



# September opportunities for 16 to 24-year-olds in Plymouth!

Plymouth is a city of opportunity and it's not too late to get involved! Whether you are looking at developing new skills, accessing training or education, or gaining experience to find your dream job or career, we want to help you make the best choices for YOU!

Below we've pulled together the latest local opportunities here in one place – including various events that you can attend for free. If anything catches your eye, get in touch by:

- Emailing [skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk)
- Texting or sending a WhatsApp message to our Youth Hub Coordinator, Rhianne on **07876 396982**

If you live in or near Honicknowle, Efford or Stonehouse and are looking for support, our Coordinator Abi can also support you from a community space. Message Abi on **07917 264736**

Don't forget you can help yourself to localised information, advice and guidance through our Youth Hub Resource Bank here: [www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk/youth-hub-resource-bank](http://www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk/youth-hub-resource-bank) and check out the [latest opening hours here](#).

## Upcoming Events

### Sector Drop-in Sessions

For anyone interested in Plymouth's growth sectors (the ones where there are lots of job opportunities), Skills Launchpad Plymouth hosts weekly sector drop-in sessions. Join our experienced sector co-ordinators for practical advice and guidance, and to discuss the latest skills, training, and job opportunities.

- Mondays are focused on childcare, health and social care, hospitality, retail, and tourism.
- Tuesdays are focused on construction and the built environment, and the green economy.

**Curious about the green economy?** You should be! It affects multiple job sectors and is a big priority here in Plymouth. Explore the [Green Economy page here](#) to access the Green Horizons guide.

### Apprenticeships with Aldi

September's Training and Apprenticeship Drop-in is an Aldi takeover. Their new Derriford store is opening at the end of October and they are currently recruiting for apprentice store managers, along with other vacancies for career starters across multiple stores in Plymouth.

Whether you are interested in apprenticeships, paid employment, or taking steps towards this kind of opportunity in the future, drop in and see our friendly team to find out more.

**When:** Wednesday 25 September

**Time:** 10am to 2pm

**Where:** Skills Launchpad Plymouth, first floor Barclays city centre

### Launchpad Live

Launchpad Live is the biggest careers fair of its kind in the south west. With fully interactive and exciting stalls from a range of employers and training providers, the public access hour is great for anyone interested in exploring the latest opportunities here in Plymouth.

Sectors represented include engineering and manufacturing, construction, health and social care, childcare, hospitality, retail and tourism, the green economy, creative arts, public services and more. It's also a great chance to discuss courses and apprenticeships with local training providers.

**When:** 26 September, 4-5pm

**Where:** Plymouth Life Centre

**More details:** [Launchpad Live - YMCA Plymouth](#)

### **Training Provider Open Events**

During September you won't see training providers such as Access Creative, Achievement Training, Argyle Community Trust, Cheyne's Training, City College Plymouth, CTSW, DBS, Discovery College, Eat That Frog, Focus Training, GHQ, Greenlight Training, Ixion Beauty, MPTC, On Course South West, Skills Group or Plymouth's three universities advertising open events, however, this is just a little reminder that if you were interested in joining a full or part-time programme, there is still time.

Most providers will offer a 1:1 tour or the chance to speak with someone about opportunities to start during September. Need support with this? Drop us an email at [skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk) and we'll be happy to connect you.

## **Access Pre-Employability Support**

If you are looking to get a job, we work with some great organisations that can help you to prepare for work. Whether you would like some impartial careers advice and guidance, support with your CV, cover letters and/or interview prep, we can help.

### **My Future Mentoring Programme**

YMCA Plymouth is expanding their mentoring programme let Youth Hub members have a TRY:

**T** - talk about mentoring – what is it? How could it help YOU?

**R** – relationship building – find the right person for YOU

**Y** – your choice – what do YOU want from the experience

Want to find out more? Drop-in and meet Liz on Thursday 12 September between 12noon and 2pm at Skills Launchpad Plymouth, speak to one of the Youth Hub Coordinators, or email Liz [liz.bell@ymcaplymouth.org.uk](mailto:liz.bell@ymcaplymouth.org.uk).

