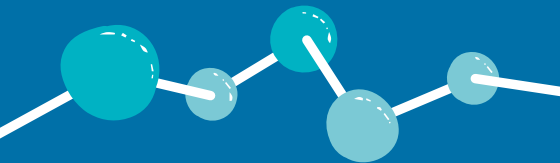




Cogent skills
for science industries

Futures in STEM



**A world full of endless
opportunities and
fantastic prospects**

www.cogentskills.com/careers
[@cogent_students](https://twitter.com/cogent_students)

About Cogent Skills

Are you looking for an exciting and challenging career where you can help impact the lives of people?

If yes, then a career in science could be for you.

At Cogent Skills, we are passionate about helping young people of all abilities and interests find an exciting and rewarding career in the science industries.

We don't just help you to find an Apprenticeship or placement in the science industries. After you are placed, we maintain regular contact with you to ensure you are getting the most out of your role and are enjoying your work.

Jobs in the science industries

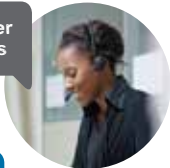
There is a huge variety of interesting jobs in the science industries, and not all of them are laboratory based. Some of the roles you can enter in the science industries are:

Laboratory Technician



Engineering

Customer Services



Supply Chain



Logistics



Business Administration



Marketing



Human Resources



Pharmaceutical Development



Quality Assurance

Why a career in science?

Science is all around us, it goes into the food we eat, the soap we wash with and the medicines we take when we are ill. With so many items related to science, there a huge variety of jobs available and not all of them involve wearing a lab coat!

- ✓ A career in the science industries is generally far **better paid** than other industries
- ✓ Young science workers are in **high demand** meaning good job security
- ✓ There is a **demand** for science workers globally, meaning opportunities for international travel
- ✓ Great **progression**
- ✓ Opportunities in a number of roles from laboratory assistant to business administration
- ✓ **Every day is different** and you can make a difference to the lives of people

Routes into the science industries

It is often thought that you have to be a straight A* student to enter the science industries. However, if you are **enthusiastic and willing to learn**, there are opportunities to enter science for all academic abilities.

This guide will talk you through these different routes and help you decide which is best for you, either through **Traineeships, Apprenticeships or placements** whilst at university.



Traineeships

Preparing you for work

Do you want to complete an Apprenticeship but haven't quite got the grades or experience employers are looking for?

A Traineeship is designed to help people like you find a work experience placement in a local science based company.

The programme consists of:

- ✓ A minimum 100 hour work experience placement
- ✓ Chance to improve your English, Maths and ICT
- ✓ Focus on CV writing, interview preparation and job searches
- ✓ A 10 week college programme to help prepare you for work



Traineeships: The benefits



At the end of your Traineeship, you will be in a better position to apply for an Apprenticeship or other job



Build your CV and get vital work experience



Improve your English, Maths and ICT skills



Increase your confidence in the work environment



Acquire employability skills that are necessary to secure employment

Apprenticeships

- ➔ Are you aged 16-24 and want to earn money whilst gaining invaluable work experience?
- ➔ Do you want to carry on learning but don't want to continue in full time education?

If you answered yes, then an Apprenticeship is for you!

During an Apprenticeship you will:

- ✓ Earn a wage whilst learning on the job
- ✓ Receive a nationally recognised qualification
- ✓ Gain job specific skills which will help you secure a job after your Apprenticeship
- ✓ Sample a career before committing to it
- ✓ Take your first step on the career ladder

Types of Apprenticeships

Cogent Skills offers Apprenticeships in a variety of roles in the science industries, both lab and office based at various levels.

Advanced Apprenticeship

Two to four year programme which includes NVQ Level 3 qualification

Entry requirements:

- ➔ 5 GCSEs grades A*-C (typically including English, Maths and Science)

Higher Apprenticeship

Two to four year programme where a learner can progress up to degree level

Entry Requirements:

- ➔ 5 GCSEs A*-C and an A Level (subjects and number of A Levels dependant on role)

Industrial placements

In today's competitive jobs market, it is important to have an edge. By completing a placement whilst at university, you will gain the work experience employers are looking for when hiring a graduate.

We work with universities and employers to increase the number of undergraduate placements available in the science industries.

Whilst at university, you can complete summer placements, a year in industry or term time work, all of which help you stand out from the crowd.



Placements: The benefits

- ✓ Get noticed by employers
- ✓ Earn a wage
- ✓ Experience real responsibility in a workplace
- ✓ Enhance your employability
- ✓ 'Test run' a preferred career
- ✓ Gain experience of applying for jobs



My placement helped me to decide which role I wanted to work in upon graduation and gave me the skills needed to progress in this role. If it was not for my placement, I would not have been offered a full time position with my current employer.

Chandni Kerai



“

I wanted to learn and earn money at the same time so an Apprenticeship was perfect for me. If you want hands on experience, do an Apprenticeship, as you will be at a huge advantage when it comes to getting a job because of the skills and knowledge you will get from an Apprenticeship.

” **Leon Jacobs**

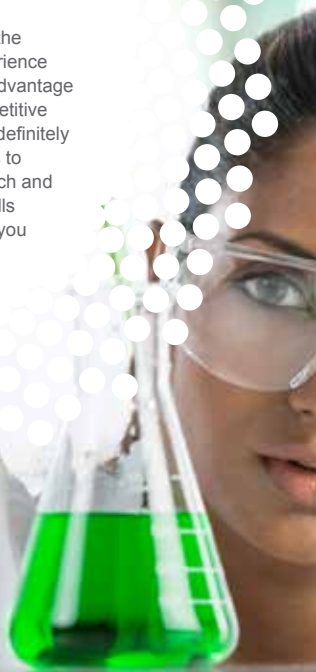


“

I decided to complete a placement year to gain the valuable industrial experience needed to give me an advantage when applying for competitive graduate roles. I would definitely recommend placements to others, you learn so much and improve on so many skills which will really benefit you in the near future.

” **Diki Fundu**

*Diki's placement was fully funded by a grant from the Royal Society of Chemistry through a special initiative to increase the number of SMEs hosting placements.



Careers pathway tool

Cogent Skills has developed a Careers pathway tool to help you investigate and learn about careers in science. It enables you to find out more about the job description, entry requirements, skills required, salary and where to find out more information.

Visit www.cogentskills.com/careers and explore how you can start your career journey today.





If you are interested in an Apprenticeship
or want to see all of our Apprenticeship
and placement vacancies please visit:

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