



Urmston Grammar School

4th February 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Urmston Grammar School is committed to providing students with information on all their future pathways, and once again we are supporting the 19th **National Apprenticeship Week (9th-15th February 2026)**. The theme this year is '**Skills for Life**', encouraging everyone to celebrate how apprenticeships and skills help us all reach our full potential, by breaking down barriers to opportunity and driving economic growth by developing the skills employers need.

On Friday 6th, Trafford College Group will be speaking to Year 10 students about their provision, which includes T Levels and Apprenticeships. As part of National Apprenticeship Week, Manchester Metropolitan University will be speaking to Year 12 students about Degree Apprenticeships on Monday morning. Meanwhile, all Year 7-13 students will also be taking part in relevant house and form time activities throughout the week. The attached doc '**Useful Information for Parents NAW2026**' may also be of interest to you regarding apprenticeships and National Apprenticeship Week 2026.

Year 11 & Year 13 students have continued to be informed of Apprenticeship vacancies regularly over the past few months. This has included sending Year 13 students the updated Higher & Degree Apprenticeship Vacancy January Listing on the day it was published: <https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-degree-listing/> and sending more vacancies from the gov.uk (Find an Apprenticeship) website within 15 miles from Urmston Grammar School. Please see my prepared doc, '**Apprenticeship Vacancies 04.02.26**', for the latest vacancies I have sent out today, that details a range of Intermediate and Advanced (more suited to Year 11), and Higher and Degree Level (more suited to Year 13, however they should not overlook some excellent Advanced roles too that can lead on to higher levels/progression) opportunities.

Year 12 & Year 13 students have also been informed of the launch of the **Future Apprentice Society** that I am starting for Sixth Form students, with the first meeting being held on Monday 9th February at 1:30pm in the Large Conference Room. Please do encourage your child to attend if they are interested in apprenticeships as a post-18 pathway. They can also find out about more about attending a lunch time talk that week with a local firm offering Solicitor Degree Apprenticeships, to hear from an employer and apprentices.

During this half term I have mainly supported students in Year 9 with their post-14 options, and I have continued to support students in Years 11 and 13 with their post-16 and post-18 options where necessary. Next week I will begin holding one-to-one Careers Guidance Meetings with all students in Year 12 to explore their post-18 options, and all students have been booked in before Thursday 7th May. Any that don't attend will have to wait for a rearranged meeting during the last two weeks before the May half term. As a reminder, all students can also access guidance by attending the weekly Careers lunch time drop-in sessions on Wednesdays from 1:15pm-2:00pm in the Careers Office at the back of the LRC.

We are also getting ready to celebrate **National Careers Week (2nd-7th March 2026)** and will be in contact with more information about this soon.

Please also see the latest attached weekly Careers Newsletter, '**Urmston Grammar Parent Edition 19**'.

Yours faithfully,

Amy Marshall
CEIAG Co-Ordinator (Careers Adviser & Co-ordinator)