



DGGS CAREERS NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

 [Listen to this newsletter](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

National Coding Week takes place from 16th - 23rd September, it aims to help adults and children learn and share their digital skills. There are many benefits of learning to code. It's a useful and important skill for the future.

Coding is the process of translating instructions into a language computers and machines can understand and execute. Programmers write code, which allows websites and apps to operate. For anyone interested in a career in coding, learning more about the types of jobs available may help them find a role that suits their individual skills and qualifications. In this article, you can read about nine types of coding jobs, along with average salaries, primary duties and required skills.

Different coding languages can be difficult to understand. From popular ones like Python, JavaScript, and Java to powerful low-level languages like C and C++, plus web essentials like HTML/CSS, modern innovations like Rust, and database languages like SQL, this video breaks them all down quickly and simply.

Here are a few places where you can complete free online coding courses:

- Brilliant.org: Interactive problem solving that's effective and fun. Master concepts in Python, programming, algorithms, and beyond.
- freeCodeCamp: Offers hands-on, project-based certifications covering responsive web design, JavaScript algorithms, and Python fundamentals.
- Codecademy: Provides free introductory interactive courses for programming languages like Python, SQL, and HTML/CSS.
- School of Code: A highly popular, fully remote, 100% free coding bootcamp open to anyone in the UK. It takes you from a complete beginner to a job-ready software engineer through collaborative, real-world project work.
- Code First Girls: Dedicated to women and non-binary individuals in the UK. They offer free online "MOOCs" and intensive coding courses covering web development, Python, and data science, often connected to hired employment placements

This forbes article, entitled "Programming In The Age Of AI: Why Code Still Matters" outlines why it is so important for us (humans!) to learn and understand code.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Software Developer

A software developer designs, builds, tests, and maintains computer programs and applications to solve user and business needs.

Writing code is a major part of the job, but a developer's work covers the entire life cycle of a project. This can include designing systems, debugging, updating software and working as part of a team to overcome challenges.

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Here are the top five best paid roles that involve coding in the UK. This shows their average salary.

Chief Technology Officer (CTO) - £110,000
Software Architect - £92,000
Machine Learning / AI Engineer - £84,000
DevOps / Platform Engineer - £78,000
Data Engineer - £73,000
Source



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OPPORTUNITIES

The government has committed a further £9 million to Discover Creative Careers, DCMS's flagship programme connecting young people with creative careers & this time delivered by a fresh collective (Futures For All, Creative UK and Creative Access). The funding targets 11-24 year olds from under-represented backgrounds and underserved regions. Head to their [website](#) to learn more about how they can support you.

The government is introducing a bursary of up to £4,500 a year for some families on benefits whose children start an apprenticeship, to offset the Universal Credit they currently lose. The £30million fund follows a report warning the benefits system was actively discouraging apprenticeships for families on low incomes.

Advertising is a dynamic industry that uses creative storytelling to inspire and influence how we think, behave, and consume. Over 600,000 people are employed directly in the advertising and marketing industry in the UK, across agencies and in-house marketing teams. And these jobs are spread right around the UK, with 60% of industry employment based outside of London. [Check out these career simulations](#) to learn more about what it's like to work in the advertising industry.

The [Solent University 52 Weeks to Go](#) guide is a step-by-step countdown program designed to help prospective students prepare for university life over the course of a year. It will help you with future planning, including exploring career goals, lifestyle choices, and deciding if university is right for you.

Apprenticeships are real jobs with real employers, allowing you to work, earn a salary and gain valuable qualifications and experience. With over 700 different apprenticeship standards covering everything from accountancy to zoo keeping, there is an apprenticeship out there for everyone. Apprenticeships offer choice, opportunity, qualifications, support and a head start into a future career. Explore [these resources](#) to discover everything you need to know about apprenticeships.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

"At [JPMorganChase](#), we drive innovation and gain valuable skills for the future with opportunities catered to students and graduates interested in pursuing a tech career.

Our slogan is "Make dreams possible for everyone, everywhere, every day"

You'll find a variety of career paths and opportunities to learn and grow. We're committed to supporting our employees and helping them succeed every step of the way."

UNIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT

The University of Glasgow, founded in 1451, is one of the UK's oldest universities and a member of the Russell Group. Located in Glasgow, Scotland, it offers a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

It is known for excellent research, historic architecture, diverse students and a vibrant student experience.

You can learn more about [University of Glasgow here](#).

