

WHERE NEXT

Discover the best
next step for you.



WELCOME

Not everyone knows what they want to be when they are older - and even if you do, do you know how to get started or what training you need to get the job you want?

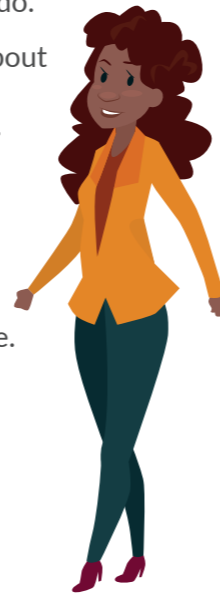


We are here to help! This is our guide to everything you need to know about getting ready for the job or the training you would like to do. This guide has information on jobs and training in Essex. There are a lot of opportunities you may be interested in that are close to your home.

We will show you eight different industries that you could think about for your future jobs. These are all popular and growing in Essex, and are important for bringing money and new skills to Essex. Each of these industries have different starting points. No matter what your qualifications, skills or experience, there is something for everyone!

For each industry you can find out about how the different jobs work and find a job that matches your skills. There are lots of useful links at the end of this booklet for you to find out more about the job you might like to do.

We have also included information about the different types of learning and training courses available to you after finishing school or college. These are things like on-the-job training for beginners, how to combine work and study, and options to continue your education at a university or elsewhere.



COMPETITION

**£50
AMAZON GIFT
VOUCHER**

**£500
FOR YOUR
SCHOOL**



Would you like a chance to win a £50 Amazon gift voucher and £500 for your school?

We'd love to hear from you about this booklet and whether it helped you think about jobs or training you might like to do in the future. So, we're giving one lucky person the chance to win these prizes when they get in touch.

Competition rules can be found on the website.

**The competition closes on Monday 19th December 2022.
You can only enter once, so good luck!**

Here's what you need to do to be in with a chance:

1. Head over to our website <https://greateressexcareershub.co.uk/schools-colleges/where-next>
2. Put in your own details
3. Fill in the box about what you thought of this booklet
4. Put in your answers to these two questions. (Here's a hint: The answers are inside this booklet!)
 - a) What age can you start a T level qualification?
 - b) How many people work in a job in the creative industry in Essex?

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UK JOB MARKET OVERVIEW

The world is changing, which means all kinds of jobs are changing too.



For some of the more hands-on jobs it is more important for companies to use new technology. Some of these jobs are in construction and manufacturing. It is also important that industries are more environmentally friendly. This may mean trying to change the way things are made to affect the environment less.



Digital jobs are growing to allow these changes to happen and as more of what we do each day happens online through computers, phones or TVs. This is also happening in the creative industry for designing apps, games and websites as this is all online too.

Think about other changes like more and more people staying the UK for their trips and holidays, as well as wanting to support small, local businesses in their area. This is a great time to think about getting into a career that has some exciting times ahead!



ESSEX JOB MARKET



Essex is a county full of opportunity when it comes to building a career. Near to London and easy to get here by land, sea and air. Many businesses see Essex as a fantastic location to be.

DID YOU KNOW...

Did you know that there are over 750,000 people working across Essex? It is a great place for businesses to find people with the right skills they need.

Almost 100,000 people work for themselves in a lot of different self-employed jobs. But, for everyone else, there are brilliant businesses of all sizes and types to work for.

66,710
COMPANIES
IN ESSEX

60,205
MICRO BUSINESSES IN ESSEX
(0-9 employees)

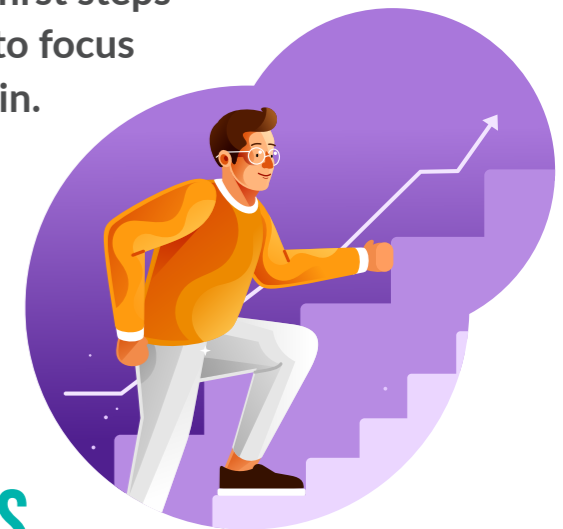
5,405
SMALL BUSINESSES IN ESSEX
(10-49 employees)

920
MEDIUM BUSINESSES IN ESSEX
(50-249 employees)

180
LARGE BUSINESSES IN ESSEX
(250+ employees)

When it comes to skills you need to take your first steps into working, you might be thinking you need to focus just on the ones for the job you are interested in.

Although this is important, there are also other personal skills you can work on that lots of different companies are interested in. These skills are called 'transferable skills'. They are skills that are useful in all kinds of jobs.



ESSEX JOB MARKET

POPULAR TRANSFERABLE SKILLS IDENTIFIED BY ESSEX EMPLOYERS:



