

WORK
EXPERIENCE

AT
SOUTHMOOR
ACADEMY



Year 12 Work Experience 2026

Launch



Why do Work Experience?

- Gain insight into a career
 - Gives a purpose to your education showing the link between how education prepares you for the world of work
 - It can help you find a job
 - It can help with your application to Sixth Form, College or University
 - You gain valuable skills for your development
 - Adds value to your CV
 - To gain a positive reference from an employer
 - Building up contacts
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To get the most benefit

- For maximum benefit try to find a work placement based on:
 - A possible career route
 - **An area of interest**
 - Support a subject or qualification



Take work experience seriously

- All work experience is valuable, no matter in what field it is. Evidence of:
 - Positive attitude to work, being polite
 - **Flexibility and enthusiasm**
 - Initiative – ability to think for yourself in the workplace
 - **Reliability – turning up on time**
 - Communication skills – confident to talk to people, willing to ask for help and a good listener
 - **Team worker – gets on well with others**
 - Literacy, Numeracy & computer skills



When is work experience in Year 12?

- Work experience will take place:

Monday 6 July to Friday 10 July 2026



Work experience – next steps

- You can be researching potential work placements:
 - Speak to your family – do they have any contacts?
 - Ask your teachers – do they have any contacts?
 - Visit some potential employers and ask if they accept students for work placements.



Work experience – the process



The universal careers platform

- The Work Experience process will be managed through the Unifrog's **Placements** tool.
- When you have found a work placement (**and the employer has agreed to the placement**), login to Unifrog and click 'Placement tool' and 'New placement'. It is important that this is completed **as soon as possible** so Health & Safety checks can be completed before you can start your placement.
- Final deadline is **Friday 12 June 2026**.

The screenshot displays the Unifrog website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Ages 11-14', 'Ages 14-15', and 'All tools'. The main heading is 'Exploring pathways'. Below this, there are seven colored cards, each representing a different tool or resource:

- Careers library** (Yellow-Green): 'Careers favoured', 'Go to tool >'
- Subjects library** (Purple): 'Subjects favoured', 'Go to tool >'
- Know-how library** (Dark Red): 'Guides favoured', 'Go to tool >'
- Courses** (Red): '1 teacher comment', 'Go to tool >'
- MOOCs** (Teal): 'You have 0 shortlists', 'Start >'
- Webinars** (Orange): 'Hear directly from the experts', 'Go to tool >'
- Read, Watch, Listen** (Blue): 'Profiles favoured', 'Start >'
- Placements** (Dark Blue): '15 placements added, 1 completed', 'Go to tool >'

A large white play button icon is overlaid in the center of the 'Subjects library' and 'MOOCs' cards. The browser's address bar shows 'unifrog.org/student/home#pathways'. The Windows taskbar at the bottom indicates a temperature of 20°C and the time 15:33.

How to Look for a Work Experience

- Write to local employers – this could be an email or company website
 - **Call in direct and ask to speak to the manager**
 - Telephone and ask to speak to the manager
 - **Speak to your family – do they have contacts at their own place of work?**
 - Ask your teachers – do they have any contacts?
 - **START APPLYING NOW**
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Where could you do your work experience?

- In the past, students have completed their work experience in the following places:
 - Retail stores
 - **Doctors surgeries**
 - Veterinary surgeries
 - **Hairdressing salons**
 - Gyms/Leisure centres
 - **Garages/Repair workshops**
 - Schools/Nurseries
 - **Hotels/Tourist places**
 - Restaurants & Cafes
 - **Solicitors/Legal firms**
 - General offices
 - **Council offices**
 - Banks & Building Societies



Where could you do your work experience?

- These are some of the places where students in year 10 have completed their placements:

- Advanced Blade Repair Services
- **Back on the Map**
- Barnes Infant and Junior Schools
- **Bellway**
- Bowmer & Kirkland
- **Brewlab**
- Clearly Drinks
- **Fans Museum**
- Fausto Coffee
- **First Mortgage**
- Ford Aerospace
- Hasting Hill Academy
- **Grangetown Primary**
- Just Travel Cover
- **LM Global Telecoms**
- Nissan
- **Siblings Nursery**
- Gentoo Group
- **Sunderland College**
- Vets for Pets
- **Valley Road Primary**



Who to speak to?

- **Mrs Robinson**, Careers Advisor – based in the Careers Hub
 - **Mr Wareham** as Careers Leader has the oversight of Careers in school.
 - **Head of Year & Form Tutors**
 - **Aspire teachers**, materials to help you apply for a work placement
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