

Exhibitors Attending NDown & Ards Area Learning Community Higher Level Apprenticeship Fair: 6th Nov 2025 4-7.30pm (Entries as booked upto 10/10/25)

Exhibitor Stand : Name of Business / Organisation	Career Area of Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)	Information about business/ organisation
Almac Group	Applied Industrial Sciences, Customer Operations, Computing, Mechanical & Electrical Engineering,	'Almac Group has a global reputation for excellence in pharmaceutical industry, delivering expertise right across the drug development lifecycle and offering a tailored solution to each client. Almac employs over 700 highly skilled analysts working in regulatory approved GMP laboratories across five locations in Craigavon, UK; Charnwood, UK; Souderton, Pennsylvania; Athlone, Ireland and Dundalk, Ireland. Construction of new laboratory space at the company's global HQ site in Craigavon considerably increases overall capacity.'
A & L Goodbody LLP	Legal	A large leading Irish corporate law firm, with offices in Belfast and Dublin, providing expert legal advice to multinationals, financial institutions, and government bodies. A&L Goodbody's Belfast office works with domestic and international companies and government bodies in relation to their business activities in Northern Ireland. We provide the full range of corporate legal services including corporate, banking and financial services, commercial property and litigation. They have advised on some of the most significant, challenging and complex assignments in Northern Ireland in recent years. The Belfast and Dublin office teams work closely together in providing fully integrated legal services across the island of Ireland.
A & O Shearman	Law, Business Management, Cloud and Infrastructure, Information Security	A global law firm with a Belfast office. The firm provide market-leading companies, investment funds and financial institutions with top-tier corporate and M&A advice in every jurisdiction. In November 2011 the Belfast Support Services Centre (SSC) was launched to deliver core internal business support across IT, HR, Finance, Business Services, Marketing and Risk. Alongside this the Advanced Delivery Legal (ADL) team was also launched in Belfast to focus on harnessing digital technology and alternative resourcing models to provide legal support to our clients across the globe. The Belfast office is now the second largest office in the A&O Shearman network, with over 700 employees working across our SSC and ADL teams.

Alternative Heat Ltd	Engineering, Commercial, Marketing	Established in Co Down in 2005, we have expertise in the design and build of off-site, pre-fabricated MEP Solutions. With a strong focus on quality, innovation and optimising lean manufacturing, we deliver a robust and competitive offering across our range of Offsite Prefabricated Solutions. We have built a strong client base throughout UK, Ireland and mainland Europe, across a range of sectors from Data Centres and large scale District Heating schemes to high rise Residential and Healthcare projects.
Army in Education	7 different Career streams over 76 different job roles.	7 different Career streams over 76 different job roles. Talk to us to help you 'Find Your Fit' from across our career streams.
Belfast Met College- IT Apprenticeships	Civil Engineering, Accounting, Business and Management, Computing and IT, Cybersecurity, Events, Hospitality, Childhood Studies and Playwork	Belfast Met proactively work with national, regional and local employers to develop partnerships to provide the level of mentoring and support to offer learners the opportunity to undertake a Higher Level Apprenticeship.
BT Group	Software Engineering	'BT Group is the global powerhouse behind EE, BT, PlusNet and Openreach. Together, we're connecting the world. Four brands. 100,000 people. One team – committed to building and maintaining our networks, creating and servicing our solutions and making sure we meet and exceed our customers' expectationsJoin us and you'll help us to keep innovating – creating the platforms, products and services that will empower people, businesses and governments, transforming our homes, our lives and the wider world we share.'
CAFRE	Agri-Food, Food Science & Manufacture	Agri-Food Industry. Food and Nutrition. Providing a HLA Degree in Food and Drink Manufacture
CITB NI	Various in Construction	Offer advice on behalf of Construction Industry
CME Group	Business Technology, Accountancy with Management, Computing Systems, Software Development (pending QUB Launch of this course)	'CME Group is a financial services company. The world's leading and most diverse derivatives marketplace offering the widest range of futures and options products for risk management. With offices across the world including Belfast and Chicago.'

