



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

ISSUE 425
20th January 2023

Letter to Parents Regarding Strike Action

Dear Parent / Carer,

You may be aware from media coverage that the NEU (National Education Union) have declared strike action, which will take place on the following dates:

- Wednesday, 1 February
- Tuesday, 28 February
- Wednesday, 15 March
- Thursday, 16 March

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over pay, and not because of any issues at our school.

I'm getting in touch to give you as much notice as possible that learning may be disrupted on the dates listed. We're currently considering several options, and I will let you know ASAP what the arrangements will be.

In the interim, I would ask that you be mindful of the strike dates and I would recommend that you start to make alternative childcare arrangements for these dates.

I'm sorry about the potential disruption to you and to your child's education. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect. Sharples School remains committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils and delivering high-quality teaching.

Kind regards

Ann Webster
Headteacher

[Click here to view the original letter as a PDF.](#)

Sharples Baccalaureate

After a fantastic first term where over 90% of Year 7 students achieved at least their bronze award for the Sharples Baccalaureate, a range of new clubs are now on offer until February half term and there is something for everyone! This term, the number of points you need to receive the gold award has been increased, however, there will be bigger and better prizes to be won before the Easter holidays, including a trip! We encourage Year 7s to attend at least 2 clubs per week and all information about what clubs are available can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

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Year 11 student is a National Champion



Year 11 student Alex W has been selected as a National Champion for exhibiting the Paralympic Values. Her story features in a special edition book published this month! Congratulations to Alex.

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The Alchemist Visits Sharples

This week we were very lucky to have a guest visit from The Alchemist Manchester. We had Seamus O Donnell (Culinary Director), Hannah Plumb (Talent and Culture Director), Isabelle Rigor (Junior sous, Spinningfields - Former Apprentice) and Julian Rigor (Head chef, Spinningfields). They spoke to Year 9, 10 and 11 about their careers in the Hospitality industry and where they began their journey. Hannah told us about how she started as a waitress 20 years ago and now she is Talent and Culture Director. Seamus told us all about his first experience cooking a soup and it being so thick, it could be held over his head and wouldn't fall out!



The pupils all left a Student's Review, spoke about how they enjoyed hearing about their journey and how they began their careers. It allowed pupils in the school to have first hand careers advice from professionals who work in the industry.

As part of the talk we were introduced to The Alchemist brand, they showed us their promotional community video, where we heard staff members tell us about the love

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they have for their job. They spoke of how working in the industry gave them the ability to express themselves through Food and Drink. This was clearly something that the pupils had not considered when they thought about working in the industry. Imagining a job where they could work as part of a team, love their job and do something they enjoy everyday.

The Alchemists followed up by telling us all about the Apprenticeship scheme that they run. They offer a Level 2 apprenticeship, where you can start with basic skills and work your way up. On the apprenticeship you learn about food safety, sourcing, seasonality, meats, poultry and fish. All information which helps the apprentices understand how to source, prepare, cook safely and hygienically and methods that can be used. The Alchemist are passionate about providing learning opportunities for the future generation and this is why this event was such an amazing opportunity for the pupils. Seamus said:

“Apart from giving them an exciting job, with magical recipes, smoke and fireworks, The Alchemist also actively tries to cater to the needs of a new generation of food service workers.”

Year 9 had lots of really good questions for the team. For example, one pupil asked: “What’s the most difficult recipe you have cooked?”

Another pupil asked about pay and hours that Chefs work when working in a restaurant setting.

The day was enjoyed by all pupils and all our pupils demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the talks. The Student’s Reviews gave us some insight into opinions of the day.

Tyler (Year 9) spoke about ‘how he enjoyed learning about how becoming an apprentice could lead to a career as a chef.’

Josh (Year 9) wrote ‘I feel more likely to go into hospitality now as it is not all about cooking, there are also management jobs in this industry.’

Ayesha (Year 10) wrote ‘ It taught me about the different roles in the industry.’

All the feedback we gained from the event was positive and several pupils came back to tell us how much they enjoyed the talk and how it had helped them to understand the industry more.

