

Work Experience Ideas

Year 10 placement suggestions by sector

Beauty and personal care

- Hair salons and barbershops
- Nail bars and beauty salons (observing, with no treatments on clients)
- Spas and wellness centres
- Makeup artists, bridal and theatre makeup
- Wig makers and theatrical hair

Museums, heritage and culture

- Local museums and galleries (front of house, collections, learning teams)
- Archives and record offices
- Libraries
- Historic houses, castles and National Trust or English Heritage sites
- Cathedrals and churches (visitor services, events)
- Theatres (backstage, box office, costume, lighting and sound)
- Cinemas and music venues

Creative, media and design

- Newspapers, radio stations and local TV
- Marketing, PR and social media agencies
- Graphic design, photography and video production studios
- Architects and interior designers
- Printers and sign makers
- Games studios and animation companies

Health and care

- GP surgeries, dental practices and opticians
- Pharmacies
- Care homes and nurseries
- Physiotherapy and sports therapy clinics
- Vets, animal shelters and stables
- Hospital non-clinical roles (admin, pharmacy, catering)

Education and community

- Primary and special schools
- Youth clubs and children's centres
- Charity shops and charities
- Councils and local government offices
- Citizens Advice
- Churches, mosques and other community groups

Business, finance and law

- Solicitors and barristers' chambers
- Accountants

- Banks and building societies
- Estate agents
- Insurance firms
- Recruitment agencies
- Small businesses (shadowing the owner shows the whole picture)

Trades, construction and engineering

- Electricians, plumbers, joiners and bricklayers
- Garages and MOT centres
- Bodyshops and vehicle valeters
- Civil engineering firms and surveyors
- Manufacturing and fabrication
- Renewable energy (solar installers, wind farms)

Tech and science

- IT support companies and software developers
- Cybersecurity firms
- Telecoms providers
- University labs and science departments
- Environmental agencies
- Water companies and utilities

Hospitality, retail and tourism

- Hotels, B&Bs and restaurants (front of house, kitchen, events)
- Bakeries, cafés and caterers
- Travel agents, tourist information centres and attractions
- Supermarkets, independent shops and garden centres
- Florists
- Airports and train stations

Sport, leisure and outdoors

- Gyms, leisure centres and sports clubs
- Football and cricket clubs (admin, groundstaff, community teams)
- Golf clubs
- Farms, estates and forestry
- Wildlife trusts and country parks
- Dog groomers and kennels

Public services and transport

- Fire stations (community and admin roles)
- Police staff roles
- Ambulance service
- Armed forces careers events and visits
- Bus and rail companies
- Logistics and delivery firms

Virtual and alternative options

- Employer-led online experiences

- Local employer visits or "day in the life" days
- Parent and carer networks (a family contact can be a good way in)