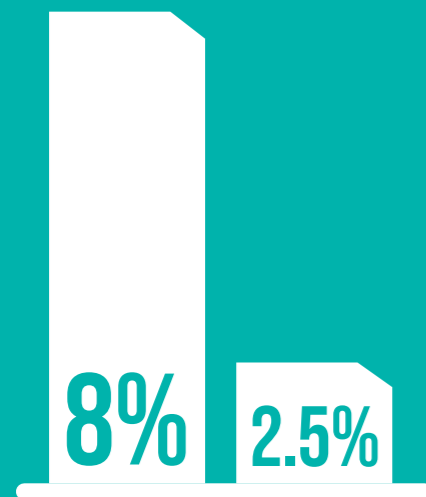
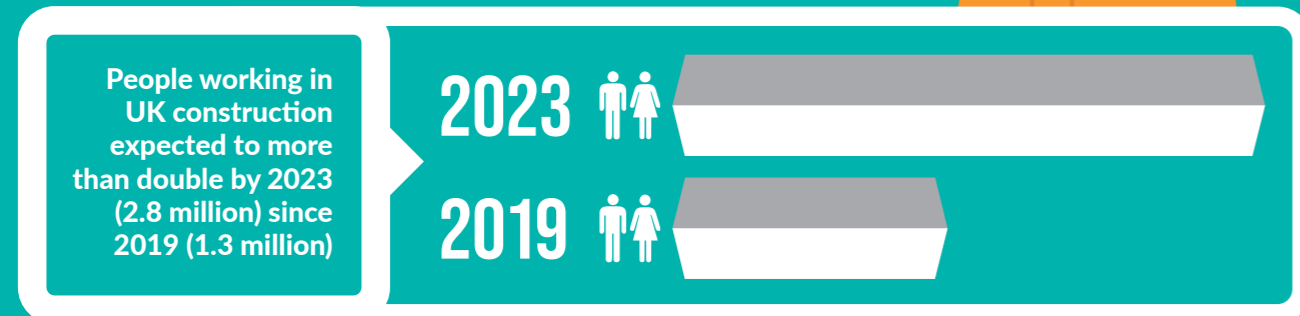
When it comes to the particular skills you might need for your first job, most employers do not expect you to have all the skills they are looking for straight away. Instead, they often look for keen people that will learn whilst doing the job. Practicing your transferrable skills while you are at school or college is important.

CONSTRUCTION

Construction means building something. That could be houses, roads, bridges or schools. Construction is a hugely important industry across Essex and the UK more widely. More than 76,000 people work in construction throughout Essex already, and the demand for skilled people means there are more and more opportunities to get into the industry.



IT IS AN INDUSTRY THAT IS GROWING TOO



Money made by construction businesses grew by 8% in 2021 and is expected to grow by 2.5% 2022-2025



CONSTRUCTION

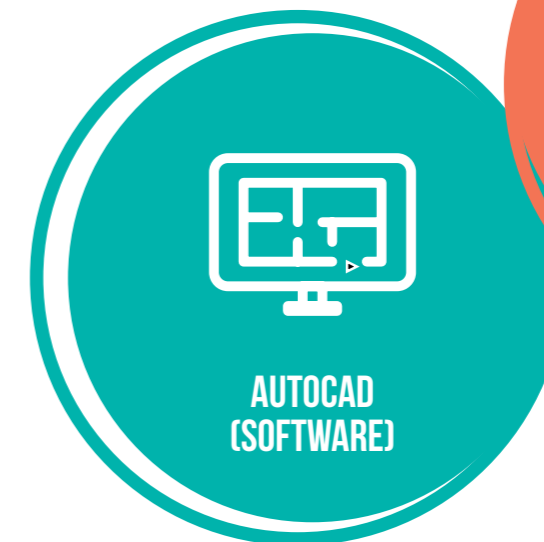
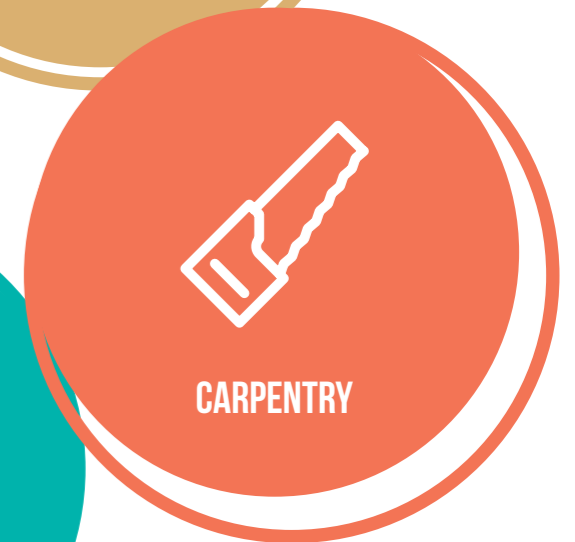
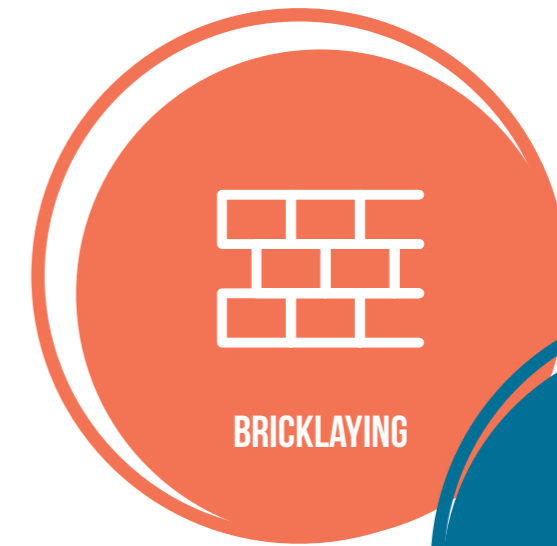
TOP IN-DEMAND SKILLS IN ESSEX:

You might think you know what a job in construction means but it is not just bricks and hard hats.

Many jobs in construction are not on building sites at all, but in offices and on computers.

The demand for environmentally friendly homes that people can design themselves means a whole new set of skills are being introduced to construction and new technologies.

This has meant that skills like project planning and computer software are now among the most in-demand for construction businesses in Essex.



*Construction Skills Certification Scheme

So, what kind of job could you get in CONSTRUCTION?

There are many different jobs you could do in construction. Here are three of the more traditional jobs in the construction industry that are in high demand in Essex.

1 ELECTRICIANS AND ELECTRICAL FITTERS:

Electricians not only bring light and power to buildings but also help maintain important machines and tools for others across the construction industry.



£18K - £42K

2 ELEMENTARY CONSTRUCTION ROLES / LABOURERS:

Construction workers, or labourers, are the foundation for any building project. The work is usually very physical. They need to be able to use, repair and maintain a range of tools.