The Grand Finale included experiencing a food demonstration, Julian and Isabelle



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demonstrated how to cook a Katsu Curry (pictured below) and demonstrated higher level skills, even chopping an onion without looking!! Clearly he has years of experience of practising this talent. The pupils got to sample this dish and we even had one pupil recreate this dish after the session had finished. Seamus said:



“I was delighted to have the opportunity to be invited by Sharples School to speak to the students about entering a career in hospitality. The Alchemist is an Innovative Cocktail Bar & Restaurant with 21 locations in the UK and is soon to open in Berlin in April. Established in 2010, The Alchemist is known for theatre served through its mystical concoctions and unconventional dishes created to tantalise the senses.

The hospitality industry is a fun environment with flexible working hours and gives you the perfect opportunity to not only have a career but a passport to travel the world to gain valuable life experience. Knowledge is King and Education is the best way to facilitate change.”

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Sports Leaders - Panathlon Swimming Gala



A massive thank you and well done to some of our sports leaders who helped run the Panathlon swimming gala for local primary schools on Tuesday. The girls did a brilliant job in supporting young people with disabilities to water experiences, some for the very first time. The students took part in some training in the morning to ensure they knew how to support the children in the water. As a result, they were able to support and encourage the primary children to take part in races and different activities which ensured they developed key skills and water confidence throughout the day. Well done, girls!

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English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Sam B has written a great response about the presentation of Grendel in a poem! [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Amaan B has shown some brilliant comparative skills. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Zain-ul-Abideen N has produced a great narrative and has also shown improvements in his work. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Heidi W has produced an excellent response to a question on transformation in A Christmas Carol. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Kulsoum K has written a great response to an unseen poem. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Reader of the Week

Year 7

Khalisah P for a great reading as Violet from 'A Series of Unfortunate Events'.

Year 8

Charley R for reading the context of Macbeth with confidence and accuracy.

Year 9

Adam I for his excellent reading of Frankenstein.

Year 10

Amirah A for her brilliant reading of the prologue from Romeo and Juliet.

Year 11

Madiha B for making excellent inferences during An Inspector Calls revision session.



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Science Enrichment Newsletter

Educake Top Scorers

Well done to everyone who completed their home learning this week. The top scores for each year group are:

Year 11: Khadijah A, Madiha B, Imaan H and David L.

Year 10: Abubakr N, Aaliyah P and Mohamed E.

Year 9: Saffiya A, Ben P, Ahmad T, Ismail Q, Mohamed-Amin, Mariya P, Finn W and Tofiq.

STEM club



This week in KS3 STEM club pupils were investigating the properties of white light. Each pupil had to cut out and colour in a spinning wheel (as shown). When the wheel is spun rapidly, the different colours combine together to produce white light!! This idea wasn't too dizzying for the teams to grasp. Some members then began work on an even bigger wheel - outcome pending! Next week the teams will be taking swabs from around the school to investigate what different types of bacteria can be found.



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Science career of the week

This week's career is Pharmacist. A pharmacist is a healthcare professional who is responsible for dispensing and managing medications. They also provide patient counselling and education on the proper use of medications. Information about experience opportunities, providers, entry requirements and much more can be found here: [Science career of the Week](#)

Please speak to Mr. Burke, who will provide you with more information about this, or any other, science career.

Space News



Comet C/2022 E3 (ZTF) has been gradually brightening ever since the automated Zwicky Transient Facility discovered it at 17th magnitude last March. Now it's finally having its weeks in the sun (so to speak), crossing the northern sky. It's currently about magnitude 6.5 or 7.0, on its way to perhaps mag 5.5 around the end of January and the beginning of February. The comet should now be able to be seen using binoculars. When its magnitude dips below 6, it may become visible to the naked eye in a dark moon-free sky. The comet can currently be found moving from the constellation of Hercules towards Draco and Ursa Minor.

Mr. Fowlds - Science Enrichment Coordinator

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Mathematician of the Month - December



Every month a student is nominated from each of the maths classes as 'Mathematician of the Month'. These students are nominated based on their hard work, enthusiasm and efforts within the lesson.

