

**Where to next ?**

**Alternatives to Higher Education in Wansbeck Constituency**

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**Introduction:**

This document has been created in response to the Child Poverty 2021 report created by the Wansbeck Labour office and Ian Lavery MP.

The report highlights the levels of poverty in the area mainly impacting the youngest in society. The recommendations in this report explain the need for a focus on vocational courses, technical training and apprenticeships for students opting out of university and ensuring they have a secure route into work. This report will promote the local options for young people in Wansbeck and general Northumberland outside of the traditional university route. This report aims to highlight the opportunities available to young people and showing they do not need to move out of the area for secure work.

The target audience for this report is young people aged 16-25 looking for further education or employment after leaving secondary school.

This report is separated into three sections:

1. Apprenticeships
2. Vocational courses
3. Employment opportunities

With each section showing options for different types of opportunity e.g., trades and office work.

**Apprenticeships:**

**Intro**

Apprenticeships are paid jobs where you are trained as you work. You will gain valuable experience in your chosen career whilst making a wage. Apprenticeships allow you to gain skills you may not learn through training alone. Furthermore, you earn qualifications and are incredibly employable once you finish.

**Trades**

**Landscaping/gardening operative**

* £150 per week. Full-time employment possible after completion.
* Maths and English GCSE (9-2) and driving licence essential.
* Wilde Gardens. Outside work working with a gardening and landscaping *local business*.

Link(s)

* [Wilde Gardens](http://www.wildegardens.com)
* [Horticulture or Landscape Operative - Northumberland College](https://www.northumberland.ac.uk/apprenticeships/apprenticeship-vacancies/vacancy/horticulture-or-landscape-operative-4/)

**Supply chain warehouse operative**

* £200 per week. Northumberland.
* Full-time with overtime needed in winter (weekends, evenings). Working outside and can be physically demanding.
* Possibility for full-time employment after completion. Will gain Level 2 apprenticeship.
* Maths and English GCSE (9-4). Training for forklift driving and portable appliance testing.
* Working on the production and warehouse side of the company.

Link(s)

* [Production and Warehouse Apprentice - Find an apprenticeship](https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/reference/1841066)
* [Culture Creative](https://www.culturecreative.co.uk)

**Supply chain warehouse operative**

* Full-time with half days on Fridays. Sunderland.
* Salary: £168.35 per week.
* Maths and English GCSE (9-3).
* Will gain Level 2 apprenticeship.
* Opportunity to progress in Sunderland facility warehouse.
* Haskel Energy Systems Ltd. Working physically and online, checking stock, picking orders and assisting resources.

Link(s)

* <https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/reference/1812964>
* [Haskel High Pressure Technology | Hydrogen Solutions](https://www.haskel.com/en-gb)

**Electrician**

* Full time, 37 hour contract. Cramlington.
* Salary: £177.97 per week.
* Maths and English and 3 other GCSE’s (9-4).
* Will gain Level 3 engineering qualification.
* Merit Holding Limited. Working with an engineering team and machine building.

Link(s)

* [Merit](https://www.merit.co.uk)

**Office Work**

**Learning and organisational development assistant.**

* Full time, 37.5 hour contract. Northumberland.
* Salary: £22k - £24k per year.
* HR/training job. Working for Northumberland County Council. Responsible for creating and analysing data reports; including data quality and audit results to senior management.

Link(s)

* [Learning and Organisational Development Assistant - Apprenticeships and Employability.3656 - Northumberland County Council - North East Jobs](https://www.northeastjobs.org.uk/default.aspx?page=jobdetail&module=jobs-userjobdetails&jid=222963)

**Administrative worker**

* Full time, 37.5 hour contract. Morpeth.
* Salary: £180.38 per week.
* Maths and English GCSE (9-4).
* Will gain Level 3 apprenticeship qualification in business administration.
* Administrative training job with EWM Hightec Welding UK Ltd. Learning the responsibilities of an administrative assistant, bookkeeping, supporting clients and stock taking. All skills are very desirable and transferable.

Link(s)

* [Administrator Apprentice Ewm Hightec Welding Uk Ltd](https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-724319)

**Teaching**

**Early Years Educator**

* Full time, 8:45-3:45 Monday-Friday during term time. 37.5 hour contract. Morpeth.
* Salary: £180.38 per week.
* Maths and English GCSE (9-4) and NVQ2 in early years childcare or equivalent.
* Will gain Level 3 apprenticeship qualification in early years childcare.
* Sunshine pre-school Ltd, be a key worker for a group of children, carry out progress checks, arrange activities and support parents and staff.

Link(s)

* [Apprentice Early Years Educator Sunshine Pre-School (Morpeth) Ltd](https://www.findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk/apprenticeship/-720235)
* [Pre school care in Morpeth, with wrap around care](https://sunshinepreschoolm.wixsite.com/morpeth)

**Teaching assistant**

* Full time, during term time. 25 hour contract. Bedlington.
* Salary: £168.35 per week.
* Maths and English GCSE (9-4).
* Will gain Level 3 apprenticeship in teaching assistance.
* Howard House Care Limited. Be a consistent and helpful part of the classroom and learn how to plan and support lessons to help children’s development.

Link(s)

* [About Us – Howard House School](https://howardhouseschool.com/about-us/)

**Vocational Courses:**

**Intro**

Vocational courses is a course which focuses on the practical aspect of work rather than academic work which you would focus on in school. Vocational courses allow you to learn practical skills and get hands-on experience in your selected career, giving you great skills to begin employment.