£17K - £32K

3 PLUMBERS AND HEATING / VENTILATION ENGINEERS:

These experts keep water, air and heat flowing. They install, replace or repair a range of important things, from pipes and energy systems, to boilers and appliances.



£15K - £40K

MANUFACTURING & ENGINEERING

In Essex there are almost

7,000
COMPANIES
in the **MANUFACTURING**
and **ENGINEERING**
industries.

Manufacturing and engineering is big for the UK with 56,000 people working in a wide range of areas including food and drink, buildings, chemicals and transport.

Manufacturing is making things on a large-scale using machines. Engineering is using science and maths to design and build machines and structures.

UK manufacturing is a very good around the world. The number of exports (the products that are made in the UK and then sold to other countries) have been going up by 16% between 2018 and 2022. This means more opportunities for Essex.

In Essex there are almost 7,000 companies in the manufacturing and engineering. It is a good place for younger people to start their careers too.

One in three people (33%) working in manufacturing and engineering in Essex are between 16 and 34 years old.

33%



Keep reading to find out more about whether

A CAREER IN MANUFACTURING OR ENGINEERING WOULD BE RIGHT FOR YOU...



What could you aim as a career in

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING?

You can start in these industries through any of the work and study options at 16 or 18 years old. Here are just three of the great jobs you could work towards.

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING

TECHNOLOGY AND THE FUTURE

The manufacturing and engineering industries are going through some big changes.

They are bringing in new technology to speed up and improve how things are designed and made. It will also help companies plan what to make and build, and how to get it to where it needs to be.

This has meant that new ideas and machines are being used such as faster robots. Companies are also looking at using all types of data, digital systems and artificial intelligence (AI) to find better ways to do things.

This is all aimed at making more in a better and greener way. It is an exciting time to get into these industries.

1 PRODUCTION MANAGER:

A production manager is someone who makes sure things run smoothly in the factory or company. This might mean making changes to the way something is made to make it an easier process. They may also manage skilled teams of manufacturers, technicians, and helping with their training to make sure the production goes well.



2 CHARTERED SURVEYOR:

Chartered surveyors examine, test and value buildings for all different purposes. They are important for health and safety and environmental issues. They also decide whether buildings are okay for people to buy, sell and use.

3 CIVIL ENGINEER:

Civil engineers design and build a lot of things that we use every day. These include bridges, roads, and railways. You can start a job as a civil engineer through an apprenticeship or degree.



HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

Perhaps you would be great for a career that involves caring for others? Across the healthcare and social care industries, there are a number of jobs you could do where you can really make a difference for someone who needs it.



To build a successful career in the healthcare and social care industries, you will need to really want to help people. You will need to be understanding and cope well under pressure. You may also need to be able to work weekends, nights and early mornings.

SOME OF THE MOST IN-DEMAND JOBS AND SKILLS IN ESSEX IN 2022 ARE:



If you like helping people and want to learn these skills, there are plenty of companies looking for them.

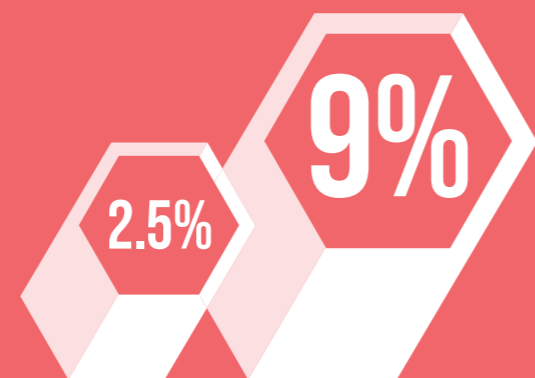
Jobs may be in hospitals, care homes, social care settings, doctors, or councils. There are also other opportunities for you to consider in private healthcare areas such as dentistry, opticians, and cosmetic surgery.

THE SECTOR IS BIGGER THAN YOU MIGHT THINK...

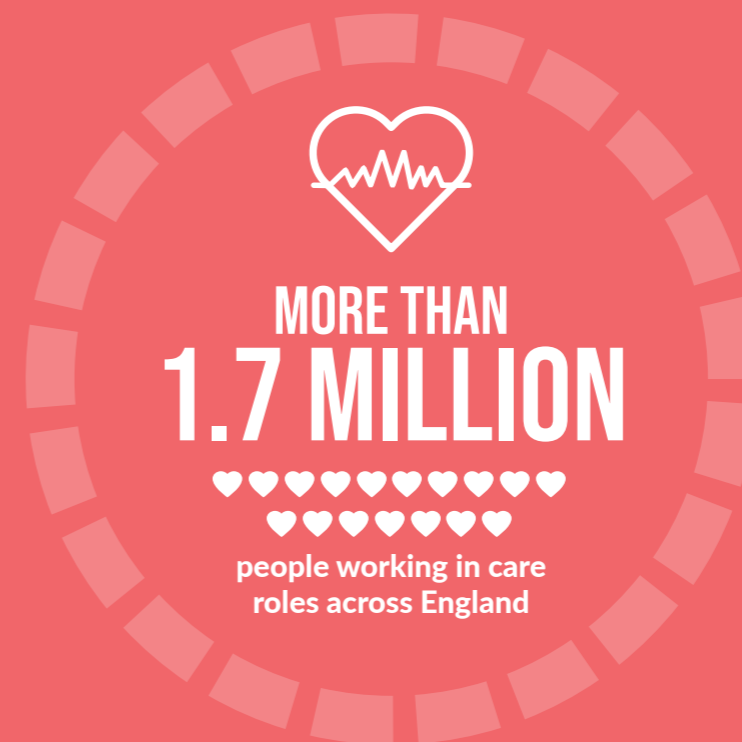
More than 1.7 million people work in care roles across England. Over 107,000 of those work right here in Essex, making it really important to the county.