Shown above are some of the Year 7 nominees for December. The full lists of nominees for each year group are below - well done to them all!

Year 7

Leo L
Aisha A
Shifa B
Kai L
Lorna S
Ciara C
Safa D
Zaiba A
Faatimah A

Year 8

Ibrahim V
Farrah H
Zayba H
Zahara C
Areeb S
Charlie C
Ibrahim N
Amelia G
Zain B

Year 9

Noah L
Ella K
Joshua J
Tofiq S
Caitlyn M
Ben P
Mohammed
Rehan D
Halima G
Adam E
Ismail Q

Year 10

Safa A
Sadie W
Molly W
Cady C
Heidi H
Khadijah P
Jawaad A
Yusuf A
Mohammed
Zain M

Year 11

Daniel F
Madiha B
Madison K
Alex W
Kandida S
Kelsey W
Elisha V
Joshua E
Momna H
Chelsea S

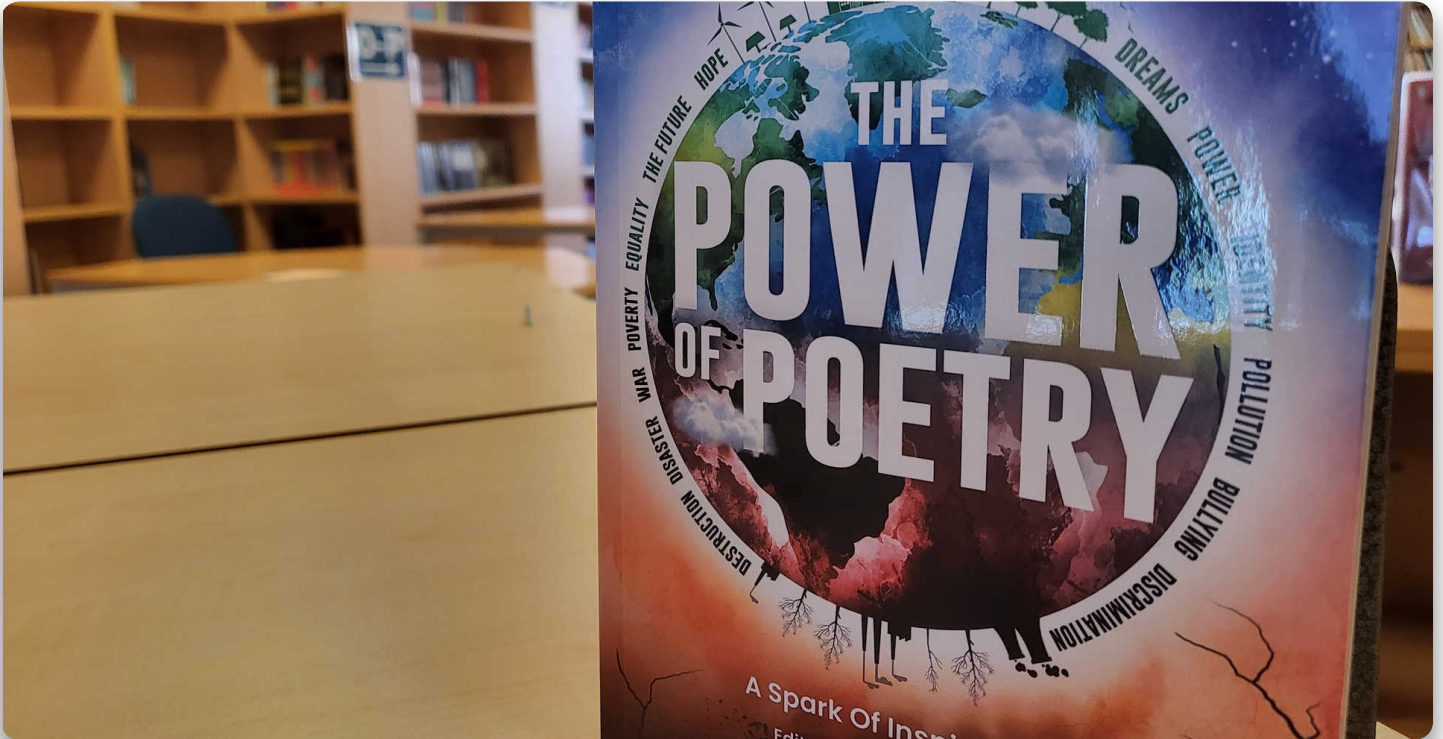


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Great news from the 'Power of Poetry' competition 2022



