






BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COLLEGE GROUP NEWSLETTER

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Student Spotlight

We're thrilled to share that our Hairdressing Apprentice, Melody, achieved a Distinction in her End-Point Assessment last week!

"Melody is a wonderful example of what can be achieved when passion and determination come together. Along her journey, she has overcome some significant challenges, making this achievement even more remarkable. Her resilience, commitment, and genuine passion for the hairdressing industry has truly shone through and played a key role in her success."

We are incredibly proud of Melody and everything she has accomplished. The hairdressing industry is very fortunate to have someone with her enthusiasm and drive entering the field"

Claire Moriarty,
Apprenticeship Hair Trainer.



Bucks Skills Show 2026

Bucks College Group was delighted to exhibit at the Bucks Skills Show this March, bringing a vibrant mix of interactive activities and course showcases to the event. Students got hands-on with everything from our bricklaying simulation using soft bricks and shaving foam, to SFX makeup demos, HealthTech equipment, VR headsets, and even our ever-popular robot dog. Our FPF partnership added to the excitement by hosting a lively football competition that drew plenty of enthusiastic participants.

Our student ambassadors were fantastic throughout, confidently sharing their skills and chatting with learners from a wide range of schools about all things college life. It was a brilliant opportunity to inspire future talent and we were thrilled to round off the day by winning the award for most creative stand at the event!

Key Dates

* **College Closed**
Monday 30th March -
Friday 10th April

* **GCSE English**
Thursday 21st May &
Friday 5th June

* **Inset Day**
Monday 13th April

* **Term Starts**
Tuesday 14th April

* **GCSE Maths**
Thursday 14th May &
Wednesday 3rd June

This Term in Pictures



Fashion students enjoyed a Paris trip filled with Chanel history, museum research, perfume making, and a final stop at Galeries Lafayette.



We proudly hosted the MEI Maths Challenge, where our students excelled, winning top places and advancing to the National Finals.



We proudly supported the Chiltern Neuro Centre Pop-Up Art Exhibition, raising £1,346.50 through stunning student and staff artwork.



Business & Digital students ran a successful fundraiser for Tiggyswinkles, showcasing teamwork, communication & impressive employability skills.



A huge well done to all students who took part in the March mock exams – your hard work really showed! **Mock results will be released in April.**

As we move toward the summer GCSEs, we have a number of revision sessions running over the Easter break. We encourage all students to make the most of these opportunities as we enter the final stage of preparation.

GCSE Reminders

Amersham Sessions:

- English: 1st & 8th April, 10am–2pm
- Maths: 9th & 10th April, 10am–2pm.

Wycombe Sessions:

- English: 30th & 31st March and 8th & 9th April, 10am–2pm
- Maths: 1st & 8th April, 10am–2pm.

Looking ahead to the summer exam period, the **English GCSE** will take place on **21st May & 5th June**, and the **Maths GCSE** on the **14th May & 3rd June**.

Alumni Success



We are proud to celebrate the achievements of our alumnus, Roberto Berardi. Roberto studied ESOL Skills for Life at our Aylesbury Campus before progressing to complete a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's degree at the University of Nottingham. He is now embarking on his next exciting chapter as he begins a Master of Teaching in Australia. An inspiring and outstanding achievement!

We asked Roberto what advice he would give to current students:

“Don't give up on learning - structure your studies and enjoy the ride”

Did you study here too? We'd love to hear your journey! Scan the QR code to share your story with us.



University Highlight

Upcoming Open Event
Saturday 25 April 2026



SEND Spotlight



It's been a brilliant term for our Wycombe Inclusive Practice learners, filled with lots of trips - from exploring Wycombe Library to shopping together in the community. Learners have been developing practical life skills while having plenty of fun along the way! Their enthusiasm and teamwork has shone throughout the term. It's wonderful to see our learners growing more independent and confident.

Apprentice of the Term

Well done to Chris Impey who is currently completing his City & Guilds Level 2 Carpentry Apprenticeship!

Chris has demonstrated 100% attendance, reflecting his exceptional reliability and dedication. He approaches his studies with a professional attitude, consistently setting a positive example for those around him.



“Chris is progressing extremely well across all aspects of his apprenticeship. He is demonstrating the full range of Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSBs) in his work, applying them confidently both in the workshop and on-site. His workmanship, attention to detail, and willingness to learn show a strong commitment to developing as a skilled carpentry professional.

He is a supportive and collaborative member of his cohort, regularly helping fellow apprentices and contributing to a positive learning environment. Alongside his apprenticeship achievements, Chris was recently asked to become a Mental Health Champion for the College. He has accepted this role with full support from his NHS Trust employer.

Chris is a pleasure to support and assess, his professionalism, commitment, and positive influence on others makes him a highly deserving candidate for Apprentice of the Month.”