**Trades**

**Automotive**

* Gateshead College Motor Vehicle Service and Repair
* 3 year course, starting from Level 1 and progressing to Level 2 and 3.
* One GCSE and interview required
* Maths and English test upon entry
* Contacts with local businesses for work experience and employment opportunities
* Assessed via practical work and multiple choice questions
* Learn the necessary skills to be a mechanic through health and safety training, mechanical knowledge and electric and hybrid vehicle awareness.

Link(s)

* [Automotive | Gateshead College](https://www.gateshead.ac.uk/subjects/automotive)

**Plumbing**

* Gateshead College Plumbing
* 2 year course, starting from Level 1 and progressing to Level 2.
* English and Maths GCSE (3-9)
* Contacts with local businesses for work experience and employment opportunities.
* Assessed via practical work, portfolios, online exams and written coursework.
* Learn the necessary skills to be a qualified plumber and environmental awareness.

Link(s)

* [Level 1 Plumbing | Gateshead College](https://www.gateshead.ac.uk/courses/level-1-plumbing)

**Employment:**

**Intro**

However some people may be done with education and formal learning all together. Going straight into employment out of education is an incredibly viable option with a large number of benefits. Not only do you begin to make a salary very early, but it gives you a headstart on those who follow other paths. Starting lower down in a retail company for example gives you time to learn necessary skills and work your way up the ladder to higher positions. However, the jobs market is constantly changing with new jobs being uploaded every day, so you are encouraged to do your own research on some of the links provided. This section was completed in March/April of 2022 so the jobs available may have changed.

**Retail**

**Urban Outfitters Sales Associate**

* Based in Newcastle so requires commute from Wansbeck
* Working as part of a team gaining valuable retail experience
* No salary advertised so further communication would be required
* Previous retail experience preferred but not required
* Strong communication required

Link(s)

* <https://uk.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=94e9a3aafe719f91&tk=1g1qj9i7asp7h800&from=serp&vjs=3>
* [Careers | Urban Outfitters UK](https://www.urbanoutfitters.com/en-gb/careers)

**Store Assistant - ALDI**

* Fixed term contract
* £10.10 an hour
* Gain experience within a retail environment
* No previous experience required
* Customer service skills required

Link(s)

* <https://uk.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=6058604a27950454&tk=1g1qk14h7su0g801&from=serp&vjs=3>

**Hospitality**

**Team Member - Greggs**

* Based in Ashington
* £9.50 an hour with access to additional pay through a bonus scheme
* Get to work as part of a team whilst gaining valuable face to face retail skills
* Both part time and permanent jobs available
* Ideally experience in the field is required however it is not essential
* No academic qualification requirements

Link(s)

* <https://uk.indeed.com/jobs?q&l=Wansbeck%20District%2C%20Northumberland&vjk=52c29ec3995b552a&advn=9069013984913300>
* [Greggs Jobs](https://www.greggsfamily.co.uk)

**Team Leader and Sales Assistant - Coopland & Son**

* Based in Ashington
* £10-£12 an hour as well as discounted and free food
* Onsite parking
* Various job types available ranging from 4-39.5 hours a week
* 28 days holiday
* No prerequisite requirements
* No academic Requirements

Link(s)

* [https://uk.indeed.com/viewjob?](https://uk.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=e4a1f49c2cac5ca6&l=Wansbeck+District%2C+Northumberland&tk=1g1qj9i7asp7h800&from=web&advn=4790940863515009&adid=386575916&ad=-6NYlbfkN0Ai3DpWF7U7ckq1Q0Ah3dIrfqrQfKjASweWte5AI2550Rjjj6Uq0XZ-e0QECPnPY-q3RqK82LpCqYlbell1ttoYmlDR2-2sJq3bu4YbGkYilNmJ3rOBE4GgfFC0xT5hqxVlUjhBIr_5sBK66dTwIEo2Dind5NsijEjmG3sRkj4aD-CRL20Rl30Ou1rgcRTJ7C1Wka8VzHD24yQott7mZWUHi65HHWq9hjSbkCy57Yc__AkW3cFsZCP-QeYBcQTqlLFuH4ttDO3NiweyJLjvGe5MRN5yYEepZkjXuKFiOvUEuq7jIj7UbOpYy_JD_UmS3IGwaX1RLq3hxYfJNcNphkuKEUWlUW-eqhS46JJL6qNIbrj6PM9EtwkZ&pub=4a1b367933fd867b19b072952f68dceb&vjs=3)
* [Careers with Cooplands](https://careers.cooplands-bakery.co.uk)

**Administration**

**Receptionist - Northumbria Healthcare**

* Part-time work
* Based in Ashington
* Salary of £18,870 - £19,918 a year
* Receptionist experience is required

Link(s)

* <https://uk.indeed.com/viewjob?jk=a234f6c9cce85652&tk=1g1qk14h7su0g801&from=serp&vjs=3>

**Receptionist - Robson & Prescott Vets**

* Full-time roll
* £9.50 an hour
* 40 hour weeks
* Good IT skills required as well as confidence handling animals

Link(s)

* <https://uk.indeed.com/viewjob?cmp=ROBSON-%26-PRESCOTT&t=Receptionist&jk=be4c018ca03d717d&vjs=3>

**Conclusion:**

In conclusion we hope that this report clearly outlines some of the plethora of available post-education options for students that are not university. By compiling them in this document we hope we have made it easier to research and see the available options.