Congratulations to the following students:

Muhammad-Khaleel V

Jessica K

Oliver B

Hatim K

Ismael I

Your work is now published in the Young Writers 'Power of Poetry' anthology.

You can come see your work in the library. A very well done to you all!

Welcome to Runshaw

Feb start Short Courses
Click below to apply today!

SMALL CLASS SIZES

EXCELLENT PROGRESSION

FREE
subject to eligibility

[APPLY NOW](#)

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Cherie U - North of England Championships



On Saturday 14th January Cherie U travelled down to Sheffield Institute of Sport to compete in the North of England Athletics Championships. Competing in the U17 60m as a lower age, Cherie managed a very impressive 2nd place in the final and also secured a PB time of 7.80 seconds. This is a fantastic achievement and sets Cherie up nicely for the Nationals next month where she will compete against athletes across the country. Click the link here to watch Cherie race in the final!

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Attendance Information

Reporting an absence:

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school before 9.30am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. The attendance email is the easiest way to contact school as the phone line can get very busy.

The school attendance email is: attendance@sharplesschool.co.uk

If we are unable to make contact and you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Attendance Data

Year Groups attendance this week:

Year 7 = 95.99%
Year 8 = 95.02%
Year 9 = 96.36%
Year 10 = 93.23%
Year 11 = 93.49%

Best forms this week:

7Ples4 = 99.56%
8L = 98.47%
9P1 = 100%
10A = 96.70%
11S1 = 99.54%

226 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

Dates for your Diary

Monday 16th
January to Friday
27th January:
Year 9 Exams

Tuesday 31st
January: Trip to
Bolton Catering
College (10:00 –
13:30)

Wednesday 1st
February: Runshaw
College Visit - Law
Mock Trial (08:40 –
12:00)

Career of the Week: Robotics Engineer

Robotics engineers design and build machines to do automated jobs in industries like manufacturing, aerospace and medicine.

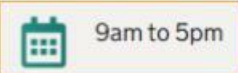
Average Salary:



Typical hours:
(per week)



You could work:



Qualifications:

- You can apply for this job through a university course, a college course, working towards this role, or an Apprenticeship.
- 2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including maths and physics.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and Maths.

Skills required:

- Knowledge of engineering science and technology
- Knowledge of computer operating systems, hardware and software
- Maths knowledge and design skills and knowledge
- Excellent verbal communication skills
- The ability to use, repair and maintain machines and tools
- Thinking and reasoning skills.

Relevant Subjects:

- Maths, Science & Computer Science



Information sourced from: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/robotics-engineer>



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PE Lunch Time Clubs - January - February

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 & Y10 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y7 Football - Boys & Girls (Big Astro) - AHM * JRA	Girls only Football (Big astro) - SCU
Netball Yr 7/8 (SH) - SCU	Y7 Dodgeball (SH) - SCU & JRA	Just Dance- all years (SH) - LAL	KS3 Dodgeball (SH) - LAL & SCU	Y7/8 Football (Big astro) AHM
Boccia (Gym) - LAL/JRA	KS4 Boys Fitness Suite - PGR	KS3 Basketball (Gym) - SCU & JRA		KS3 Basketball (SH) - LAL & JRA
	Just Dance (Gym) - LAL	KS4 Boys Fitness Suite - PGR		



PE After School Clubs - January - February

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Swimming training for the team	Yr 7/8 Netball practice	KS3 Swimming	KS3 & KS4 Girls Football v ESSA (a)	Wigan Warriors KS3 Rugby practice
KS4 Girls fitness suite	Yr 7/8 Football practice	Running club- all years	KS4 Boys fitness suite	
Yr 9/10 Netball practice	Swimming Gala @ Bolton one	Basketball- all years	Badminton practice- all years	
		Yr 9 v Yr 10 Football match		