### **Argyle Community Trust's Career Works Programme**

Aged 19+ and looking for support back into education or employment? Working with businesses across the city, this short programme with Argyle Community Trust will help you work towards nationally recognised qualifications, and help with CV writing, job seeking, interview techniques and application support tailored to your needs.

As part of the programme, you will complete mental health and wellbeing modules, and take part in work experience placements to help you to feel more confident when you connect with opportunities after the programme. On completion of the programme, you will still be able to access 1:1 support to help you with your next steps.

Interested? The programme starts on Thursday 5 September and will run at HQ 237 Union Street, (next to Lidl). Contact [lewis.wadey@pafc.co.uk](mailto:lewis.wadey@pafc.co.uk) or call or text **07908 611003** to sign up.

### **The Prince's Trust**

From 'Get Into' and 'Get Started' programmes to help you explore job opportunities in particular sectors, to support to start your own business and more, if you are aged 11-30 and not in full-time training or employment, the Prince's Trust can help.

**Latest opportunities include:**

**Team** - On this free 12-week personal development course, you'll gain practical skills and experience, earn a qualification, and grow your confidence.

This programme involves taking part in an action-packed week of activities, which could be a residential trip, you'll get to know the other people in your team; making a positive difference in your community by working together on a group project; gaining two weeks' work experience in a profession or organisation that interests you and receiving support to write a standout CV and learning how to impress in an interview!

Upcoming Plymouth course dates:

- 16 September to 6 December
- Delivered in person
- Open to anyone aged 16 to 25-years-old
- [Click here](#) to register your interest

**Watch this space:** upcoming dates for Get into Film and Photography and Get into Theatre programmes.

**Young Devon**

The Young Devon 'Change Academy' delivers a range of skills, courses and qualifications, teaching young people skills for life, to help them thrive in their futures.

**[Independent Life Skills](#)** –Thursdays and Fridays.

This course is all about building confidence in next steps and is designed to support young people back into education, develop life skills and help you live independently. Working in small groups you will gain an entry level 3 qualification covering topics such as getting about safely, assertiveness and basic cooking, as well as a small volunteering project and some English and maths.

**[Work Based Learning](#)** – Monday to Wednesday.

This is a level 1 course that provides the option of achieving up to a Level 2 in maths and English functional skills qualifications (Level 2 is equal to a GCSE in these subjects). Over 12-weeks you will gain skills for employability, focusing on CV writing, interview skills and employment rights.

**Where:** Young Devon, Mutley Plain, Plymouth

**When:** Courses start in September

**Time:** 10am-3pm

To find out more, or book your place, please call **01626 356720**, or email [thechangeacademy@youngdevon.org](mailto:thechangeacademy@youngdevon.org)

**Fotonow**

'Unlocked Youth' is Fotonow's youth programme aimed at supporting 13 to 21-year-olds to engage in media and take part in cultural opportunities. The youth creative media group is all about having fun while developing skills and knowledge in the world of creative media. This is a weekly group that meet every Tuesday at Fotonow HQ between 5 and 7pm. To find out more, or contact Fotonow, please click [here](#)

### **Gifted Women Employability Programme**

The local team at Gifted Women are all about unlocking doors to employment for women (aged 18+) overcoming multiple disadvantages and rebuilding their lives. If you feel unable to access employment because of your life experiences and would like to get into work but aren't sure where to start, this charity is able to support with creating CVs, supportive work experience placements through their collaboration with employers in Plymouth and Tavistock. To find out more email Emily at [emily@giftedwomen.co.uk](mailto:emily@giftedwomen.co.uk)

### **National Careers Service**

For help preparing for jobs, you may like to get started by booking a free appointment with the local National Careers Service team. Barbora and Norman support the Skills Launchpad Plymouth team in providing face-to-face support for anyone 19+. They can help you to make decisions on learning, training, and work at ALL stages of your career and best of all... it's **FREE!**

### **Youth Hub SEND Employability Sessions**

If you are a young person with special educational needs or a disability or are someone looking to develop your confidence and employability skills in a small supportive space, contact Rhianne to join the next SEND Employability group. The group meets every Wednesday over four weeks to explore CVs, interview tips and is centred around the goals of the individual.

