



LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY
BECKETT CAREERS



THE GRADUATE GUIDE

leedsbeckett.ac.uk/gradcareers

THE GRADUATE PROMISE

At Leeds Beckett, we promise to help you thrive, not only while you study, but long after you graduate. That's why we offer continued careers support for up to five years after you finish your degree course.

YOUR GRADUATE PROGRESSION TEAM

We have a dedicated team within Beckett Careers that focus on supporting new graduates as they take their next steps. Whether you're figuring out your career direction or adjusting to life beyond university, the Graduate Progression team is here to support you.

GRADUATE PATHWAYS

There are many routes that new graduates explore after university, and we can help you to enhance your job search technique to find direct entry jobs. Here are just a few options that you may find helpful to consider:

GRADUATE SCHEMES

These are structured programmes with training, development, and sometimes department rotations. Applications usually open in the autumn for roles starting the following summer.

Graduates are welcome to attend the Big Beckett Careers Fair, where you'll meet employers offering these schemes. [Beckett Careers Online](#) also has helpful application support.

SELF-EMPLOYMENT & FREELANCING

This is a great option for creative or flexible careers. Beckett Careers signposts expert advice and enterprise support to help graduates grow their own business or freelance work. The LBU [Centre for Entrepreneurship](#) and the [Knowledge Exchange](#) offer great resources and support.

DIRECT ENTRY ROLES

Many graduate-friendly jobs don't include 'graduate' in the title. These roles are a great way to build experience and progress within an organisation. We can help you develop your job search strategy to find the right one for you.

INTERNSHIPS

Short-term or long-term fixed term internships can help graduates gain experience and ease into professional life. Some longer internships can be similar to graduate schemes. You can often find these advertised on [Beckett Careers Online](#).

POSTGRADUATE STUDY

Some careers require additional qualifications. It's worth checking what's needed in your chosen careers path. This guide includes more information about further study on page 11.

FIVE YEARS OF GRADUATE SUPPORT

AS A LEEDS BECKETT GRADUATE, YOU'LL HAVE ACCESS TO:

- 1-to-1 Graduate Career Coaching
- Employer Connections
- Graduate Professional Development & Training
- 24/7 Access to Beckett Careers Online
- Graduate Events & Workshops

EXPLORING OPTIONS

It's completely normal to feel uncertain about the future; many graduates don't have it all figured out straight away. Finding the right path often takes curiosity, courage, and a willingness to try new things. What matters most is simply getting started.

STEPS TO TAKE

Here are a few helpful actions you can do today:

- Book a 1-to-1 coaching session by emailing the Graduate Progression team at gradcareers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk. Our Careers Coaches can help you explore options and feel more confident about what's next.
- Visit the [Prospects.ac.uk](https://prospects.ac.uk) website to find out what you can do with your degree and for expert advice on writing strong job applications. Check out our [Applications Hub](#) on Beckett Careers Online for support with your job search and applications.
- Explore where graduates are working now on our alumni platform, [Beckett Connect](#), and by following us on [LinkedIn @BeckettCareers](#).