Week beginning 23rd Jan



Y7 CLUBS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Astronomy MFO - G43	Art JMY - G79	Polyglot CLI - N11	Game Development MCA - U40	International Club CLI - N11
Choreography AST - G67	STEM Club DBU/DAL - G59	Design and Make Club LMO - G73	Chess KMC - G46	Board Games DAL - G59
Keyboard Club JCO - G66	Dodgeball SCU/JRA - SH	Blooket MHA - U39	Choir EMA - G66	Girls Football SCU - Big Astro
Hwk Club TAs - N6	History Movie IDA/KBO - U51	Acting Club CSM - G67	Football AHM - Big Astro	Book Club LHT - U8
Netball SCU/JRA - SH		Guitar & Ukulele JCO - G66	Dodgeball LAL - SH	Disney Movie NAY - U19
		Just Dance LAL - SH		Technicians Academy NWA - G84
		Debate Club HPA - U9		

The Sophie Scholl Awards

“Someone has to make a start.” How about you?



Holocaust Memorial Day is commemorated each year on 27th January, the date of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945. Holocaust Memorial Day remembers the millions of victims of the Nazi Holocaust, including six million Jews, and of other, more recent genocides.



The Sophie Scholl Awards were introduced at Runshaw as part of our events to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. The courage of Sophie Scholl, of a similar age to Runshaw students, was an inspiration to us all. We now extend an invitation to pupils in partner high schools to help us celebrate the short life of this brave young woman by participating in awards reserved for them.

Sophie was 18 when the war started in 1939. She and her family, inspired by their strong religious beliefs, actively resisted the Nazis – an incredibly courageous thing for Germans to do. In 1942, Sophie, along with her brother Hans and a few other students, founded the White Rose, a non-violent resistance movement which painted anti-fascist slogans on walls, defaced Nazi emblems and distributed anti-war leaflets. In early 1943, Sophie and the other leaders of the group were caught, condemned as traitors and executed by beheading. Sophie was just 21.

During her trial, despite the attempts of the judge and prosecutors to browbeat and ridicule her, Sophie remained steadfast as one individual against the massive power of the Nazi state. “Someone has to make a start”, she said. Convinced that good in the end would prevail, her last words as she was led into the execution yard were, “The sun still shines!”

For many inspired by Sophie’s example, a white rose has come to represent peace, justice and a love of humanity.

Students in partner high schools are asked to make an entry based on ONE of the following themes:

- The inspiration of Sophie Scholl
- The White Rose
- Someone has to make a start

Entries can be

- a written piece (maximum 250 words but could be much shorter)
- a poem
- a piece of art work or music – of any kind
- an idea to do something at school based on Sophie’s example
- anything at all based on one of the above themes.

Entries can be individual or group work.

Entries should be forwarded to Giles Inman, Runshaw College, Leyland, PR25 3DQ. The deadline for entries is 4.30pm on *Wednesday 22nd February 2023.*

Awards of vouchers and certificates will be awarded for the best entries.

Early Help Parenting Drop-in

For all families with children under 18

We know that being a parent is not always easy and that families need extra support at some stage as children grow up.

Targeted Early Help Workers will be on hand to offer advice and support.

We can offer signposting to helpful services, organisations and community groups.

Poor school attendance?

Are they being excluded from school?

Are they anxious or struggling with self-esteem?

Are you struggling with your child's behaviour?

Not sure what services there are available that can help to support you?



Come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat if you want any advice or information about parenting.

Drop-in sessions, 10am-1pm

Farnworth King St Centre 14th Jan 4th Feb 25th Feb 18th Mar 15th Apr

Oxford Grove Children Centre 21st Jan 11th Feb 4th Mar 25th Mar 22nd Apr

Tonge Children Centre 28th Jan 18th Feb 11th Mar 1st Apr



For more information please contact:

Targeted Early Help Tel: 01204 336215

Email: earlyhelp@bolton.gov.uk



Bolton Council

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Bolton Council



Online safety workshops supporting children and parents

Fortalice are delivering workshops for children and their parents to raise awareness of how to keep safe online. The sessions will be interactive, fun and informative. Children will have the chance to teach their parents what they need to know!