Email [skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk) or text Rhianne on **07876 396982** to book.

### **Youth Hub Find Your Future Session**

Every Thursday at Skills Launchpad Plymouth (on the first floor of Barclays) Rhianne and Abi have a clear diary between 12noon and 2pm to chat to care leavers looking for support. During this session there is no pressure to sign up to anything, it's just a first conversation before deciding whether to move forward and develop a plan. You can come with a friend, your PA, or by yourself, but do try it.

### **Your Future**

Your Future is a five-week programme designed specifically to support young people who either have an EHCP (Education Health Care Plan), SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) or other barriers to learning, to build their confidence and exploring their aspirations towards employment, education or training.

This is a fantastic opportunity to develop a positive mindset and improve upon interpersonal and thinking skills.

### **Aged 19 to 25-years-old?**

The programme offers coaching and mentoring to develop confidence, boost employability skills and enhance social skills. The young people will embark on two residentials, which offer an opportunity to experience city life, by visiting museums, restaurants and going shopping! In addition, a range of exciting activities are offered throughout the programme, which can include wellbeing experiences, water-based activities, archery, and cooking.

Register your interest now to find out about the September programme - click [here](#).

## Are you a young person with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)? Have you considered a Supported Internship?

A supported internship offers 16 to 24-year-olds with an EHCP the opportunity to work towards an accredited qualification(s) and take part in a work placement opportunity with the support from an expert job coach. This study programme can last between six months to a year, depending on the individual's progress and future.

Here in Plymouth, work is being done to grow the number of Supported Internships, and there are existing programmes available focused on jobs within Plymouth City Council, City College Plymouth, and the sport and leisure industry, and hospitality with support through Discovery College, and plans underway to develop more opportunities within the health and care sector.

Right now, Discovery College have 16 live Supported Internship vacancies. There are six available in health in leisure (great if you like sport too) and ten in hospitality and retail, both linked with local employers.

To find out more and arrange a conversation about opportunities, [sign up as a member of Skills Launchpad Plymouth here.](#)

If you have special educational needs or disabilities, you may also be interested in the Monday sessions at Poole Farm.

## What's on at Poole Farm?

### SEND support

Each week, between 1pm and 3pm, neurodiverse young people are invited to come and learn new skills, challenge themselves and make new friends. It can also help you to gain experience that will empower you to go out into the world of employment and apply knowledge gained from the farm.

On Mondays those attending can learn all about animal husbandry, DIY, gardening and so much more – as well as working towards a digital badge which can be used to enhance your CV.

If you are interested in joining this group, please email [SENDyouthwork@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:SENDyouthwork@plymouth.gov.uk) for more info and for a request for service form – or contact the Youth Hub team and they can support you with this.

## Volunteer

**Volunteering** is a fantastic way to test out different jobs to find out what you prefer, as well as helping you to gain experience and develop soft skills that are useful in all careers. You may also choose to volunteer to give back and share your skills and experience with others.

Plymouth has lots of great volunteering opportunities with organisations including Citizens Advice Plymouth, Shekinah, University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust / NHS Cadets, St John's Ambulance, Age UK Plymouth, Elder Tree Befriending, Trevi, Plymouth City Council, The Box, Barnardo's, Devon Mind, The Zone, Devon Wildlife Trust, Gables, Devon and Cornwall Police, Ocean Discovery Rangers, National Marine Aquarium, Clean Our Patch, Nature Plymouth, and Moor Trees.



You can also explore vacancies broadly by visiting [Volunteering | PLYMOUTH.GOV.UK](#) or <https://govolunteering.co.uk/>

Opportunities vary from helping people, animals, and children, to admin, retail, and customer Service. There are also environmental opportunities outdoors, or in nature/gardening, right through to media, history, and fundraising. What a brilliant way to develop your skills and meet new people?!