And like the other sectors we are focusing on, it is growing too. The number of people working in adult social care across England grew by 2.5% last year alone, and 9% in the last 10 years.

All this means that there are more and more opportunities that you can take advantage of.



The number of people working in adult social care across England grew by 2.5% last year alone, and 9% since a decade ago.



» OVER »

107,000
of those work here in Essex



If the **HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SECTOR**

sounds right for you, then there are lots of ways you can start your journey.

Here are three popular jobs in the health and social care industry:

1 **NURSES:**

Nurses are the heartbeat of every hospital and clinic and are responsible for all different types of health and medical support. They need to be hard-working, caring and understanding. Nurses do not just work in hospitals, they can also work in schools or even prisons!



£25K - £35K



£14K - £25K

2 **CARE WORKERS AND HOME CAREERS:**

Care workers take on the very important role of helping to look after elderly, disabled and ill people either in care homes, hospitals or in a person's own homes. They help look after those who need it. This might be medical support and healthcare, or support with their home and personal care.



£20K - £40K



3 **SOCIAL WORKERS:**

Social workers support children, families and those in need of help in difficult situations. They will need to have understanding of people and the problems faced across society, as well as good counselling skills, patience and the ability to help without judgement.

CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

There are over
18,000
CREATIVE INDUSTRY
JOBS IN ESSEX

Ever dreamt of working in TV, music, art, or computer games? You are not alone, as the creative industry is one of the fastest growing in the UK.

In 2020, more than 2.2 million people worked in a creative job, with over 18,000 jobs in Essex.

Experts think that the money the industry is making and the number of people working in it will keep on growing.

With over 8,000 creative companies in Essex, there are some great opportunities to start a new job doing something creative.

Almost half of the people working in these jobs in Essex are aged between 16 and 34 which shows that you do not have to have a lifetime of experience!

A THIRD OF PEOPLE WORKING IN THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES ARE SELF-EMPLOYED - MAYBE YOU COULD SET UP YOUR OWN BUSINESS?



Almost half of the people working in these jobs in Essex are AGED BETWEEN 16 AND 34




CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

There are so many different types of jobs you could look for in the creative industries. Here are some of the most popular areas.



Are you naturally **CREATIVE** and want to work in a job that lets you express that?

Whether you sing, dance, draw, play or love to be involved behind the scenes, there are some great jobs to think about. Here are some popular choices across the creative industry:

TOP SKILLS AREAS IN ESSEX:

For every area of the creative industry there are many different jobs within. For example, you could work in theatre as a costume fitter, sound engineer, actor, or even a set designer!

Because creative roles are often so varied, rather than specific skills, employers are looking for a range of transferrable skills from people wanting to start out in the industry. This means more general abilities that could apply in a number of different types of jobs, such as good communication, creative thinking, design, working together on ideas, and good computer skills.

IT, SOFTWARE
AND GAMES



FILM, TV
AND MEDIA



PUBLISHING



ADVERTISING

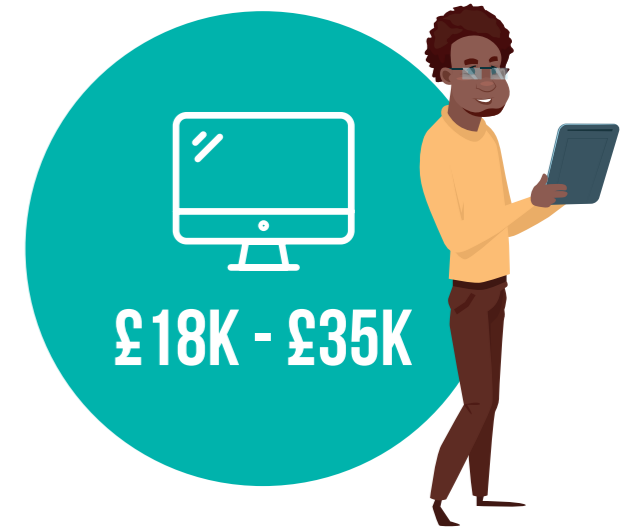


MUSIC, ARTS
AND CULTURE



1 GRAPHIC DESIGNER:

Graphic designers make things come to life with fantastic art and designs displayed on signs and posters, magazines or packaging. Graphic designers bring out the magic of pictures, colours and words. To be a graphic designer it would be great to enjoy all types of art.



£18K - £35K

2 CHOREOGRAPHERS:

Choreographers are the masterminds behind dance performances, creating training courses, routines and shows for dancers and audiences to enjoy. They have often been dancers themselves first, so they have the skills to make a memorable show. Choreographers can also make up fitness routines like Zumba.



VARIABLE
SALARIES

3 MUSICIANS:

In orchestras, bands, events, soundtracks and even as solo acts, musicians have a lot of opportunities to show their skills and create and perform music. With lots of auditions to face, they need to have a real determination to go with their talent.



VARIABLE
SALARIES



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Computer technology is everywhere you look. From laptops and smart phones, to companies needing computer systems and websites to reach their customers. Digital demand is huge!

The industry is always changing so there are many career opportunities for developing, maintaining, and updating systems and software. Companies are moving online and more people are working from home so the demand for good technology keeps growing.

The industry has more than 2.9 million people, which is 11% higher than in 2018. In Essex, around 36,000 people work in these roles.

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Working in a digital role means you will need to either have, or learn, some complex computer skills. It is an exciting industry that is always changing. You will need to keep learning throughout your career.

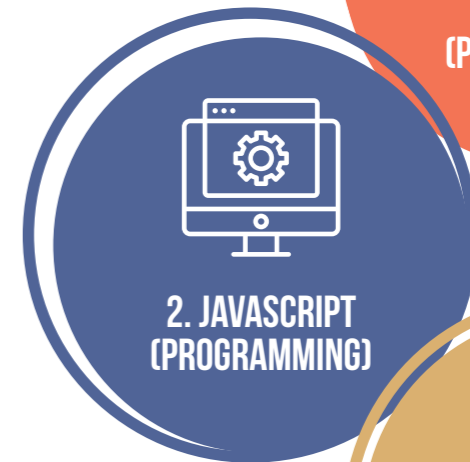


MOST IN-DEMAND SKILLS IN ESSEX:

If you think this could be a great industry for you, you should also think about what type of digital job might suit you best. You can start to plan towards the training and qualifications you might need. It could be cyber security and IT systems, or helping people build their online business. Practice is key, so start learning and practicing today!