We are offering taster sessions for professionals. You'll have the opportunity to find out what is involved in the workshops. In addition you will develop key knowledge in keeping children safe whilst online. These will be delivered via Zoom.

Dates: Wednesday 11th January 2023 9.30am to 11am
Thursday 19th January 2023 2pm to 3.30pm

For children and young people:

- Learn how to keep themselves safe whilst online.
- Teach their parents what they need to know.
- Know who you can talk to if worried about something that has happened online.
- Understand the impact of online bullying.



For parents:

- Know how to ask difficult questions.
- Understand the different social media platforms used by their children.
- Learn how to keep their children safe when online.
- Know how to work with their child when setting boundaries for being online.



To book a workshop for your organisations service users or to book on a taster session please email allison.wallaceberry@fortalice.co.uk or phone 07790776343

Bolton Together

Bolton
Council

POST-16 INTERVIEWS



Careers &
Enterprise
at Sharples School

PREPARING FOR THE INTERVIEW

Good preparation will make all the difference!

MAKE SURE YOU'VE READ ALL ABOUT THE COURSES YOU APPLIED FOR AND THE COLLEGE.

Interviewers will want you to show that you understand what it involves.

RE-READ YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT & APPLICATION FORM.

Think about how you can build on the examples you included in it. Refer back to this when you answer the questions.

THINK ABOUT THE TYPES OF QUESTIONS YOU COULD BE ASKED.

How would you answer the questions on the right? Practice these at home, make a revision card or some notes on each question in case you forget – have these with you for the interview.

WRITE DOWN & REVISE POINTS FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

Your reasons for choosing the course & the college.

Your most relevant skills & qualities. Give examples of when you have shown these skills.

A FEW OTHER POINTERS TO REMEMBER!

MANNERS COST NOTHING – Be polite to the interviewer!

QUESTION – Have a question ready to ask at the end – this may be about other students experiences – what would current students say is the best thing about studying there?

SHOWCASE YOURSELF – I know you are fantastic, but they need to know this too! Show your **PASSION** for the course that you will be studying!

If you need help or you are still unsure, message me on MS Teams, or email me – ADD EMAIL

POTENTIAL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

This is the time to showcase yourself!

WHY HAVE YOU APPLIED TO US?

The interviewers will want to know why you've chosen to study this course at their college:

Why do you want to study this course?

Why do you want to study at this college, rather than at other ones?

What is it that interests you about this subject?

What are your plans for the future? Do you plan to pursue a related career?

Use the college website to plan around these questions.

WHAT MAKES YOU WELL SUITED TO THIS COURSE & THE COLLEGE?

This is your opportunity to talk about your relevant skills & experience:

Why do you think you will suit this course well?

What would you describe as your best qualities?

What achievement are you most proud of?

What do you like or dislike most about school?

Remember to include examples of when you have shown skills in your answers. Work Experience is a really good example.

ARE YOU PREPARED?

The interviewers will want to establish that you are prepared to start college. Show them you have thought about this.

Why have you decided to apply to here rather than another route?

What do you hope to go onto after completing your Post 16 studies?

Do you intend to commute to your provider?

How much do you know about what the course involves?

Are you prepared for your exams?

How will you ensure you meet your GCSE targets?



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difference

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**Bolton
Council**

What does the Council do?



The Council is at the heart of where we live, work, learn, shop, socialise and exercise.

We provide a huge range of services to the people of Bolton, helping them start, live and age well, supporting our local businesses and developing the town

We have an enormous range of jobs and endless opportunities for development - a great starting point for your future career, wherever it may take you.

We employ 3,400 staff in over 500 different roles.

Follow us on social media...

...for news and job opportunities. Many vacancies are added everyday, so if you don't see something today, **look again tomorrow.**



Bolton Council is recruiting.

greater jobs

Working at Bolton Council offers opportunities at every level, and in a wide range of sectors.

