

# What's in a building?

## Jobs you didn't know existed

*In association with VotesforSchools and The WOW Show*

**Oxfordshire**  
CAREERS HUB

THE **CAREERS &  
ENTERPRISE**  
COMPANY

# Learning objectives for today

- Challenge stereotypes and their relationship to life roles, work-life balance and career destinations.
- Listen to speakers talking about the roles that are available in their workplace and sector.
- Prepare pupils for experiences of work by helping them to develop questions to find out about the roles available in the workplaces that they are visiting, what qualifications people need to get those roles and how you progress within the organisation.
- To research your education, training, apprenticeship, employment and volunteering options including information about the best progression pathways through to specific goals.



## **Discuss (3 mins)**

What do you think of when you hear the word construction?  
Come up with your 3 main thoughts and share them with the class.

# What's in a building?

**Activity (8 mins)**

Watch the film and think about the varied careers available in construction.

# 1 Careers in Construction

## Activity (2 mins)

As a group, discuss what you thought about the roles you saw in the film. Then watch the short film from Go Construct to see the 170 plus roles available.

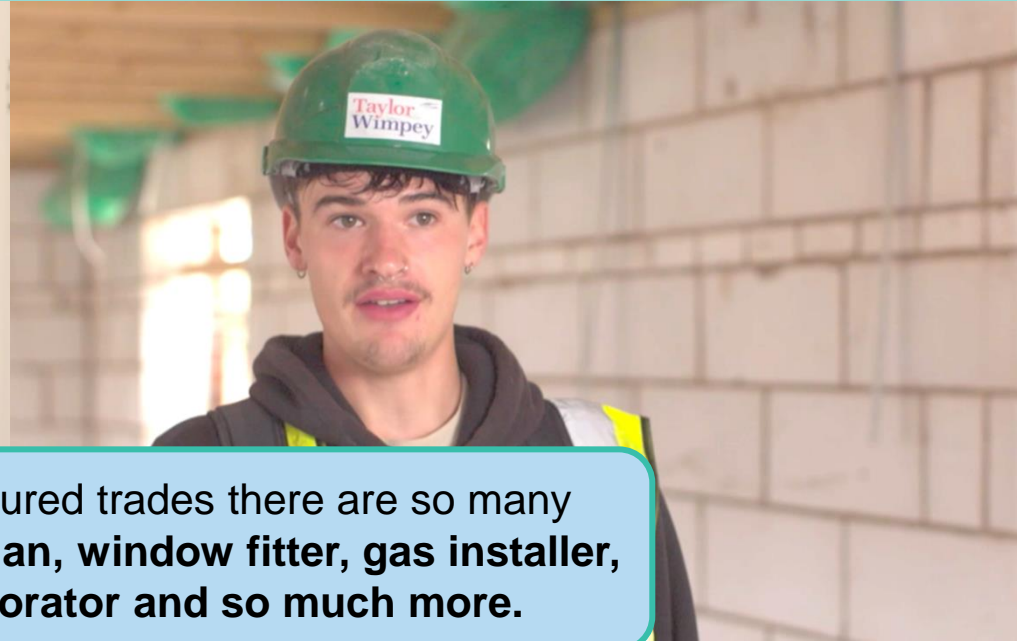
There are **so many roles available in construction**. From preparing the ground, building the exterior or fitting the interior.

**Construction** employs around **3.1 million people**, which is around **9% of the UK workforce**. See if there are any that you think would **suit you and your future**.

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1:46



# 1 Trades in Construction



As well as the four featured trades there are so many others including: **electrician, window fitter, gas installer, roofer, painter, decorator** and so much more.



## Activity (2 mins)

A quick show of hands, raise your hand if there are any careers that you have seen that would interest you. Did any of the careers surprise you?

## 2 Routes into construction

### Discuss (2 mins)

Which routes can you think of to enter a career in the construction industry?

#### Apprenticeships

There are 100s of apprenticeships where you can earn money while you learn.

#### Work experience

This can help you get a feel for a job you're interested in and will improve your CV, making you more employable.

#### College courses

Courses are available, such as bricklaying, carpentry and joinery, civil engineering, heritage skills and technician trades.

#### University degree

At university, you'll have a chance to focus on a specific subject and study with experts in your field.

**Construction traineeships** are a **combination of learning and work experience** and are a useful where previous work experience is valued, and sometimes essential.