For anyone aged 18+, Plymouth City Council has a big push on Good Neighbour Support Volunteers right now - [details here](#).

If you are aged 19+, as part of Plymouth's Volunteering Passport, which is recognised by many organisations hosting volunteers across the city, you can also access On Course South West's last Friday of every month day of emerging course delivery. This helps volunteers achieve a digital badge acknowledging training that supports their volunteering. If you'd like to find out more, [click here](#).

## Apply for apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are real jobs with training. They start all year round and are not just for school leavers!

Apprenticeships are a great way to earn while you learn, gain a nationally recognised qualification, and study from Level 2 right up to degree-level, depending on the role you are working towards.

If you are worried about the financial side of an apprenticeship salary, you could be entitled to claim universal credit to top you up, so don't rule it out as a possibility.

In the latest edition of Plymouth's exclusive apprenticeship bulletin, there are hundreds of apprenticeship vacancies. Find out more [here](#)

## Apply for jobs

There are many reasons why you might be looking for a new job, but the great news is that there are thousands of jobs available, right now, in Plymouth.

For advice on where to apply and things to consider, [click here](#)

## Explore self-employment

Always dreamt of starting your own business? It can be both an exciting adventure and daunting, especially if you have additional barriers to overcome, such as disability or being long-term unemployed.

We have added lots of information and links to support you in setting up your own business in our Resource Bank [here](#) and we also suggest checking out the upcoming courses with the [National Careers Service](#), [On Course South West](#), [the Prince's Trust](#) and [City College Plymouth](#) that can help you with starting your own business.

## Brush up on your English and Maths

You may be fed up with being asked about whether you have your English and maths GCSEs, or a functional skill in numeracy and literacy, but the fact is, these skills matter and can really help you to get better jobs and earn more money in the long run. Here in Plymouth, there are several training providers who can help. Many build it into a full-time study programme or help you do it alongside an apprenticeship or traineeship, but you can also do your English and/or maths as a standalone course.

If it is maths, you need help with, you may have heard of the Multiply project. Across Plymouth through this funding, providers such as [The Focus Training Group](#), [Real Ideas](#), and [On Course South West](#) and others are delivering practical maths courses to make maths more fun.

If you are aged 19+ and already enrolled on a maths course but struggling with a specific part of the course, you can drop into On Course South West at Hyde Park House on Mutley Plain for Maths Monday to discuss any skills support you need help with.

## Get into training or education

It's never too late to learn new skills. Whether you didn't quite get your C/4 grades in your English and/or maths at school, or if you want to take your existing qualifications to the next level, Plymouth has lots of providers offering education - and the courses are quite often free.

Courses range from business and coding to hair and beauty, animal care, sport and fitness, military preparation, cooking, and more. Many can even help you to access university-level study.

- Your choices at 16 – [click here](#)
- Your choices at 18 – [click here](#)

You may also like to read the 2023-24 edition of 'Which Way? Your Way!' which is focused on helping young people better understand their options for education and training post-16 - [mp-flipbook.co.uk/which-way-your-way-devon/](http://mp-flipbook.co.uk/which-way-your-way-devon/)

### University-level courses 2024

The Clearing period is still open for a few more weeks. Clearing means that if you meet the entry requirements, you can still apply to one of Plymouth's four Higher Education providers. We've provided links to each of the providers Clearing pages below so you can find out more about what's on offer.

- Arts University Plymouth – [click here](#)
- City College Plymouth – [click here](#)
- Plymouth Marjon University – [click here](#)
- University of Plymouth – [click here](#)

Don't forget, if you need any advice navigating your next steps, including university-level study, simply contact one of the Youth Hub team and we'll be happy to help talk things through.

If you are aged 19+ you may also be interested in exploring **Skills Bootcamps!**

Skills Bootcamps are intensive skills accelerator courses that take place over six to ten weeks and enable participants to build up specific sector skills and fast track to an interview with a local employer. They are currently delivered locally by [City College Plymouth](#), [On Course South West](#), [BIT Training](#) and [Devon County Council](#) Or if you are looking to engage online, [The Skills Network](#) offers opportunities.

