

Nightingale Community Academy

Careers & Futures Newsletter – March 2026

Supporting Your Child's Future: What the Latest Job Market Data Shows

We want to keep you informed about what the future looks like for young people leaving school. Below is a clear summary of the latest labour market information, helping you understand the opportunities and challenges your child may face.

Most young people stay in education at 16–17

The vast majority of young people aged 16–17 are not yet in work, with around 9% in employment and nearly 90% still in education or training.

What this means for your child:

This is completely normal. At this stage, the focus should be on building skills, qualifications, and confidence.

Opportunities increase after 18

By the time young people reach 18–24, around half are in work, with many entering apprenticeships, college courses, or employment.

What this means for your child:

Pathways open up significantly after school, including college, apprenticeships, and jobs.

Some young people still need support (NEET)

Across the UK, 67,000 young people aged 16–17 and 891,000 aged 18–24 are not in education, employment or training.

What this means for your child:

It is important that we work together to ensure your child has a clear plan and ongoing support.

London offers strong earning potential

Young people in London typically earn more than the UK average.

What this means for your child:

There are strong financial opportunities locally, especially with the right qualifications and training.

Key job sectors your child may enter

The main areas employing people in London include Health & Social Care, Retail, Technology, and Professional careers.

What this means for your child:

These sectors offer a wide range of pathways, from vocational courses to university routes.

Positive news: more jobs expected

The number of jobs in London is expected to continue growing over the next few years.

What this means for your child:

There will be increasing opportunities, particularly for those who are well-prepared.

How we are supporting your child

At Nightingale Community Academy, we provide personalised careers guidance, vocational pathways, employability skills, and work closely with families to plan next steps.

How you can support at home

You can help your child by talking about their future goals, encouraging attendance, exploring career options, and staying in contact with the school.

Need support or advice?

If you would like to discuss your child's next steps or need support with careers guidance, please contact the school.

Together, we can ensure every young person leaves school with confidence, direction, and opportunity.