1. SQL (PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE)



2. JAVASCRIPT (PROGRAMMING)



3. MICROSOFT AZURE



5. PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PMO)



4. DATA/ PRODUCT DATA MANAGEMENT

WAGES ARE GOING UP TOO BECAUSE OF THIS DEMAND

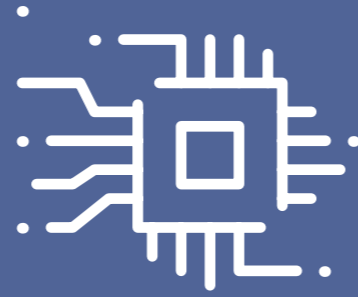
so there is a real chance that this could be a great career with an exciting future.



DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

If you are great with computers, this could be the perfect industry for you.

You might be into design and coding, or simply a whizz at fixing technology problems that have others stumped. Either way, here are three digital jobs to think about.



1 PROGRAMMERS AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS:

In a world of apps, websites and smart devices, software programmers and developers are really important and the brains behind all sorts of fantastic new technology you see every day. They work with businesses on the software that is needed and lots of the tools people use within their daily lives.



2 IT SPECIALIST MANAGERS:

IT managers take on a lot of the important work, running the networks and systems that keep the digital world on track. They are responsible for the computer side of all types of companies, and need to have problem solving and planning skills.



3 IT USER SUPPORT TECHNICIANS:

Where would we be without these helpful experts to get our computers, emails, phones and digital systems back on track when they go wrong? Technicians have fantastic knowledge of all computer hardware and software and help people and businesses when needed.



TOURISM & LEISURE

Whether you live by the sea, in a city, or in the peaceful countryside, the chances are you will have tourists to your area. Tourists will visit for a day, weekend or longer holidays and are a big part of the economy in many places in the UK.

Essex has the second longest coastline in the UK, as well as many other beautiful places to visit. Tourism is really important to many areas in Essex. There are over 13,000 companies in the leisure and tourism industry in Essex and more than 60,000 people work in a range of jobs.

Because more tourists are coming each year, and spending more money than ever when they visit, there is a huge demand for people to come and work in the leisure and tourism industry.

THERE'S A LOT OF CHANGE GOING ON TOO, AS YOU'LL FIND OUT IF YOU KEEP READING...

TOURISM & LEISURE

You might have thought that working in a tourism job is just serving ice creams on the beach or food in cafés. But the truth is there are lots of new things going on in the sector, and it's a great time for young people to learn the skills that could set them up for some really interesting and rewarding jobs.



If you are great with people and you enjoy a lively and sociable job, you could be perfect for

TOURISM AND LEISURE

Whether you are starting out straight from school or college, working part time while studying, or looking for a new qualification, there are lots of ways to get into tourism and leisure jobs.

Tourism is travelling to a different place for business or pleasure. This can include train travel, hotels, restaurants, pubs, and tourist attractions like Colchester Zoo or Southend pier. Leisure is similar but you do not have to travel and could include events like football games and theatre shows.

Skills that are needed include customer service, good listening and speaking skills, motivation, general IT skills, organisation and problem solving. If you like being around people and trying to make them happy, this might be the industry for you.

KEY TRAVEL TRENDS IN 2021

1. SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS TRAVEL



2. STAYCATIONS



3. REMOTE DESTINATIONS



4. SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL



5. TRAVEL FOR WELLBEING



So, if you want a career in a changing and modernising industry, this could be just right for you.



24

1 BAR STAFF:

Bar staff are a big part of a pub, restaurant, bar, nightclub and many other places. They are in charge of making drinks for customers and often helping with food too. Great communication and social skills are needed for this job as it will be busy.



£14K - £22K



£15K - £30K
(HEAD CHEF UP TO £50K)



2 CHEF:

To be a successful chef it is important to have skills such as food planning, budgeting, attention to detail and knowledge of safety and hygiene. You may have to follow a menu or have the chance to create a new dish.

3 GENERAL HOTEL MANAGERS:

As a General Manager you will need to know everything about running a successful hotel and make sure customers have a great experience. You will need to manage a lot of things at once so will need to have good organisation skills.



£20K - £60K

25

Discover #TheBestNextStep

LOGISTICS

Whether people go to shops and businesses to get everything they need, or they have it delivered to them at home, what does not change is that the logistics industry is behind it all.

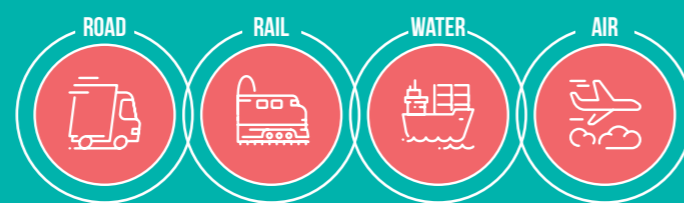
These are the people who collect, store, manage, sort, package and deliver things to us and businesses. All the jobs are important to make sure everything is done correctly and on time.

It is so important that it makes £30 billion of income for the UK every year.

In Essex, more than 9,000 businesses employ 50,000 people in logistics.