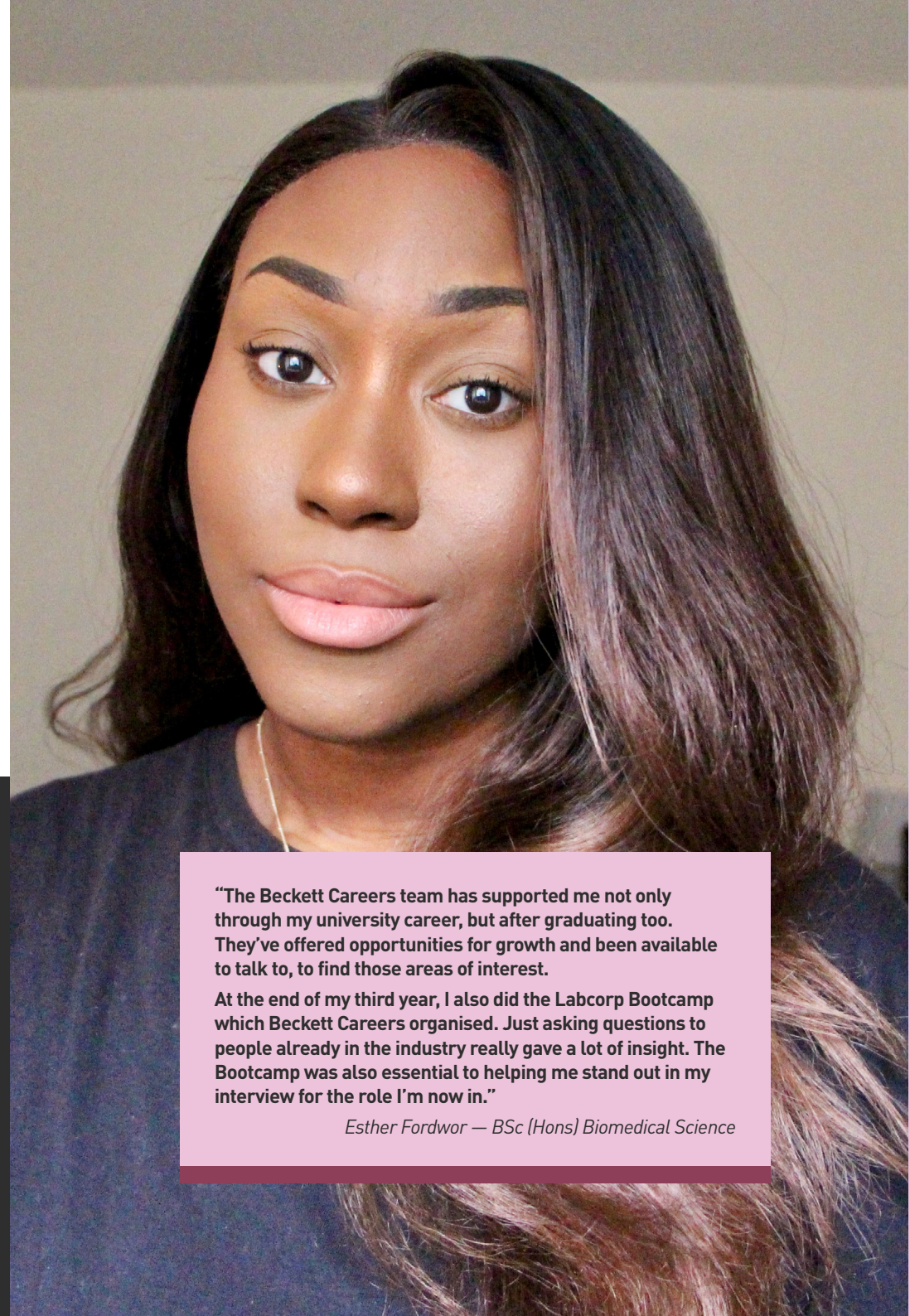
READ OUR BLOG



Get your mind buzzing and the ideas flowing by reading empowering graduate stories shared on the [Beckett Careers blog](#).

You'll discover how they landed their first jobs, the preparation that made a difference, the lessons learned along the way, and the surprising career opportunities they uncovered.

FOLLOW US @BECKETTCAREERS



"The Beckett Careers team has supported me not only through my university career, but after graduating too. They've offered opportunities for growth and been available to talk to, to find those areas of interest."

At the end of my third year, I also did the Labcorp Bootcamp which Beckett Careers organised. Just asking questions to people already in the industry really gave a lot of insight. The Bootcamp was also essential to helping me stand out in my interview for the role I'm now in."

Esther Fordwor — BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science

APPLICATION SUPPORT

We offer a wide range of support to help you navigate your next steps, whether you're applying for jobs or considering further study.

You can find a wealth of careers information and advice on our [Beckett Careers YouTube channel](#), including tips on CVs, cover letters, applications, job search, LinkedIn and much more.



TOP TIP

Join our LinkedIn [LBU Grad Jobs Finder](#) group to connect with opportunities and fellow graduates.

You also retain access to [Beckett Careers Online](#) for up to five years after graduation. This platform includes a regularly updated jobs board, a library of application and interview resources, and details of employer events and networking opportunities throughout the year.