- Who are they for?**
- Young people aged 16 - 24 (or 16 - 18 in Wales)
  - If you are unemployed and have little or no work experience
  - Have no qualifications above GCSEs (or equivalent)

In England, you won't earn a wage as a trainee but you'll **gain valuable skills**. Your employer may offer to cover your expenses for travel and meals.

**In Wales, there is a financial allowance** of up to £50 per week, plus £5 travel expenses.

Construction companies may list available traineeships on their websites. [Talentview Construction](#) lists opportunities in England and searching for 'traineeships' on [Not Going to Uni](#) or [findcourses](#) will also bring up current listings.





**An apprenticeship** is a job with training and is for anyone aged 16 and over.

During an apprenticeship, you'll **work with experienced staff and gain qualifications** by doing practical and academic learning.

Your employer will give you **tasks to perform**, and a **training provider will equip you with the theoretical skills** to perform those tasks.

**There are 100's of diverse, rewarding construction apprenticeships to choose from.** You could be behind a drawing board, developing project management skills, training as a craftsman and more.

Colleges can prepare you for a **specific career or higher-level qualifications.**

Through further education (FE), you can **build technical, vocational or academic skills in a wide variety of subjects.**

Further education is for anyone who has left school. You can go to college to **continue studying straight after finishing your GCSEs, or at a later stage in life.**

There are several colleges or training providers within your local area, **two are featured at the end of the lesson.**

**Harwell Science and Innovation Campus** has a long history as a place for Science and Technology. Achievements here include **the world's first transistorised computer; the development of the lithium-ion battery and vital work to develop the COVID-19 vaccination.**

Currently Harwell Campus, one of the main construction developers, has plans to deliver **over 140,000 sqm of new cutting-edge labs, offices and advanced manufacturing space alongside a hotel and conference centre.**

The word 'HARWELL' in a large, bold, blue, sans-serif font, with the 'A' having a unique shape where the top bar is a horizontal line. The logo is positioned at the bottom center of the slide, overlaid on a background image of a modern building with a green and blue facade and a large, circular, metallic sculpture in the foreground.

# HARWELL

**Discuss (2 mins)**

Have you heard about Harwell, do you know what else they are known for?

**£3bn of national facilities** pushing scientific discovery and understanding.

A unique collaboration of **government, academia and industry** working on the critical problems facing our planet.

An important place with a history of **invention and inspiring future generations.**

A community of **6,000 people** within **700 acres** of beautiful countryside.

HARWELL

## Activity (2 mins)

Talk to a partner about other construction projects you have seen in your local area. What are your thoughts and opinions on them?

Kingsgrove, Wantage is a project **providing 1500 homes, a neighbourhood centre, a primary school, a care home and open space** in the town of Wantage.

Planning permission was **approved in 2019** and since then the development has begun its build with several contractors and housebuilders on site including **ACS Construction, Bellway, CALA homes, Taylor Wimpey and St Modwen Homes.**



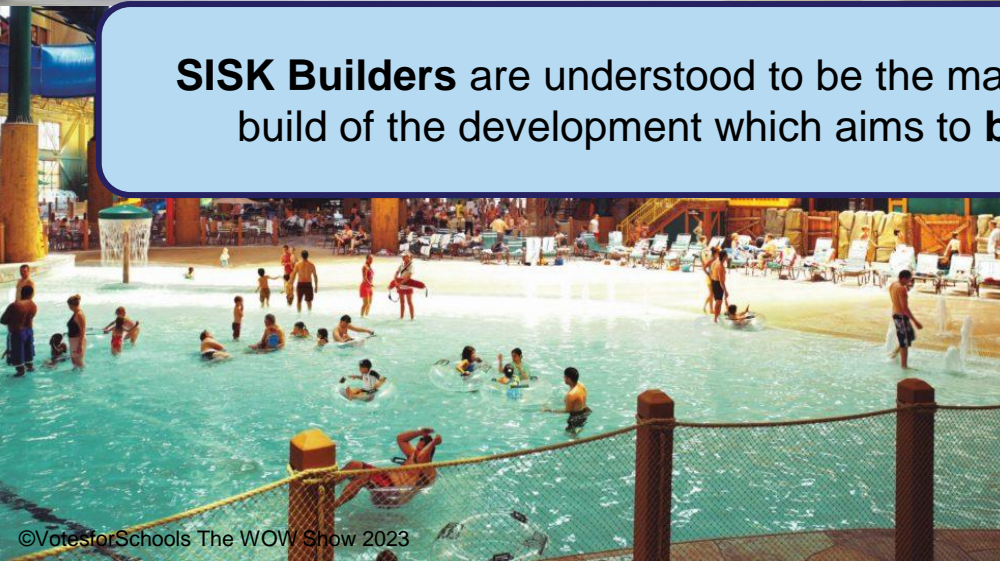
**Oxford North, Oxford City** is important within the **Oxford Local Plan 2036** and is currently being developed by Thomas White Oxford, on behalf of St John's College, Oxford in a joint venture with Cadillac Fairview and Stanhope.