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CAREER OF THE MONTH: HEALTHCARE

A career in Healthcare is a great choice if you enjoy helping others, problem solving, and working as a part of a team. It is a broad field with many career opportunities. Our spotlight jobs are: Midwife, Pharmacist, and Physiotherapist, with more information about each role included in the posters below and on the notice board outside the careers office.

CAREER OF THE MONTH PHYSIOTHERAPIST

HELPING PEOPLE MOVE FOR A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

£32,000
STARTING SALARY

£49,000-£64,000
EXPERIENCED SALARY

37-40
HOURS PER WEEK

“Physiotherapists help people regain movement, independence and confidence after injury, illness or throughout their lives.”

WHAT DOES A PHYSIOTHERAPIST DO?

As a Physiotherapist, you can help restore movement and function when someone has been affected by injury, illness, disability or ageing. You will work with a wide range of people and conditions, including musculoskeletal, neurological conditions, respiratory problems, rehabilitation and women's health.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

- ASSESS PATIENTS**: Use medical history and physical examinations to find the cause of pain or restriction.
- DESIGN PROGRAMMES**: Create tailored exercise plans to build up strength, flexibility and mobility.
- USE MANUAL THERAPY**: Apply hands-on techniques to relieve joint stiffness and ease muscle pain.
- EDUCATE PATIENTS**: Provide posture advice, lifestyle tips and home care strategies to prevent future injuries.
- APPLY TREATMENTS**: Use specialised methods such as hydrotherapy, ultrasound or electrotherapy.

DID YOU KNOW?

Physiotherapists don't just work in hospitals! They can also work in:

- Hospitals
- Sports teams
- Gyms
- Clinics
- Rehabilitation centres

HOW DO I GET THERE?

- GCSEs**: Usually a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English Language, Mathematics and Science.
- A-levels**: Typically three A-levels including Biology and/or Physical Education.
- Alternative routes**: Some universities accept BTEC Level 3 qualifications or 5 T-levels.
- University or degree apprenticeship**: Complete an HNC/HND approved degree in Physiotherapy.
- Registration**: You must register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) to practice.

IS THIS CAREER FOR YOU?

You might enjoy being a physiotherapist if you:

- Enjoy helping people
- Are interested in the human body
- Like science and health
- Enjoy problem solving
- Want a career where no two days are the same

WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A career as a Physiotherapist could progress to:

- Advanced Practitioner
- Team Lead - managing junior staff
- Specialist clinical areas (eg. sports, neurological, respiratory or women's health)
- Education and research
- Sports and performance roles
- Wide healthcare opportunities

CAREER CHALLENGE

Could YOU be a physiotherapist? What skills do you already have that would make you good at this job? Think about: communication, empathy, problem-solving, resilience and teamwork.

CAREER OF THE MONTH PHARMACIST

SUPPORTING HEALTH, SAFETY AND BETTER LIVES

£38,000
STARTER SALARY

£49,000-£75,000
EXPERIENCED SALARY

37 to 40
HOURS PER WEEK

“Pharmacists play a vital role in keeping people healthy, supporting communities and making a real difference every day.”

WHAT DOES A PHARMACIST DO?

As a Pharmacist you could work in a Hospital, Clinic, Pharmacy, or retail drug store. You would specialise in ensuring patients use medications safely and correctly. Your day-to-day tasks could include:

- Check and fill prescriptions from doctors to make sure the dosage and directions are correct.
- Explain how to take prescribed or over-the-counter drugs, potential side effects, and drug interactions.
- Provide patient guidance for harmful drug interactions, allergies, and adverse reactions like the flu shot.
- Test minor illnesses, provide minor ailment consultations, and support programs for smoking cessation.
- Other wellness checks such as blood pressure screenings and support programs for gutting smoking.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

- DISPENSING MEDICATIONS**: Check and fill prescriptions from doctors to make sure the dosage and directions are correct.
- PATIENT COUNSELLING**: Explain how to take prescribed or over-the-counter drugs, potential side effects, and drug interactions.
- SAFETY CHECKS**: Provide patient guidance for harmful drug interactions, allergies, and adverse reactions like the flu shot.
- CLINICAL CARE**: Test minor illnesses, provide minor ailment consultations, and support programs for smoking cessation.
- HEALTH SERVICES**: Other wellness checks such as blood pressure screenings and support programs for gutting smoking.

DID YOU KNOW?

