ (<i>Heart theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>March-‘Jump forward with both feet’ (<i>Clocks theme for clocks going forward at end of March</i>)</p> <p>April-‘Careers in bloom’ (<i>Flowers theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>May-‘Keep calm and career on!’ (<i>Water theme for social media</i>)</p> <p>June-‘Dive into your next steps!’ (<i>Ocean theme-Ties in with world oceans day on the 8th</i>)</p>	