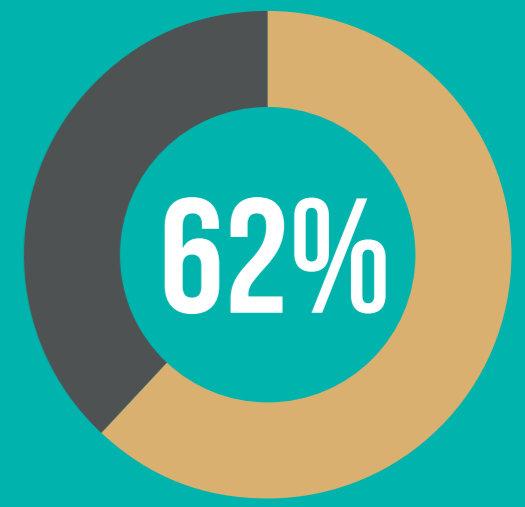


LOGISTICS MAKES £30 BILLION OF INCOME FOR THE UK – WORKING ACROSS:



LOGISTICS

Is it easy for you to get a career in logistics? Luckily this industry has a real focus on supporting younger people to learn and get more experience. In fact, across Essex almost two third of people working in logistics are 16 and 34 years old.



Many of these jobs are based at storage places or warehouses. Driving jobs can take you all over the country. There are also a lot of jobs that require problem solving skills in logistics.

Three of the top six most common jobs available in south Essex come from the logistics sector.



TOP IN-DEMAND SKILLS IN ESSEX

There is a huge demand for drivers, because deliveries are very popular now due to a lot of businesses being online. Due to this there is now support offered for those who wish to become a driver, such as apprenticeships and other training.

IF YOU THINK YOU'D LIKE TO BE A DRIVER, or that logistics could be right for you, there are some more job ideas on the next page.

LOGISTICS



Getting the right products to the right places is important to keep the country working.

There are so many careers in logistics to choose from, whether you want to be at the start or end of the journey itself, or someone who helps get it from A to B.

1 WAREHOUSE OPERATIVES:

Warehouse workers are a key part of many businesses in the UK, helping make sure goods are safely stored and then ready to go when needed. It is a physical job and needs good planning skills to make sure everything is kept secure and accounted for.



2 SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGER:

These experts understand how to manage all kinds of business, transport and manufacturing problems. They help companies run smoothly by making sure they have everything they need to do their work on time.

3 HGV / LGV DRIVERS:

Drivers keep the wheels turning for so many industries. Bringing important items to companies across a number of different industries and to shops for us to buy from. They need to be aware of safety and security to go with their driving skills.



GREEN JOBS

All industries are trying to be more environmentally friendly. Green jobs help with this and cover a wide range of skills.

Some industries where you will find green jobs include construction, clean energy, manufacturing and engineering.

In Essex, there are important offshore wind projects along the coast that will need to be built and maintained. There are also solar panel projects all over the county.

Retrofitting is fitting new eco-friendly systems to older buildings built without them. There will be a lot of jobs created in this area.

IN THE UK
450,000
GREEN JOBS
WILL BE CREATED BY 2030

IN ESSEX THE NUMBER OF GREEN JOBS
WILL TRIPLE FROM NOW UNTIL 2030, UP TO AROUND

16,000

GREEN JOBS



1 RETROFITTER:

A retrofitter is someone who upgrades buildings to make them more energy efficient. This could be fitting insulation, solar panels or heat pumps. Construction experience or skills are useful for this job.



£22K - £45K



£23K - £43K

2 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT:

Environmental consultants might help companies with waste management, recycling, flood risk and the effects of climate change. They will work in lots of different places and collect data and explore sites. You have to be interested in science for this job.



£20K - £40K

3 SOLAR PANEL INSTALLER:

Solar power installers are responsible for installing solar-powered panels into various places, such as buildings and large pieces of land. This includes making sure the surface that they are being installed on is safe. Construction or electrical experience or skills is useful for this job.

NEXT STEPS – SKILLS

So, you have seen a bit about some of the jobs that you could get into, and next we will show you the

TRAINING AND LEARNING YOU COULD DO

to get you on the right track. But now is a good chance to think about your other skills too.



You will not be expected to know how to do most of the work on your first day of many of the jobs we have already shown you, or for the training courses you will read about.

But what a lot of bosses are looking for are some other types of personal skills they think would be useful, and you might already have more than you know!

Take a look on the next page to see what you might be able to tell people you can do...

NEXT STEPS – SKILLS

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT SCHOOL...

For lots of jobs or training, you'll be starting right after you've left school. School can give you lots of great skills and responsibilities that will help people understand just what you can do, including:

- Being a prefect, counsellor, house captain, buddy or mentor
- Being a member of sports teams, clubs and classes, drama or music
- Getting good grades and educational achievements
- Having a good attendance record
- Doing some charity, volunteering and fundraising work



HOBBIES SHOW JUST WHAT YOU CAN DO...

Whether it's something creative or active, learning or playing something in your spare time can show a great side to you. So, do you:

- Play an instrument?
- Act, sing or dance?
- Play in a sports team, club or by yourself?
- Draw, paint, make or design?
- Cook, build, programme or fix?



OR MAYBE YOU HAVE SOME RESPONSIBILITIES...

You might also show how responsible and reliable you are in other ways too. Maybe you do one of these, or something like it...

- Look after a family member or friend
- Take charge of chores at home
- Help to coach or mentor younger children at a club / team
- Help out in your family business
- Volunteer for a local charity



NEXT STEPS – PROGRESSION ROUTES

So, you have read about a number of **DIFFERENT JOBS AND INDUSTRIES YOU COULD WORK IN**, but how do you get started with the first steps on your path to work?



The truth is there is no one way that suits everyone. You can often find your own way to the kind of job you want by going through different routes. That could be straight into a trainee job at a company, studying for longer to build your expertise, or a number of other ways somewhere in between. Remember everyone learns in different ways, you need to choose the option you think best suits you. You will find the best option by looking through different routes, such as going straight into an apprenticeship, studying to build your knowledge or many other different options.



You can find out a bit more about all of these options over the next few pages.



NEXT STEPS — PROGRESSION ROUTES

STUDY

You may wish to continue education once you have finished school at 16, and either begin to study for a job or in subject areas.

If this sounds like you, then you may choose to work towards A levels at a school or college until you are 18. You can then choose to continue into higher education and work towards a degree, diploma or a higher technical qualification.