Danske Bank	Banking and other Banking Departments	Danske Bank Group is a leading financial services provider headquartered in Copenhagen, Denmark. Danske Bank Ireland is part of the Group's Large Corporates & Institutions business which manages the financing and transaction needs of large corporate and institutional customers. We are a market leader in Green Financing, Debt Capital Markets, Corporate Advisory and Transaction Banking and a significant processor of domestic payment services. Our customers include indigenous global corporates, Nordic multinationals with operations in Ireland, State / government bodies and financial institutions. Our ability is proven by the many companies who call on our expertise in Green Financing, Debt Capital Markets, Corporate Advisory, Transaction Banking and International Trade Finance.
EY (Ernest Young)	IT, Tax and Audit	EY services help reframe the future of the following industries: advanced manufacturing, energy & resources, consumer, financial services, government & industry, health.
FirstPoint USA	US University Admissions	Whether you are a first-year high school student or a national ranked athlete, FirstPoint helps take the stress of uncertainty out of your scholarship journey by putting a plan in place to help you find your best university options in the USA. We help aspiring student athletes get discovered by college coaches: World's most comprehensive scholarship placement service; Leading provider of scouting services to college coaches; Founded by athletes for athletes.
GMcG Chartered Accountants	Accountancy	A local chartered accountancy firm with offices in Belfast, Lisburn and Portadown. See our website for 'what we each specialise in and our individual contact details. You can search according to location or area of specialism. Our Directors thrive on the commercial and specialist advice opportunities stemming from the increasingly dynamic activities of our own clients and those of referrers for our specialist services both locally and globally.'
Hastings Hotels	Hospitality	Founded nearly sixty years ago, Hastings Hotels is Northern Ireland's premier collection of hotels. The Hastings portfolio has six luxurious hotels of character and distinction, each set in key locations across Northern Ireland.'
H&J Martin	Project Management, Business Administration	A family owned specialist contracting business in the construction and services sectors. Provide a range of careers including :Contracts Management and Quantity Surveying.

Into Film	Wide range of Creative industry opportunities straight from school	Careers in N.Ireland screen industries include :Costume Design Virtual Production, Storyboarding & Concept Art, Prosthetics Location Management, Visual and Special Effects, Production Accountancy, Animation, Game Design,Camera Operating, Music Composition, Story Development etc
Kainos	Technology, Software	Kainos is a leading digital technology services provider specializing in custom digital solutions and Workday services across various sectors. With headquarters in Belfast this global organisation helps organisations build digital services and capabilities so that they can grow and thrive in the reality of today's world and 'be more than ready for what comes next. They work in UK, Ireland, the Americas, Central Europe and beyond. 'We reimagine how organisations operate, creating new ways of working that improve people's experiences and lives.' Their digital services include: Digital advisory, Data and AI, Cloud and engineering, AI Business solutions, User Service Design, Management Services.
Liberty IT	BSC Computing systems	'Liberty IT is part of Liberty Mutual Insurance. We're the cogs behind the #78 Fortune-ranked company, the key drivers behind their global digital enablement journey, reimagining insurance by delivering an ever more efficient service for our customers. We co-create digital solutions.'
Nerve Centre	Film, Animation, Gaming and VFX	The hub for growing and recruiting into the Creative Industries in N Ireland. Careers in N.Ireland screen industries include :Costume Design,Virtual Production, Storyboarding & Concept Art, Prosthetics,Location Management, Visual and Special Effects, Production Accountancy, Animation, Game Design,Camera Operating, Music Composition, Story Development etc. We run NI Screen Academies offering young people aged 16-19 the chance to dive into the exciting world of screen industries. Whether you're into film (and all the roles within it), animation, games, or visual effects, our academies provide free, hands-on training and mentorship to help you kickstart your career. Nerve Centre has earned a reputation as a vibrant hub for live music and artist development, with a strong focus on supporting young local musicians and creatives. We provide opportunities for emerging talent to develop their skills, perform at a professional level, and build the confidence to take their music to wider audiences.

