

## Careers Information on the Internet

The internet can never be a substitute for a young person discussing their career interests and information needs with a professionally qualified careers adviser. As a parent or carer, you have a vital supporting role and, speaking from personal (and sometimes painful) experience, timing can be everything! However, I am sure you would agree its never too soon for a young person to begin exploring their own ideas, and the internet is a great place to start. (See also Ellie Stevenson's [Getting Help with Careers: where to start.](#))

### **Surely, we can just Google what we need?**

It is true that Google is brilliant and can instantly meet a specific information need. However, despite sophisticated use of analytic tracking software, the results are still based on promoting the most popular or paid ads rather than professionally recommended or evaluated careers information. The best may not even appear!

### **So where do we start?**

A career can be explained as a 'pathway through life' and, like any journey, there are transitional periods, milestones and even crossroads. So, we have taken the opportunity below to list a wide selection of recommended and reliable sources of general as well as specific careers information sources, beginning with the national career sites supporting young people and/or parent interests:

- [Careers Service Northern Ireland](#)
- [Careers Wales](#)
- [National Careers Service - England](#)
- [My World of Work for parents - Skills Development Scotland](#)
- [Guernsey](#)
- [Jersey](#)
- [Isle of Man](#)

[icould.com](http://icould.com)

Extensive and inspiring videos explored by subject interest, job type or life decision. Also includes a popular mini-interest guide – [The Buzz Test](#) – that can be helpful for generating ideas. The site is aimed at young people, but many of the films are suitable for all ages.

### [Prospects](#)

This site is an excellent resource for anyone thinking about going to university, or job seeking after graduation. There is a helpful [Career Planner](#) to give young people ideas as to what they may be suited to, as well as information on [work experience](#), [internships](#) and postgraduate study. It may be helpful too if uncertain as to what career opportunities are possible after almost [any degree subject](#).

### [16 Personalities](#)

You could call this the curve ball to traditional approaches to personality testing, and yes it from the US, but it can offer some extremely helpful additional insights into your personality. It is suitable for adults too and can be very encouraging if facing or looking for a career change.

### **Occupational sectors**

An interesting recent trend is where large employers are also using personality tests to help individuals explore their ideas among so many career choices. The following examples include [NHS Map Your Career](#), [Engineering Meet the Future You](#), [TechFuture Careers Quiz](#) and [Social Care](#). This is very helpful if your son or daughter is already interested in a careers sector, but unsure what job role appeals. The following sectors represent hundreds if not thousands of careers, so we have selected particularly informative sites representing a broad range of different occupations.

[Administration, Business and Office Work](#)

[Building and Construction](#)

[Catering and Hospitality](#)

[Computers and IT](#)

[Design, Arts and Crafts](#)

[Education and Training](#)

[Engineering](#)

[Environment, Animals and Plants](#)

[Financial Services](#)

[Healthcare](#)

[Languages, Information and Culture](#)

[Legal and Political Services](#)

[Leisure, Sport and Tourism](#)

[Manufacturing and Production](#)

[Marketing and Advertising](#)

[Media, Print and Publishing](#)

[Performing Arts](#)

[Personal and Other Services \(Hair & Beauty\)](#)

[Retail Sales and Customer Services](#)

[Science, Mathematics and Statistics](#)

[Security and Armed Forces](#)

[Social Work and Counselling Services](#)

[Transport and Logistics](#)

### **Extra web gems**

To keep up to date, don't miss the carousel of general and specialist parent support sites from the [Parental Guidance home page](#).

### **Hot tips**

Encourage your son or daughter to check out what careers software, including psychometric matching programs, may be available at their school or college. Most have excellent careers information to complement their results, and some programs may be accessible from home through the school or college's intranet platform.

Keep returning to this article as well as 'picture viewer' and further 'image links' in the ['Home'](#) page to keep up to date with new, timely or particularly popular sites.

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