- Steven Hyde, Carpentry Assessor

Careers Education at College – Drop in Clinics

At Buckinghamshire College Group, we are committed to helping every student feel confident and informed about their future. One of the most valuable ways we've been supporting this is through our lunchtime careers drop-in clinics. These sessions have quickly become a key part of our careers offer, providing students with an easy and informal way to ask quick questions, explore their future options, and understand the wide range of guidance available to them.

Students have been using the drop-ins to get advice on everything from course choices and apprenticeships to CV tips and future career pathways. The relaxed setup in the canteen makes it simple for students to pop over during lunch, get the information they need, and be signposted to further support where helpful. Many students who attend also go on to book personalised careers appointments, showing the impact these sessions are having in helping them think ahead.

These clinics complement our wider programme—which includes upcoming events, Work Ability Workshops, and sessions led by external providers—ensuring students have the knowledge and confidence to make well-informed decisions about their next steps. However, the lunchtime clinics remain one of the easiest and most accessible ways for students to get started.

We encourage all students to make the most of these drop-ins, whether they have a specific question or simply want to begin exploring their future options. To find out more, please contact our student services team: studentservices@buckscollegigroup.ac.uk.



Iftar at Buckinghamshire College Group



Aylesbury Campus recently welcomed staff and students for a special Iftar meal. It was a wonderful opportunity for our community to come together, share food, and reflect during Ramadan. The evening brought a real sense of unity and peace, offering a moment to pause, connect, and appreciate the spirit of togetherness that Ramadan inspires.

We are grateful to everyone who joined us and helped create such a warm, welcoming atmosphere. As the month comes to a close, we hope everyone who celebrated enjoyed a joyful and blessed Eid!

Upcoming Events...

Guest Speaker: Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles UK

We are excited to announce that Jamie Dixon from Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles UK will be visiting our Business Studies students on 26th March for a careers session. This session is also open to any student who is available and wants to attend.



During his visit, Jamie will provide students with valuable insights into early careers pathways at Volkswagen, including:

- Apprenticeship opportunities
- Undergraduate and postgraduate routes
- What to expect at assessment centres
- Interview techniques and professional preparation

This session will offer students the opportunity to hear directly from a major local employer about what the industry looks for in future talent. It's an excellent chance for learners to gain practical advice, ask questions, and gain a better understand of the skills and qualities needed to stand out in a competitive recruitment environment.

Gaming Students set for a Game Design Taster Lecture

On Wednesday 29th April, our gaming students will have an exciting opportunity to experience what studying Game Design at university is really like. We are excited that Staffordshire University are joining us to deliver a sample lecture and hands-on workshop.

During the session, students will:

- Gain insight into university-level teaching and expectations
- Explore key principles of game design and development
- Take part in practical activities that mirror real degree-level coursework
- Ask questions about pathways into the gaming industry, university life, and career prospects



Staffordshire
UNIVERSITY

This taster event is designed to help students make informed decisions about their future and consider whether higher education in gaming, design, or digital technologies is the right route for them.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Signposting



**student
minds**



CRANSTOUN
Empowering People, Empowering Change



THE MIX
Text THEMIX to 85258
for urgent support



YOUNGMINDS

If someone's life is in danger, call 999 or go to A&E immediately—for example, if they have seriously harmed themselves, taken an overdose, or you cannot keep yourself or someone else safe. A mental health emergency is just as serious as a physical one, and you will never be wasting anyone's time by calling 999.

KEY DATES | APPRENTICESHIPS | WORK EXPERIENCE | JOBS | NEWS
PARENTS/CARERS | RESOURCES | UNIVERSITY

the
future



The Sixth Formers' Guide to Degree Apprenticeships

Download a free 120-page guide to over 3,000 degree apprenticeships available for students leaving school or sixth form college in the summer of 2026.

[Download the guide](#)

Share with friends and family!

Do you know anyone who wants to learn more about their career options, get a new job, or change careers completely? Spread the word about the Bucks Skills Show evening event this Wednesday. Open to people of all ages to come and meet with 100+ employers.

[Anyone can book a free ticket here](#)



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A big welcome to the newest Bucks Skills Hub sponsors

We are delighted to welcome OCU Group, in collaboration with SSE, and Fairhive Homes as official sponsors of the Bucks Skills Hub. They are shaping the future of Buckinghamshire and providing work and training opportunities for local young people.

[Discover OCU Group and SSE here >](#)

[Discover Fairhive Homes here >](#)



The Parents' Guide to Careers

A great resource to share with parents and carers, this free guide offers straightforward guidance on post-16 and post-18 pathways, alongside tips and support for teenage health and wellbeing.

[Share this link and download the guide](#)

Find a rewarding career in physical activity, sport or leisure

Get an overview of the job pathways, training options, and qualifications needed to move into these fun and fulfilling industries.