Pharmacists don't just work in pharmacies! They can also work in:

- Hospitals
- Community settings
- People's homes
- Education and training
- Research centres

HOW DO I GET THERE?

- GCSEs**: Usually a minimum of 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English Language, Mathematics, and Science.
- A-levels**: Typically three A-levels including Chemistry and at least one other science or mathematics-related subject.
- Alternative routes**: Some universities accept Level 3 qualifications, A-levels to E, Diploma, or foundation years.
- Degree**: An accredited Master of Pharmacy (MPharm) degree, followed by a foundation training year, and then a Further Professional Development (FPD) in a specialist area.

IS THIS CAREER FOR YOU?

You might enjoy being a pharmacist if you:

- Enjoy helping and supporting people
- Are interested in science and healthcare
- Have good communication skills
- Can stay calm and problem-solve
- Want a career where no two days are the same

WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

A career as a pharmacist could progress to:

- Independent Prescriber, where leader or pharmacy manager, or specialist in a clinical area such as pediatrics, oncology, or toxicology
- Alternatively, a pharmacist may move into academia and research.

CAREER CHALLENGE

Could YOU be a pharmacist? What skills do you already have that would make you good at this job? Think about: communication, empathy, problem-solving, resilience and teamwork.

CAREER OF THE MONTH MIDWIFE

SUPPORTING TODAY, BRIGHTER TOMORROWS

£32,000
STARTING SALARY

£49,000
EXPERIENCED SALARY

37-40
HOURS PER WEEK

“Midwives make a difference from the very beginning - supporting families with expert care, compassion and confidence.”

WHAT DOES A MIDWIFE DO?

Midwives provide educational, emotional and medical support to pregnant people and their babies before, during and after childbirth. You will work in a variety of settings, supporting families through one of the most important times in their lives.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

- RUN CLASSES**: Teach about pregnancy, parenting and preparation for birth.
- MONITOR HEALTH**: Advise pregnant people and monitor their health throughout their pregnancy.
- SUPPORT BIRTH**: Manage labour, deliver babies and support recovery for the whole family.
- POSTNATAL CARE**: Give advice after the baby is born and support recovery for the whole family.
- HOME VISITS**: Visit homes to check on parents and the baby and provide ongoing support.

DID YOU KNOW?

Midwives don't just work in hospitals! They can also work in:

- Hospitals
- Community settings
- People's homes
- Education and training
- Specialist areas like neonatal care, ultrasound

HOW DO I GET THERE?

- Study Midwifery**: You can do a degree in midwifery as long as you have 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English Language and Science.
- Entry requirements usually include:**
 - 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), including English Language and Science
 - 2 or 3 A-levels, including a science, or a level 3 diploma or access to higher education in health, science or nursing
 - You already have a degree, you can do a postgraduate midwifery course
- Degree apprenticeship**: Alternatively, you can do a Midwifery Level 3 Degree Apprenticeship. This involves working 48 months and includes training on the job and studying at an approved university.
- Registration**: You must register with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) to practice.

IS THIS CAREER FOR YOU?

You might enjoy being a midwife if you:

- Enjoy helping and supporting people
- Are interested in science and healthcare
- Have good communication skills
- Can stay calm and problem-solve
- Want a career where no two days are the same

WHERE COULD IT TAKE YOU?

With experience, you could progress to:

- Specialise in areas such as abnormal or neonatal care
- Become a ward manager or team leader
- Take on more senior roles with higher pay bands
- Move into education and training
- Work in research
- Explore wider healthcare opportunities

CAREER CHALLENGE

Could YOU be a midwife? What skills do you already have that would make you good at this job? Think about: communication, empathy, problem-solving, resilience and teamwork.

WELCOME FROM DGGS CAREERS

Welcome to our new students, and welcome back to all returning students!

Your DGGS Careers Team includes our Careers Manager, Miss Lyon-Lee, and Assistant Headteacher & Careers Leader, Mrs Loyal. We're here to support you with your careers questions, plans and next steps throughout the year.

We'll share regular careers newsletters with you, including information about careers events, work experience, opportunities and useful resources.

We'll also share opportunities as they arise, so keep an eye out for anything that might be of interest to you.

If you have any specific questions or would like some careers advice, please do get in touch — we're always happy to help!

HERE TO HELP

Come and see us: The Careers Office is next door to EN5

Email us: CareersTeam@dartfordgrammargirls.org.uk