HILLCREST CAREERS NEWSLETTER

"OPPORTUNITIES DON'T HAPPEN, YOU CREATE THEM."

OPPORTUNITIES THIS MONTH

Careers in languages

The European Day of Languages is celebrated annually on September 26, with the official 2026 theme focused on "Languages unite! How languages shape inclusion". Through the celebration day, approximately 700 million citizens across the Council of Europe's 46 member states are encouraged to discover and learn languages at any age, whether within formal education or alongside it.

This webpage from the University of Cambridge focuses on Careers using Languages. They have a range of resources including job boards for bilingual people, information on job roles requiring languages and advice on what to do next if you're interested in learning more.

You can use the BBC Bitesize website to watch clips of people who have studied languages and see what careers they embarked on, including cabin crew, journalist and ski instructor.

Employer Spotlight

Tesco is one of the UK's largest employers and a major part of the British retail industry. In 2025/26, Tesco had around 28.5% of the UK grocery market, while its UK online sales exceeded £7 billion. Its continued growth means it needs people with a wide range of skills.

Tesco offers far more careers than working in a supermarket. Opportunities include customer service, retail management, finance, marketing, human resources, technology, cyber security, data analysis, food tech, logisitcs and delivery.

Students interested in business, computing, mathematics, science, food tech or communication could all potentially find careers within Tesco. There are also opportunities for career progression. An employee might begin as a Customer Assistant and progress into leadership or management, while others can develop specialist careers in areas such as technology or finance.

Tesco isn't just about selling food – it's a business that needs people with many different talents and skills.

Labour Market Information

Languages remain a valuable employability skill, particularly when combined with another specialism such as business, law, technology, finance or international relations. The National Careers Service identifies French, German, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Russian among languages in demand in translation services. Careers involving langiages include:

Translator £25-£40K
Banking/finance with languages £40-£100K
Intelligence/security roles £30-£70K
International lawyer £50-£150K



University Spotlight: University of Warwick

The University of Warwick is a leading UK university based in Coventry, offering hundreds of undergraduate courses across a wide range of subjects. Students can study areas including business, economics, engineering, computer science, medicine, law, psychology, sciences, humanities, languages and social sciences. Warwick also provides opportunities to combine subjects through joint degrees and interdisciplinary courses.

Alongside their studies, students can access careers advice, internships, work placements, research opportunities and study-abroad programmes. There are also more than 300 student societies and sports clubs, giving students opportunities to develop new interests, make friends and build valuable skills such as teamwork and leadership

JOB OF THE MONTH: BARRISTER



A barrister provides specialist legal advice and represents clients in court. They research cases, examine evidence, prepare legal arguments and question witnesses. Barristers may work on criminal, family, commercial or civil cases. To become a barrister, you usually need a degree, Bar training and a 12-month pupillage, followed by being called to the Bar.

Skills you'll need:

- **Excellent communication**
- **Strong public speaking**
- **Critical thinking**
- **Analytical skills**
- **Research skills**
- **Persuasion and advocacy**
- **Attention to detail**
- **Problem-solving**
- **Confidence**



Student Spotlight: Aliza (Y13)

Which A Levels are you studying?
I study A Level maths, physics and chemistry

What do you want to do after finishing Hillcrest Sixth Form?
After sixth form, I hope to study Mechanical engineering at the University of Manchester. I am considering taking a deferred year before starting my degree and potentially completing a year in industry, to gain valuable practical experience. Following my undergraduate degree, I hope to continue my studies at Masters level, to further develop my knowledge and expertise in Mechanical engineering.

What career do you hope to pursue?
I hope to pursue a career as a Mechanical engineer, potentially working in the aerospace, energy or advanced engineering sectors. I would like to work on innovative projects that allow me to apply my technical knowledge and problem solving skills to real world challenges.

Our Careers Adviser: Mrs Matto



Our Careers Adviser Mrs Matto provides impartial careers information, advice and guidance to students and parents/carers.

Mrs Matto offers:

- Support with Post-16 options including Sixth Forms, Colleges, Apprenticeships, T Levels and vocational courses.
- Support with Post-18 options including University, Degree Apprenticeships, Apprenticeships, Employment and Training.
- One-to-one careers guidance interviews.
- Parent/carer meetings.
- Support at parents' evenings and school events.

Students and parents/carers can arrange an appointment through their Head of Year (HOY). Mrs Matto is committed to helping every student make informed decisions about their future education, training and career pathways.

COULD YOU HELP TO INSPIRE OUR STUDENTS?

At Hillcrest, we are committed to helping students understand the wide range of careers and opportunities available to them. One of the most valuable ways we can do this is by connecting students with real people from the world of work. We are therefore asking our parents and carers to get involved in our future careers events, including careers fairs, assemblies, workshops, employer talks and workplace activities.

You might be able to:

- Talk to students about your career and how you got there.
- Share information about your industry or organisation.
- Attend a careers fair and answer students' questions.
- Deliver a short assembly or careers talk.
- Offer advice about qualifications, apprenticeships or university.
- Share information about work experience or employment opportunities.
- Explain the skills that employers value.



You do not need to be a careers expert or an experienced presenter. Students benefit simply from hearing about the different jobs, pathways and experiences of people in our local community. Your involvement can help students understand that there isn't just one route into a successful career. Whether you work in healthcare, engineering, business, education, construction, law, technology, retail, the creative industries or any other sector, your experience could help a young person see a career they had never considered before.

If you would be interested in supporting future careers events, please email **jabbotts@hillcrest.bham.sch.uk** with your name, job role/industry and organisation, along with any particular ways you would be happy to support. We will then contact you when suitable opportunities arise.

Together, we can help our students make informed decisions about their futures and raise their aspirations.