Take a look at the vacancies near you today

www.greater.jobs

greater jobs is owned by 12 local authorities and key services within Greater Manchester, advertising all their vacancies in one place.

greater.jobs @greater_jobs greater.jobs

Digitalisation

Making a difference to local people

What's important to us...

Equality, diversity and inclusion

#TeamBolton

Workforce wellbeing

Flexible working

Sustainability



Accountability

take responsibility for actions, stand by decisions...



Making a difference

work to a high standard, provide a quality service, keep it simple...



Honesty and respect

be truthful, open, fair, treat others how you want to be treated...

Determination

don't give up, remain positive and open to new ideas...



Working together

share knowledge, support, collaborate for better outcomes...



Don't just take our word for it...



Calum Gaskell,
Strategy Delivery Manager
Joined 2014

SO CALUM, WHY DID YOU WANT TO JOIN A COUNCIL?

After finishing college, I stumbled across an apprenticeship in Digital Media. I didn't know much about the Council, other than they collected my bins, but I found that from marketing and web design to delivering big multi-million-pound projects, the Council had all the ingredients I would need to enable me to develop.

Being Bolton born-and-bred, this was an opportunity to see the difference I was making first-hand, to the town, people and Council itself. Every day is different, I have been able to try new things, meet new people and build skills I might not have done had it not been for working here.

CONNIE, TELL US WHY YOU WANTED TO WORK FOR A COUNCIL?

I wanted to do an apprenticeship in accountancy and, as I had lived here all my life, joining Bolton Council was an easy decision to make. There is a lot of support for studies and lots of additional development opportunities.

I love working here because its for the benefit of the residents, it's a busy environment, with new and interesting topics and tasks each day.

WHY SHOULD OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE CONSIDER A CAREER WITH THE COUNCIL?

Like many young people, at 18 years old I wasn't sure what I wanted to do but 10 years on I'm doing something completely different but something I massively enjoy, the most important thing in any career choice. Had it not been for the Council giving me various opportunities to try new things and find what I truly had a passion for, I could be stuck doing something I hate.



Connie McMullen,
Group Accountant
Joined 2012

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE CONSIDERING A CAREER HERE?

If you want to become qualified in a profession, whilst also being paid for hands on experience at work, then its ideal.



Beth Collett,
HR Assistant
Joined 2022

WHY DID YOU WANT TO JOIN BOLTON COUNCIL, BETH?

Following university, I found a lot of places needed lots of experience before you could get a job with them but Bolton Council has allowed me to transfer my skills in a previous role into an entry-level HR role which I love. I am currently doing CIPD Level 5 at Wigan and Leigh College and wanted to join Bolton as I live locally. I had heard that the benefits and pension are excellent together with the Council being a forward-thinking and inclusive environment, so that really attracted me to work there.

BLERTA, TELL US HOW YOU CAME TO JOIN BOLTON COUNCIL.

I started working at Bolton Council on a six-month work placement in the Marketing, Events and Communications team and was gaining lots of different skills during this time. It was my first office job and experiencing a job I had never done before was a challenge!

WHAT APPRENTICESHIP DID YOU STUDY?

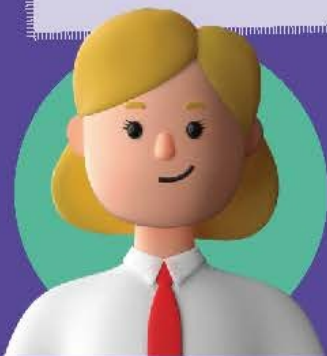
After work experience, I was encouraged to apply for a Finance and Business Admin apprenticeship.



Blerta Zhitia,
Administration and Finance Officer
Joined 2018

WHAT WOULD YOU SEE TO OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE CONSIDERING WORKING FOR A COUNCIL?

Bolton Council provide the best experience and are supportive in their approach. They also provide you with self-development by training you for the role you are in. My experience within finance in the team is what helped me choose my path of becoming an accountant. Working for Bolton Council has been and continues to be an amazing experience. It has made me confident and knowledgeable and I have progressed in ways that I would never have thought.