Skills Bootcamps cover specialisms including cyber security, digital marketing, early years education, welding, green skills and retrofit and more.

### Training delivered online

A few of our partners also offer free online courses, so why not gain a new qualification or skill from the comfort of your own home?

Courses range from computer essentials, professional development, and digital design and marketing to business admin, specialist care courses, and interview skills.

Get started with the links below:

- [City College Plymouth online courses](#)
- [Clarion online courses](#)
- [National Careers Service online courses](#)
- [On Course South West online courses](#)
- [Skilltec Training online courses](#)

## Opportunities in construction

The construction industry is booming. If you want to find out about the latest skills, training, education, apprenticeships and jobs available locally, your first stop should be the **Construction and the Built Environment Drop-in**. Based in Barclays, Armada Way, the Job Shop is open to anyone, just drop in on a **Tuesday** between **10am and 2pm**.

You may also like to look at upcoming short courses and accreditations for new and experienced tradespeople with:

- [City College Plymouth](#)
- [Greenlight Training](#)
- [Focus Training](#)
- [Skills Group](#)

### New to construction?

- Why not check out [Greenlight Training](#) or [CTSW's](#) two-week pre-employment courses? Both will give you a great opportunity to develop your skills and get a feel for what you enjoy.
- Check out [City College Plymouth's](#) Green Skills and Retrofit Bootcamp – Click [here](#)

### Get Hard Hat Ready with Kier and City College Plymouth

Like the idea of being part of the South West's booming construction industry?

Kier and City College Plymouth are running a five-week Hard Hat Ready programme.

The course will cover:

- Bricklaying
- Plastering
- Painting and Decorating
- Carpentry
- Plumbing
- Health and Safety
- CSCS card

These courses start monthly. If you would like to take advantage of this fantastic **FREE** programme, please click [here](#).

For more information on the latest opportunities in the construction and built environment sector, [check out the Building Plymouth landing page here](#).



## Opportunities in health and social care

There has never been a more important time for the health and social care sector, and there continues to be a shortage of workers, particularly in the home care sector.

Whether you have a background in care or a feeling that you may be good at it, there are lots of ways to find out more.

- Drop into **Caring Plymouth's Health and Social Care Job Shop**, every **Monday** between **10am and 2pm** in Barclays, Armada Way.
- Look at the 'Work in Care' campaign page for opportunities [here](#).
- Explore the jobs and volunteering opportunities available with Livewell South West [here](#).
- It's also worth exploring the e-learning section above, as there are lots of free online courses you can do to develop skills for the health and social care sector.
- For more information on all things health and social care, check out [the Caring Plymouth landing page here](#).

## Opportunities in tourism, hospitality, retail and leisure

The visitor economy is one of Plymouth's largest sectors, contributing over £300 million to the city's economy. Such a large sector presents many opportunities for work, training and volunteering. Whether you are great with people or are proud of your city and want to share that feeling, there are lots of ways to get involved and find out more.

- Drop into **Welcoming Plymouth's Job Shop**, every **Monday** between **10am and 2pm** in Barclays, Armada Way
- Explore work opportunities through [Caterer.com](#), [Leisure Jobs](#) or [Retail Choice](#).
- Explore the volunteering opportunities available with The Box [here](#).
- Look at [Visit Plymouth](#) to get an idea of the sort of businesses and careers you could get involved with.
- City College Plymouth provide plenty of learning opportunities for development in the sector, whether you're a school leaver or an adult learner (aged 19+):
  - [Hospitality & Catering](#)
  - [Adult Skills Guide](#)
- [On Course South West](#) offers a wealth of courses to explore across tourism, hospitality and retail:
  - [Tourism](#) (including a [Live Events Skills Bootcamp](#))
  - [Hospitality](#)
  - [Retail](#)

## Access mental health support or boost your confidence

### Green Ecotherapy Group Sessions

If you consider yourself to be living with mild to moderate emotional and mental wellbeing issues, why not try some nature-based therapy?