WORK

If you do not feel being in a classroom is right for you, you might prefer to go straight into work. In this case, you could consider signing up to an apprenticeship or School Leaver Scheme, which lets you work and earn money at a company while you train and learn.

COMBINE THE TWO

If you do not want to put all your eggs in one basket, you could choose a path that lets you study towards a qualification while also completing work experience. You can choose from; traineeships, T levels, supported internships, vocational qualifications and other options.



FROM
16 YEARS
OLD

VTQS

(Study)

Vocational Technical Qualifications are practical and designed to help you get the skills needed to start your career or go on to higher levels of education.

T LEVELS

(Study and Work)

A T Level focuses on skills needed for an industry or job. T Levels are the same in size to 3 A Levels and involve unpaid work experience while studying.

A LEVELS

(Study)

A Levels are subject based qualifications. Normally you pick three subjects to learn. They can lead to further study, training, or work.

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP

(Work and Study)

If you have an Education, Health Care Plan you could do a supported internship that usually lasts for one year. They help you move from school into a job with learning and work experience.

APPRENTICESHIPS

(Work and Study)

An apprenticeship is a paid job where you study to get a qualification and work to gain experience in a workplace.

TRAINEESHIPS

(Work and Study)

A traineeship helps to build your skills. They include an unpaid work experience and can help you get ready for an apprenticeship or job.

HIGHER EDUCATION

(Study)

Higher education includes diplomas, foundation courses, degrees and more.

HTQS

(Study)

Higher Technical Qualifications may suit you if you prefer a more practical, employer-led way of learning.

SCHOOL LEAVER SCHEME

(Work)

You learn and train with a large company whilst earning money. These schemes usually last between 1 to 5 years.



FROM
18 YEARS
OLD

NEXT STEPS – PROGRESSION ROUTES

APPRENTICESHIPS – INTERMEDIATE AND ADVANCED

Apprenticeships are a popular option for those who wish to start work any age from 16 years old. They allow you to be paid while you gain some valuable work experience and continue studying towards a qualification.

80% of your apprenticeship is spent at work and 20% studying at a college or a training centre. Apprenticeships are a great way of gaining skills and learning whilst also experiencing the world of work. You will have the chance to impress employers with your teamwork, willingness to learn and passion for the job. 71% of apprentices stay with their employer once they finish their apprenticeship.

Apprenticeships come in different levels, depending on your experience and qualifications. Here is a bit about the different levels you could start at...



INTERMEDIATE APPRENTICESHIP (LEVEL 2)

12-18 MONTHS

These are the first stage of paid apprenticeship positions and will help you build some knowledge of the work you would like to move into and give you your first real-life experience of the job.

HOW LONG? Between 12 and 18 months

QUALIFICATION? Equal to 5 GCSE passes



ADVANCED APPRENTICESHIP (LEVEL 3)

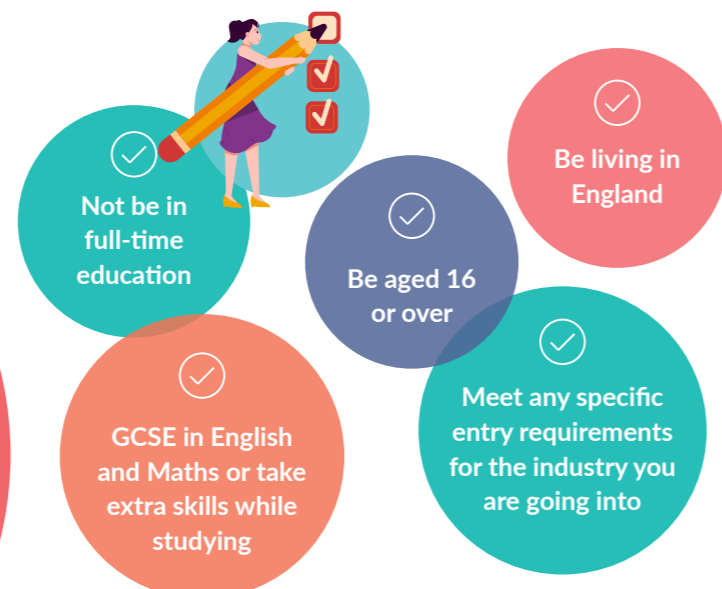
2 YEARS

The next stage is a Level 3 apprenticeship where you will be employed while also working towards a more advanced qualification.

HOW LONG? Usually 2 years

QUALIFICATION? Equal to 2 A Level passes

To be accepted for either a Level 2 or 3 apprenticeship, you need to tick these boxes:



APPRENTICESHIPS – HIGHER AND DEGREE

Once you have completed the first apprenticeship levels or have gained qualifications from college or school, you can think about completing the higher-level apprenticeships.

HIGHER APPRENTICESHIP (LEVEL 4-5)

2-5 YEARS

Higher apprenticeships open doors to more skilled job opportunities. They are in many jobs including air traffic controller, sound engineer, social worker.

HOW LONG? Between 2 to 5 years

QUALIFICATION? Level 4 equal to a Higher National Certificate. Level 5 equal to a Higher National Diploma

DEGREE APPRENTICESHIP (LEVEL 6-7)

3-6 YEARS

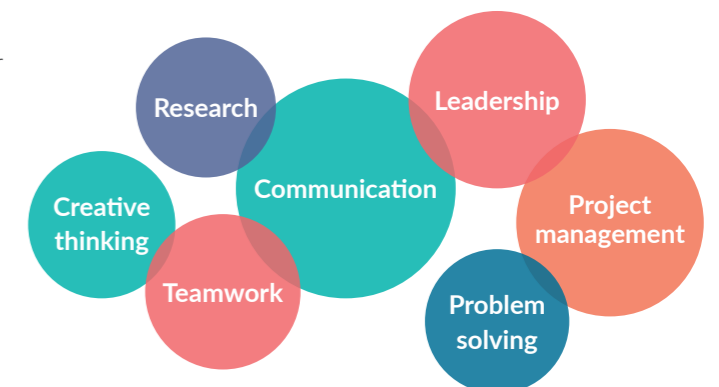
Degree apprenticeships are the highest stage of this kind of training. Achieving a degree apprenticeship gives you the equivalent qualification as someone who has gone to university.