Leah Aspinall,
Communication and Engagement Support Officer
Joined 2021

WHAT MADE YOU WANT TO JOIN BOLTON COUNCIL?

I heard that councils are likely to have opportunities to progress, which has proved true. I live here, and the idea of working in my own town, where I grew up was a massive factor.

WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT WORKING HERE?

The friendly staff and colleagues, working with staff in partner organisations, the development opportunities and the support from managers and other colleagues is great, Bolton Council has helped me gain so much confidence in myself and my job.

YOUR MESSAGE TO OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE?

Bolton is a great place to work with a high potential for progression and other opportunities. If you show interest in what you are doing, you will thrive at Bolton Council and that is the main reason why younger people should consider a career here. Your capabilities will be noticed and valued.

What we offer...



A bit more on apprenticeships...

- ✓ Staff opportunities to move careers and across to other roles
- ✓ Trainee roles and career pathways
- ✓ Apprenticeships
- ✓ Graduate careers
- ✓ A whole range of leadership courses and different types of development

- ✓ Learn and train for a specific job, e.g. four days in the role and one day studying at college.
- ✓ Get paid, receive paid holidays and hands-on experience in a real job.
- ✓ By the end of an apprenticeship, you'll have the right skills and knowledge needed for your chosen career.
- ✓ Each apprenticeship has a level and an equivalent education level, some are degrees.
- ✓ Start your career path with lots of future potential to progress.



All our apprenticeships are advertised on

greater•jobs

Did you know the Council has over 500 different types of roles, including...

- Administration
- Cleaning & Catering
- Customer Services
- Education
- Environmental Health
- Finance, Marketing, HR
- IT
- Legal
- Libraries
- Planning & Highways
- Project Management
- Social Care & Social Work
- Sport, Youth & Play
- Transport

Staff benefits

We offer a variety of different working patterns, part-time hours, flexible working and apprenticeship opportunities in many locations.



Annual leave

We offer up to 28 days annual leave depending on length of service and contractual hours, plus bank holidays. There is also opportunity to purchase up to five days additional leave each year (pro rata for part time staff).



Help with travelling to work

Car Lease and Cycle to Work Schemes. Employees can choose to use some of their salary before it's taxed, in exchange for the use of a brand new car or bicycle.



Car parking passes

Opportunity to purchase a parking space within the town centre at a preferential rate.



Employee recognition

We acknowledge the commitment of our staff in providing an excellent service. After five years local government service you will receive an additional three days annual leave entitlement. We recognise the achievement of 25 and 40 years long service. We reward our staff with long service with a gift when they retire.

Every year we hold the Bolton's Best Awards to celebrate and reward individuals, teams and projects for the excellent work they do to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Bolton family.



Health and wellbeing

Your mental and physical wellbeing is a top priority for us. Through our employee support services, assistance programmes and wellbeing interventions, we help to look after your health and wellbeing.



Work life balance

We have job opportunities which include part time working. We also encourage flexible working, through our flexitime scheme and hybrid arrangements where possible.

We have a range of ways to support staff with family life, including parental leave, carers leave and emergency leave, as well as maternity leave, paternity leave and adoption leave. Staff can also make an application for flexible working, career breaks or a sabbatical.



Training and development

We provide opportunities to develop your career through our training programmes, extensive online learning courses and apprenticeship opportunities.

Our personal development review process, Insight Exchange, supports your ongoing development in your role.



Rewards, benefits and discounts

We want to thank our employees for their hard work and commitment by giving them access to a range of exclusive rewards and benefits including gym membership discounts, access to benefits platforms and discounts from local businesses.



Pension scheme

As an employee you will be able to enrol in a pension scheme. Benefits include tax relief on the contributions you pay, the option to exchange part of your pension for a tax free cash lump sum at retirement, and immediate valuable lump sum life cover.

You can also pay Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs) through our salary sacrifice scheme.

What our staff say...



Got a question?...

Email: recruitment@bolton.gov.uk



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Bolton Council