Poole Farm is working in partnership with Livewell Southwest to offer young people up to the age of 18 (or 25 if living with SEND) six sessions over six weeks where you will immerse yourself in nature, meet new people and learn techniques such as grounding, mindfulness and nature connectedness.

**When:** Mondays 10am-12pm or Tuesdays 2-4pm and 5.30pm-7.30pm

**Where:** Poole Farm

**Booking/request more information:** [click here](#)

Kooth and Qwell are free digital mental health and wellbeing services that are available for free to people living in Plymouth.

Both aim to help people manage their own emotional health and wellbeing through anonymous and confidential support, Kooth supports anyone aged 11 -19 and Qwell is for everyone aged 18+.

These safe online spaces, help people to access therapeutic activities, with a peer support community, self-help articles and forums and discussion boards moderated by qualified practitioners. Users can also keep an online journal and keep track of their wellbeing via an interactive goal tracker. This will be accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There is also a one-on-one live text chat and messaging counselling service with a team of qualified practitioners. See for yourself, [here](#)

### **Devon Mind**

Do you struggle with anxiety? If so, why not sign up to take part in a session to help with understanding anxiety and to learn tips and tools for managing anxiety with Devon Mind? Look at the [upcoming courses and workshops here](#).

You could also join a monthly support group. [Take a look here](#) at the different groups you can attend or click here for [wellbeing activities](#).

### **Shekinah**

If you are aged 18+ there is so much to get involved in with Shekinah. They can help with short courses around personal development, handling stress and anger, mentoring and coaching, mental health, sexual health, as well as more employability related skills such as English, maths and using computers.

To find out more about their Learning Exchange Programmes, click [here](#). Alternatively, for a safe and friendly place to find out about jobs, courses, and benefits you can drop in and see the team at Stonehouse Creek, PL1 3SF every Friday, 12.30-3.30pm

### **Improving Lives Plymouth**

This is a great support organisation offering various peer support groups including one to help people manage long term health conditions and one for people with learning disabilities to develop independence in a safe space. Find out more [here](#).

### **Routes to Grow**

Loneliness can affect us all, at any time of our lives. We might live in a busy city or a rural location, on our own or with others and still feel isolated. Routeways has set up a drop-in service to help combat loneliness – a cuppa and some company and a chance to get involved with their lovely garden within Devonport Park. Explore Routes to Grow [here](#).

### **Art, Craft and Laughter**

Life can sometimes be overwhelming and having a space to be able to go, take timeout and breathe might just be what you need.

Art, craft and laughter are offering mental health, wellbeing art and craft groups. Search 'Art, craft and laughter' on Facebook or Instagram.

For more information on accessing mental health support in Plymouth, click [here](#).

### **Andy's Man Club**

Aiming to end the stigma surrounding mental health, Andy's Man Club has created a judgment-free, confidential space where men can be open about the storms in their lives. For information on this free, weekly, peer support group for men, [click here](#).

### **The Mix**

The Mix is a digital charity based in the UK. Their primary goal is to offer essential supporting for under 25s, addressing 'the embarrassing issues' and issues dear to the hearts of the young people who use its service - from exam stress to sex. With a chat option, crisis messenger service and links to apps and tools, check it out for yourself - [click here](#).

### **KARST**

In partnership with Outlands, KARST presents a weekend of experimental music and performance in Plymouth. It is an opportunity to experience talking, dancing, singing and socialising.

For more information on how to book, click [here](#).

### **Theatre Royal, Our Space**

This programme works with people aged 18+ with lived experience of homelessness, mental health issues, substance misuse, reoffending, or those who feel socially isolated to provide free, regular and meaningful activity that contributes to recovery and rehabilitation.

Interested in finding out more? Email [ourspace@theatreroyal.com](mailto:ourspace@theatreroyal.com)

## **Find out more ...**

For information about any of our partner programmes, simply e-mail [skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:skillslaunchpad@plymouth.gov.uk), or visit [www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk](http://www.skillslaunchpadplym.co.uk) to sign up as a member and one of the team will contact you.