

Welcome to our Easter edition of the VLUK Newsletter, where we celebrate the fantastic achievements and memorable moments from our learners and campuses across the UK. As we move through the 2025/26 academic year, it's been inspiring to see the continued energy, commitment and creativity shown by our learners. From outstanding sporting performances to exciting work across Performing Arts and Creative Media, they continue to raise the bar and represent VLUK with pride. We're delighted to share a selection of their recent successes and experiences with you.

CAMPUS STORIES

PERFORMERS HUB CAMPUS

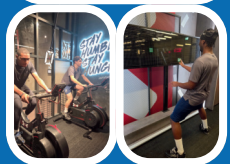
Learners at our VLUK Performers Hub Campus have enjoyed an incredibly busy and productive term, fully immersing themselves in a wide range of creative and performance-based activities. A typical day has seen learners refining their vocal technique in singing lessons, developing strength and discipline through ballet classes, and collaborating on the early planning and rehearsals for their A2/3 project, 'Performance Through The Decades'.

Excitement has continued to build as learners have worked towards their upcoming showcase, recently completing a full dress rehearsal in preparation for their performance at The Limehouse Theatre. This has provided a valuable opportunity for learners to bring together their skills, creativity, and hard work in a professional setting.



WEALDSTONE CAMPUS

Our Wealdstone learners recently visited the Under Armour Performance Hub at Battersea Power Station, gaining first-hand experience of elite-level football fitness testing. Learners completed a range of advanced physical performance tests, with data analysed using industry-standard methods. For some, results may even be considered for Under Armour's sponsorship register, offering insight into elite sport pathways.



The visit linked directly to the curriculum: Year 12s explored careers in Sport and Active Leisure, while Year 13s applied coaching and data analysis skills in a professional setting.

Learners impressed with their professionalism and conduct, making the session a valuable opportunity to bridge academic study with the realities of the sports industry.

WIMBORNE CAMPUS

Twice a month, learners at our Wimborne campus come together for a 'Team Breakfast', creating a welcoming space to connect outside of the classroom.

These sessions are designed to strengthen relationships between staff and learners, while also encouraging interaction between different cohorts. It's a great opportunity to build a strong sense of community, support one another and start the day in a positive and inclusive environment.



MADD CAMPUS

Our BTEC learners have been hard at work rehearsing an exciting extract from Les Misérables as they prepare for their upcoming showcase, 'A Night of Musicals', taking place this May.

Throughout rehearsals, learners have demonstrated fantastic commitment, creativity, and teamwork, bringing this iconic production to life. The performance promises to be a highlight of the term, showcasing the talent and dedication of our learners as they continue to develop their skills on stage.



FOREST SPORT EDUCATION CAMPUS

Each week, FSE learners take part in gym-based practical sessions at Fortitude, led by a qualified personal trainer. These hands-on sessions support Unit 9: Fitness Training and Programming, giving learners the opportunity to design and deliver personalised fitness programmes to a partner.

Not only do these sessions help learners apply theoretical knowledge in a real-world setting, but they also develop essential coaching skills, confidence, and practical experience that will benefit them in their future careers in sport and fitness.

CHATHAM CAMPUS

A huge well done to our Chatham learner Sam Sene-Richardson, who played a key role in a 1-0 victory against Carlisle recently!

This fantastic result marks an exciting milestone and an incredible experience for Sam, showcasing his talent and determination at a high level as well as a close goal where his effort was blocked.

Sam signed his first contract for Chatham on his 18th birthday and has become a first team regular scooping the clubs Young Player of the Season and Player of the Season Awards.



PONTEFRACT COLLIERIES CAMPUS

Mia joined our Pontefract Collieries campus as the only female learner, a challenge she embraced with confidence and determination. In just a few weeks, her maturity, focus, and high-quality work have stood out - she has achieved Distinction-level results in every assignment, perfect GCSE attendance and consistently outstanding feedback.

On the pitch, Mia has excelled with the Sheffield Flexi League squad, helping them top the table, and has earned a call-up to the Ladies First Team. Beyond football, she is pursuing her passion for photography, volunteering with Scholarship and Junior teams to build a professional portfolio.

Mia's journey is a fantastic example of resilience, ambition, and hard work. Her tutor said: "We are incredibly proud of Mia, her commitment and drive have made a lasting impression this year. Well done, Mia!"



BASE CAMPUS

Learners at our BASE Campus enjoyed two inspiring visits recently, offering valuable insight into future career opportunities.

Fil Festa from New Era Cap shared his career journey and highlighted pathways within the Premier League and wider sports industry, as well as providing BTEC learners with some fantastic gifts.

Former learner Eve Savage also returned to speak about her journey to Loughborough University and her volunteering at major sporting events, inspiring learners to think ambitiously about their futures.

Both visits provided a motivating and memorable experience for all involved.



FARNBOROUGH CAMPUS

Our Farnborough learners went head-to-head in a Ryder Cup-style team competition, 'The Boro Cup', featuring a series of exciting team-building challenges.

This year, the Year 13s claimed the title, securing victory with a decisive FootGolf win! Learners demonstrated fantastic teamwork, effort and sportsmanship throughout, making it a fun and memorable event for all involved.

EDUCATION OVERVIEW

SPORTS COACHING

Level 2

Next term the attention will turn to the completion of planning and delivering a community event for our Level 2 learners. Learners will explore the requirements when planning a community event such as advertising, health and safety considerations and they will then develop their understanding of different leadership styles and apply their chosen style practically when delivering the community event.

Level 3 Year 1

In the final term, Year 1 learners turn their attention to careers in sport and self employment. Now that learners have a strong knowledge of sports development structures, organisations and initiatives following completion of Unit 1 last term, they can begin to explore the different careers within the industry and self employment pathways available. Learners will be tasked with creating a self employment business idea and strategy for success including intended marketing strategies and the finances required. They will be presenting their individual ideas for assessment as well as completing mock interviews and applications preparing them for a post in the world of work in the sports industry.

Level 3 Year 2

Year 2 learners will continue to build on their knowledge and practical experience as they progress through their final units. Alongside this, learners will continue refining their practical and analytical skills, applying their learning to real-world scenarios and preparing for their next steps, whether that be higher education, employment or further training within the sports industry.

PERFORMING ARTS

Following the Easter break, learners across Performing Arts campuses will move into a critical and focused period of assessment and final project delivery. For RQF BTEC learners, this includes preparation for and completion of the Unit 1 and Unit 5 external examinations, alongside the completion of final internally assessed project units. BTEC Performing Arts Practice learners, in both Year 1 and Year 2, will be concluding their creative projects, demonstrating their practical skills and application of performance techniques. First-year learners will also develop their understanding of the opportunities and limitations within the performing arts industry, supporting progression awareness.

RSL Level 3 learners will be finalising their core units, including work on planning a career in the industry, alongside completing final major projects that build on their knowledge of audition techniques and structured rehearsal processes to achieve successful performance outcomes.

Across all programmes, the summer term will also see learners preparing for end-of-year showcase performances. These provide valuable real-world industry experience, allowing learners to work collaboratively as part of an ensemble and perform to a live audience, supporting both their practical development and progression into further training or employment.