While we don't write CVs for you, we can equip you with the knowledge and confidence to create standout CVs, cover letters, and application forms — skills that will support your career now and into the future.

NEXT STEPS

- Book on our events at [Beckett Careers Online](#) and chat directly with the Graduate Progression team.
- Visit our [Applications Hub](#) for practical tips on writing strong applications
- Explore our [postgraduate study open days](#) to find your next academic step.

"The FinTech Graduate Development Programme gave me the confidence to apply for roles in the FinTech sector and commit to making it happen. By the end, I knew I wanted a job in FinTech, and the Beckett Careers team played a huge part in helping me secure my role with Schrodgers."

Charlie Neale — BA (Hons) Business Management

STARTING WORK

NEW JOB AND CAREER PROGRESSION

Congratulations on securing your new job! Did you know that we offer careers support once you are in work? This includes:

- Personalised 1-to-1 career coaching to give you a flying start.
- Transitioning from student to professional can be a big change in mindset. There is a lot to get used to, including new colleagues, office politics and email etiquette. Check out a great article on the [Prospects.ac.uk website](https://prospects.ac.uk) for some valuable tips and advice.
- Professional development events tailored for early career professionals.
- A range of online resources designed to support your growth and development.



SAVE ON COMMUTER TRAVEL COSTS

We know commuting can be expensive, so here are some handy tips to help you save on your journey to work.

- Get up to 44% off bus travel in West Yorkshire with the 19-25 M-Card.
- Ask your employer if they offer travel discount schemes or car share options.
- Save up to a third on rail fares with the 16-25 Railcard.
- Hire an electric or standard bike through Beryl Bike Hire for a greener, cost-effective commute.

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR NEW ROLE

- New ideas and perspectives are what keep the world growing.
- Be on time and ready — even online. Make the most of each day. Breaks are great for networking!
- Everyone starts somewhere and everyone has had a first day!
- Save positive feedback to track your growth. Don't fear constructive feedback — it's key to developing your skills.
- Stay professional watch your language and avoid gossip or office politics.
- Be authentically you, your uniqueness is your magic!
- Try to be brave and speak up — your input is valued!
- Get involved! Bring enthusiasm and a willingness to learn. Seek out and put yourself forward for the opportunities.
- If it's not for you, it's not forever, but it's also never a waste to experience something.

YOUR FIRST DAY

Plan your route and aim to arrive early on your first day.

Know who to meet, where, and when to plan ahead.

Bring pens and paper for notes, and prepare a few outfits — wait to buy more until you understand the dress code.

If you're unsure about anything, contact your manager to start with confidence.

YOUR FIRST WEEK

Confirm your annual leave and notify your employer of any pre-booked time off.

Fully engage in your induction, taking notes on protocols, health and safety, and benefits.

Don't hesitate to ask questions — it's normal not to understand everything immediately.

DISABILITY & WORK

FREE ADVOCACY, INFORMATION & ADVICE

Beckett Careers partners with [EmployAbility](#), a specialist service supporting disabled graduates and employees. Graduates can register for free, confidential advice and advocacy. They also run workshops on mental health and navigating recruitment and work for neurodivergent graduates.



REASONABLE ADJUSTMENTS

A reasonable adjustment is any change an employer makes to help you work comfortably and effectively. Disability terminology can be confusing, so we encourage you to discuss your needs with your employer. EmployAbility can also offer tailored advice on workplace adjustments.

MANAGING WELLBEING AT WORK

Make sure you understand what your employer offers in terms of wellbeing support and don't be afraid to use it. Going through change can be difficult and sometimes it helps to talk to friends and family. If you need further support, contact your GP or explore the support offered by charities such as the [Mental Health Foundation](#) and [MIND](#).



FURTHER STUDY

[Postgraduate study](#) is a fantastic way to advance your career or deepen your knowledge in a subject you're passionate about. It's also an opportunity to study something new and take your career in a different direction.

**LEEDS BECKETT GRADUATES CAN ENJOY
20% OFF OUR POSTGRADUATE COURSES**

FUNDING

Many of our Master's courses at Leeds Beckett are eligible for government-backed loans, making further study more accessible. You can find detailed information about postgraduate [Master's loans](#) on the government website.