[Download a free guide here](#)

Build your path to a great career

The Construction industry in Buckinghamshire offers lots of great career paths, with plenty of big local employers getting involved with Bucks Skills Hub to create opportunities for young people.

[Learn all about your options in the world of Construction.](#)

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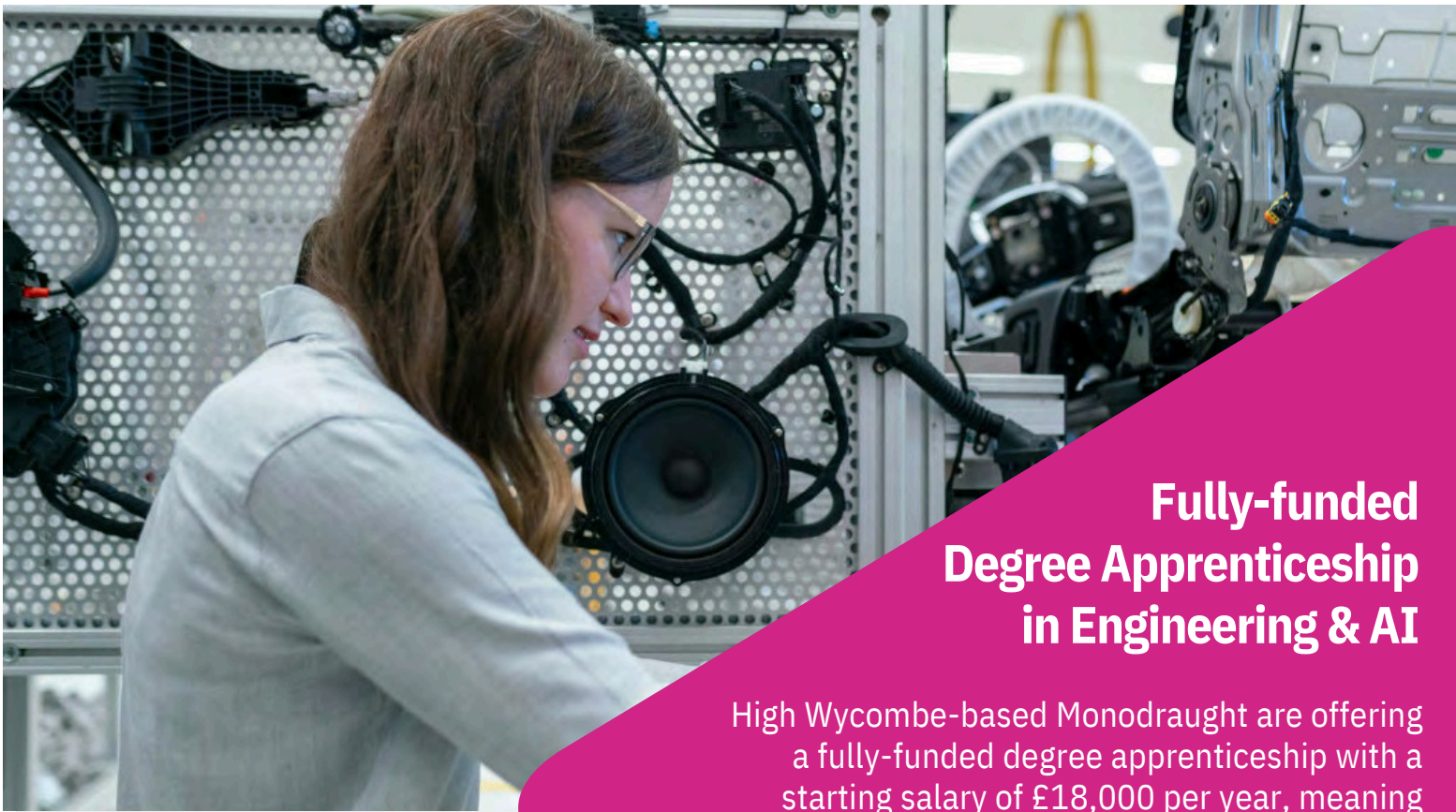
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KEY DATES | APPRENTICESHIPS | WORK EXPERIENCE | JOBS | NEWS
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Researching university? Here are your options!

Planning for university open days and UCAS events?
Want to try out a university course before you apply?

[Learn all about the opportunities in front of you](#)



Fully-funded Degree Apprenticeship in Engineering & AI

High Wycombe-based Monodraught are offering a fully-funded degree apprenticeship with a starting salary of £18,000 per year, meaning you can kickstart your career by combining real engineering work with university study.

[Learn all about this
great opportunity.](#)

Thames Valley Police recruitment events

Whether you aspire to become a police officer or are interested in other roles within the force, [check out some upcoming recruitment events](#) that provide a detailed look at what a career working for Thames Valley Police offers.

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