Proposals include a new sustainable development on 64 acres of land, creating **480 homes for 1,500 people, 1 million sq. ft of labs and offices for 4,500 jobs, three new public parks and shops, bars and restaurants** for Oxford.

**Great Wolf, Bicester** submitted plans in 2021. Proposals include a **water park** with twisty slides, a **498-room four-storey hotel**, an **adventure park**, **900-space car park**, **559sqm conference centre**, a **restaurant** and **public nature trail**.



**SISK Builders** are understood to be the main contractor appointed to complete the build of the development which aims to **begin on site late 2022/ early 2023**.



**Define: Aptitude test**


A test to see if someone has a natural ability for a particular type of work.

**Kelsey** is currently working as a **crane operator**. She is at the beginning of her crane career and has her sights set on a heavy crane world record one day. She began her apprenticeship, after **applying and completing an interview and aptitude test**.

**Challenge:**

Does this role excite you? Can you see yourself doing this as a career?



A young man with dark curly hair, wearing a green hard hat with a 'Taylor Wimpey' logo and a high-visibility yellow safety vest, stands on a construction site. The background shows wooden scaffolding and construction equipment.

Remeyo is only one month into his bricklaying **apprenticeship**. **He is learning and earning money at the same time.**

Bricklaying is the **most in demand trade** in the construction industry.

**Challenge:**

Does this role excite you? Can you see yourself doing this as a career?



Dominic studied **PE, IT and computer science** at school. He chose an apprenticeship as he wanted a **mixture of hands on experience, classroom learning and also wanted to earn some money**. Dominic enjoys the variety of his role as Project Maintenance Operative as every day is different.

#### Challenge:

Does this role excite you? Can you see yourself doing this as a career?



Keiran studied **Photography and Maths** at school then completed a college course in art and design. He chose the **apprentice route** to earn and learn at the same time. Keiran's next step is Level 2 Site carpentry.

#### Challenge:

Does this role excite you? Can you see yourself doing this as a career?

### Find your perfect route

School Leavers →

Undergraduate & Professional →

Part Time & Evening →

Apprenticeships →

↓ Explore more options below



**Abingdon and Whitney college** is a great example of a provider of training and courses for careers in construction. On the next page you will see the **construction courses available there.**

# Construction

## EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS DEVELOPED ON THE COURSE



Accurate  
Note taking



Meeting  
Deadlines



Numeracy  
Skills



Problem  
Solving



Professional  
Approach



Working  
in Teams

### DID YOU KNOW?



Our new £1.7m Green Construction Skills Centre in Abingdon opened in September 2022

### POTENTIAL JOB ROLES

Construction Worker, Floor Layer, Groundworker, Fencing Installer, Roofer, Plumbing and Domestic Heating Assistant, Scaffolder, Traineeship (may be unpaid).

### POTENTIAL JOB ROLES

Construction Worker, Floor Layer, Groundworker, Fencing Installer, Roofer, Plasterer, Plumbing and Domestic Heating Technician, Scaffolder and more...

### POTENTIAL JOB ROLES

Bench Joiner, Construction Worker, Electrical Installer, Floor Layer, Groundworker, Fencing Installer, Roofer, Plasterer, Plumbing and Domestic Heating Technician, Site Carpenter, Scaffolder and more...

### POTENTIAL JOB ROLES

LEVEL 4: Architectural Assistant, Build Technician, Building Surveyor, Construction Site Manager, Construction Design and Build Technician, Senior Bench Joiner, Site Manager, Structural Steelworker, Quantity Surveyer and more...