You will gain lots of experience and knowledge within the industry you choose and be able to find a fantastic job at the end

HOW LONG? Between 3 to 6 years

QUALIFICATION? Level 6 equal to a degree. Level 7 equal to masters

With higher and degree apprenticeships, you will gain some great skills to use throughout your future career such as:



NEXT STEPS – PROGRESSION ROUTES



T LEVELS

2 YEARS

T Levels offer a chance to mix studying and experiences within a company in a range of different careers.

So, how do they work?

<p>They are available to 16-19-year-olds and take two years to complete.</p>	<p>80% CLASSROOM</p> <p>20% WORK PLACEMENT</p> <p>80% of your time will be spent in the classroom learning valuable skills. 20% of your time is spent in a work placement putting the skills to use.</p>	<p>45+ days of your course will be spent in the work placement. This allows you to see how the job works.</p>
<p>You will be awarded with a qualification certificate once completed. You can then choose to continue your education, complete a higher apprenticeship or go into work using your skills.</p>	<p>They are valued the same as taking three A Levels and count towards UCAS points if you want to go to university after your course.</p>	

T levels only began in 2020, but more and more sixth forms and colleges are offering them. In Essex, you could study childcare, surveying, management, construction, health, engineering and digital.



TRAINEESHIPS

6 WEEKS - 1 YEAR

Traineeships are a great starting point if you want to build up your skills and get some ideas of the world of work, before you decide your next move.

They are aimed at people aged between 16 and 24 with little or no work experience. Most traineeships last less than six months, but they can last from six weeks to a year.

As they are training programmes and not jobs, they are unpaid. But that doesn't mean you don't get a lot from them. In fact, here is what you could get by starting a traineeship:

<p>At least 70 hours of high-quality work experience.</p>	<p>Support with your English, maths and digital skills.</p>	<p>Help with your CV or understanding what to expect in a workplace.</p>
<p>An interview with the employer to either give you some useful feedback, or to discuss a possible apprenticeship or job role.</p>	<p>Hands-on learning to help prepare you for an apprenticeship or a job.</p>	<p>In some cases, the employers may support you with some of the costs you might have to pay like transport or meals.</p>



NEXT STEPS – PROGRESSION ROUTES

A LEVELS

2
YEARS

A Levels are one of the most common routes that students take after their GCSEs at age 16. A Levels take two years at schools and colleges. You will usually study three subjects.

The benefits of A Levels is the flexibility as you can choose more than one subject. There is not usually work experience included.

Choosing what to study:

- There are more than 40 different A Level subjects, giving you a lot to choose from
- If you think you know which job you would like to have or what you would like to study after, you can select A Levels which match the skills and education you will need.
- If you do not have a plan worked out just yet, you can choose subjects that you are good at, enjoy, and are interested in

Choosing what to do next:

A Levels will give you the needed qualifications to



Get a job

Start an apprenticeship



Continue into higher education



Join a school leaver scheme



SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

Supported internships are a really useful way to move from education into the world of work with a bit more support.

They last for a year, bringing together extra studying with work experience to help you build your confidence and give you new skills.

When you start a supported internship, you will be given a job coach who will help you with your studies and work experience.

Supported Internships will give you:

- support improving your maths and English
- the chance to study towards a qualification that is related to the work you will be doing
- help to prepare you for working in a paid job in future
- your coach for working out what is best for you and what your next steps
- in some cases, money towards some more support you could need

These courses are not available for everyone. You will need to be aged between 16 and 25 years old and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

BE AWARE

Normally you will need to have at least five GCSEs between grades 9 and 4, with a grade 6 in the subjects you would like to take at A Level. Check with the school or college first!





UNIVERSITY

University is one of the choices for continuing your studies after you turn 18 years old. Not everyone knows just how much choice you have for how and what you want to study.

Universities now offer more ways for people to learn in a way that suits them, which could mean completing some or all of your course online, part-time or over a longer period than normal.

Studying can often be a mix of different types of learning that help you gain a lot of different skills, such as:

- Lectures
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Group projects
- Studying by yourself
- Placements in companies, overseas or other education centres

There is also a lot more choice about the type of course you could do. It is not just the usual 'University degree' that you might have heard about!

Universities also offer a range of qualifications like higher apprenticeships or foundation learning. If you are not sure which direction you want to go with your career just yet.

USEFUL WEBSITES

National Careers Service

Explore job profiles, get careers advice, learn more about your skills and find courses

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

Get the Jump

Find out about all the different progression options available after 16 years olds in one place

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/pages/explore-your-education-and-training-choices>

Essex Opportunities

Explore different companies and courses in Essex and Southend

<https://www.essexopportunities.co.uk/>

Thurrock Opportunities

Explore different companies and courses in Thurrock

<https://www.thurrockopportunities.co.uk/>

Make Happen

Lots of guides, videos and information about studying a degree or degree apprenticeship

<https://www.makehappen.org/academy/>

Find an Apprenticeship

Search and apply for apprenticeship in your local area

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

Find a Traineeship

Search and apply for traineeships in your local area

<https://www.gov.uk/find-traineeship>

Welcome to the next level – T Levels

Information about T Levels and search for T Levels in your local area

<https://www.tlevels.gov.uk/students>

UCAS

Information about going to university, finances, student life and search for courses

<https://www.ucas.com/>



EMAIL

careershub@southend.gov.uk

ADDRESS

Civic Centre
Victoria Avenue
Southend-on-Sea
Essex
SS1 9SH

Connect with us on social media



Greater Essex
CAREERS HUB

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ENTERPRISE
COMPANY



UK Government

greateressexcareershub.co.uk

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