NISCC (NI Social Care Council)	Social Work, Social Care	7,000 people work in social work or social care in Northern Ireland and are registered with the Social Care Council. That's almost 5% of the working population. There are a number of career opportunities in both social work and social care working with children, young people, adults and families across a diverse range of settings and roles.'
NI Careers Service	Impartial advice and guidance on all HLAs and careers	The Careers Service provides an impartial, all-age careers information, advice and guidance service throughout Northern Ireland.
NI Department of Economy	HLAs in all areas	Promotion of AppsNI Level 2 and 3 and HLA departmental programmes
NI Water	Science, Civil Engineering, Construction Engineering with Surveying, Commercial, IT - Cyber Security, IT - Telementary within our Intelligent Operation Centre.	NI Water supplies and treats water and wastewater services across Northern Ireland, employing people in professional, technical, and operational roles to maintain and develop the necessary infrastructure and services. Job roles span various departments, including operations, engineering, IT, asset management, finance, and corporate communications, as well as specialized areas such as analytical science and related apprenticeships.
PwC	Accountancy Business Management	Global Accountancy firm, with a large branch in Belfast. Welcomes school leavers. Company offers a large range of jobs eg accountancy, tax compliance, Human Resource consulting, Assurance, Pension. Opportunities to travel and work across the world. Various HLAs.
Randox Laboratories Ltd	Life Sciences(Manufacturing and R&D), Engineering (Manufacturing and R&D), Accountancy	Randox provides clinical diagnostic solutions to laboratories worldwide and is dedicated to improving health on a global scale.
Royal Air Force	Logistics, Aircrew, HR, Engineering	A career in the Royal Air Force is No Ordinary Job. From the quick role progression to the unrivalled skills and training you receive. You will start your career in the RAF as either an Officer or Enlisted Aviator, this is dependant on your level of education and the role you choose. You can join either as a full time Regular or you can decide to challenge and improve yourself in your spare time, by joining part time as an RAF Reserve.
SERC (South Eastern Regional College)	HLAs in at least six different career areas	Accounting, Cyber Security, Mechatronic Engineering, Manufacturing, Culinary Arts, Tourism

Thales UK	Mechatronic Engineering, Manufacturing	'With a 70+ year heritage in world class engineering, Thales in Northern Ireland is a leading high technology company in the defence and space sectors. It employs more than 900 people across four UK sites, with the majority at its main site in Belfast.' Thales in Northern Ireland is a leading high technology company within the defence and space sectors. It employs more than 900 people across four UK sites, with the majority at its main site in Belfast. Thales is a major contributor to the economy contributing £151 million to the UK GDP, of which £81 million is in Northern Ireland.
Ulster University including Ulster University Business School	Business, Engineering, Financial Technology Computing, Construction. Currently 21 different Higher Apprenticeship programmes across all four faculties	See Apprenticeship Hub https://www.ulster.ac.uk/apprenticeships/degree-apprenticeships . 'We are a leading centre for entrepreneurial education, research, and impact, committed to supporting individual, organisational and societal potential. Our degree programmes are shaped by our world-leading research. We are ranked in the top 25% of UK business schools for world leading and internationally excellent research, with 100% of our research recognised as having outstanding or very considerable impact (REF, 2021).'
Workplus	One stop apprenticeship application system for over 50 NI companies to help connect them to career explorers	'Workplus is the easier way to find an apprenticeship. It makes it more straight-forward for both employers and applicants by providing a single place for applicants to apply, as well as offering a simple, thorough selection process for employers. Workplus is currently working with 50+ companies across the sectors and has apprenticeships in a variety of roles including engineering, manufacturing, logistics and software development. Check out www.workplus.app for further information including stories from current apprentices, parents, teachers and employers.'