## LEVEL 1

### FULL-TIME PROGRAMMES

Carpentry and Joinery Level 1  
Electrical Installation Level 1  
Plumbing Level 1

1YR

## LEVEL 2

### FULL-TIME PROGRAMMES

Bench Joinery Level 2  
Electrical Installation Level 2  
Plumbing Level 2  
Site Carpentry Level 2

1YR

### APPRENTICESHIPS<sup>1</sup>

Level 2 Carpentry & Joinery: Architectural Joiner  
Level 2 Carpentry & Joinery Site Carpenter  
Level 2 Property Maintenance Operative

### Entry with:

Four GCSEs at grade 3 or above, including English and maths, or internal progression from a Level 1 programme.

<sup>1</sup>These apprenticeships are offered at our Bicester Construction Skills Centre.

## ADVANCED LEVEL 3

2YRS

### FULL-TIME PROGRAMMES (Whitney only)

Bench Joinery Level 3  
Electrical Installation Level 3  
Plumbing Level 3  
Site Carpentry Level 3

### APPRENTICESHIPS<sup>1</sup>

Level 3 Carpentry & Joinery; Architectural Joiner  
Level 3 Carpentry & Joinery; Site Carpenter  
Level 3 Plumbing and Domestic Heating Technician  
Level 3 Gas Engineering Operative  
Level 3 Installation Electrician and Maintenance Electrician

### Entry with:

Five GCSEs grade 9-4 including English and maths or progress on from a Level 2 programme.

**Programme locations:** Abingdon and Whitney campuses  
**Apprenticeships:** Bicester

## HIGHER LEVELS 4-7

1-4  
YRS

Degree programmes for this subject are available at other institutions. Other types of programmes, such as Degree Apprenticeships, Higher National Certificates and Diplomas are also available

### Entry with:

Subject to previous programme, qualifications at Level 3, and relevant experience.

<sup>\*\*</sup>This degree is offered at another institution.

### Entry with:

Evidence of engagement in learning.

## Construction

If you love working with your hands you could become a carpenter, plumber, electrician, site foreman or surveyor.



**Banbury and Bicester College programmes focus heavily on the practical elements of learning: working in industry placements and practicing in our college's excellent facilities.** As well as general construction multi-skills they also run courses specifically for:

- plumbing
- carpentry
- electrical installation



# Finding help & information

Oxfordshire's new **careers platform**, [Find Your Future](#), is the **next step** for you to find out more and **plan your future** here in Oxfordshire.



EXPLORE 'FIND YOUR FUTURE' TOGETHER AND GET YOUR CHILD EXCITED ABOUT WHAT'S NEXT



## 3 ways to get started

- 1 Choose a zone to explore 12 industry sectors to visit
- 2 Learn about different pathways e.g T-Levels, apprenticeships or university
- 3 Search a specific company Find out what they do and connect with them

Navigate your way around the platform by clicking on **Find Your Future**.

There is a guide on [Find Your Future](#) for students and parents to explore **Your Fabulous Future in Oxfordshire**. Take time to **get excited** and **make plans!**



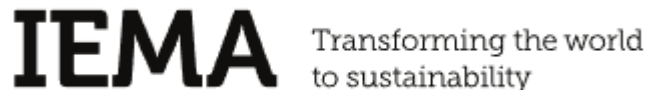
# Signposting to your future

There are lots of great websites to look at if this is something you are interested in:



**Go Construct** provides resources for anyone looking for a career in the construction and built environment sector. They showcase the many rewarding opportunities available and help people from all backgrounds to enter an exciting and growing industry.

Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) promotes and advances civil engineering around the globe. We lead the infrastructure debate to create a more sustainable future and ensure high standards through awarding professional qualifications.



IEMA is the professional body for everyone working in environment and sustainability.

CIEEM are the leading professional membership body representing and supporting ecologists and environmental managers in the UK, Ireland and abroad. Their vision is of a healthy natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations.







# Signposting to your future

There are lots of great websites to look at if this is something you are interested in:



**The Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)** promotes and enforces the highest professional standards in the development and management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure.

SISK are leaders in the construction industry completing large, complex, multidisciplinary building programmes. They are committed to sustainability and lasting community legacies.



**The Royal Institute of British Architects** is a global professional membership body driving excellence in architecture. They work to deliver better buildings and places, stronger communities and a sustainable environment.

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