TEACHER TRAINING

Did you know we offer a range of primary and secondary PGCE courses that lead to Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)? If you're considering applying for PGCE starting in September, you can explore our course options at leedsbeckett.ac.uk. You can also contact the team directly for more information.



STUDY SOMETHING NEW

[Postgraduate study](#) offers an exciting opportunity to change direction and explore a new field, even if it's different from your undergraduate degree. Many postgraduate courses welcome applicants from diverse academic backgrounds, allowing you to build on your existing skills while gaining specialist knowledge in a new subject area. It's a chance to broaden your expertise, open new career pathways, and shape the future you want.



FINANCIAL WELLBEING

Starting your first job means managing money wisely to support today and plan for the future. It's important to understand your salary, taxes, student loan repayments, and the benefits of saving early to build a strong financial base.

FREE SUPPORT

Many banks offer free financial advice — even if you're not a customer. [MoneyHelper](#) provides impartial advice, tools, and online calculators and by phone. [Citizens Advice](#) offers free guidance via phone, chat, and in person.

UNDERSTANDING EXPENSES

As a new graduate starting your first job, there will be different types of expenses such as tax that you'll encounter.

Understanding how they work will help you to manage your finances more effectively.

We have outlined some of these below.

- National Insurance: Mandatory payments funding state benefits.
- Income Tax: Deducted based on earnings.
- Council Tax: Local tax for community services.
- Student Loan: Repayments begin once your income reaches a certain level.

PENSIONS

Start saving early. The sooner you begin, the more your money can grow. Visit [Save the Student](#) for tips or ask your employer's HR team about pension options.

A close-up portrait of a young woman with long, wavy brown hair and blue eyes. She is smiling slightly and looking directly at the camera. She has a small nose ring and is wearing a light pink top. The background is slightly out of focus, showing some shelves and a wooden board.

“Beckett Careers recommended me for the job I have just started and thought I’d be perfect for. It was so helpful to know the company values from someone who had a relationship with the business, and gave me confidence with who I’d be working for which is everything in my eyes.”

Jessica Hawkins — BA (Hons) Accounting and Finance

STAYING IN TOUCH

WELCOME TO OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY!

As an LBU graduate, you are now a part of our alumni community. We hope you'll become an active and lifelong member of this network of remarkable individuals.

Leeds Beckett takes great pride in its global community of graduates who stay connected and help each other thrive. Our new graduates are role models for current students, and we would love to celebrate your success stories.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Passing on your graduate story is helpful for others to see the many career paths and options their own futures can take. Your career journey could be the spark that creates a blueprint for others to follow in.



Once you've graduated, we invite you to share your career path and experiences with us to inspire others by being published on the [Beckett Careers blog](#) — your go-to space for real-world insights and advice from graduates who have already walked the path before you.

Contact the Graduate Progression team at gradcareers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk to be involved.

CONTACT DETAILS

Graduate Progression team

Email: gradcareers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Website: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/gradcareers



KEY LINKS

GRADUATE CAREERS SUPPORT

Our online careers support remains open 24/7 to all new graduates through the [Beckett Careers Online](#) employability portal.



If you forget your login details, you can easily reset your account. Your access stays active for up to five years after completing your course — even after your university email deactivates!

If you have any questions or need personalised advice, you're welcome to email your Graduate Progression team at gradcareers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

BECOME A MENTOR OR ALUMNI GUEST SPEAKER

Our alumni make fantastic mentors. By sharing their unique experiences, they help current students understand how to make the most of the opportunities available at Leeds Beckett. If you're interested to become a mentor or guest speaker you can sign up or simply tick the 'willing to mentor' box on your [Beckett Connect](#) profile.



CERTIFICATES & TRANSCRIPTS

Most questions about certificates and transcripts can be answered on our dedicated web page. However, if you'd like to speak directly with a member of staff, you can email registrationandawards@leedsbeckett.ac.uk



BECKETT CONNECT

[Beckett Connect](#) is an exclusive online network for Leeds Beckett graduates. This platform makes it easy to communicate, network with fellow alumni, and stay connected with the university. Join today!



INSPIRE OTHERS

We're committed to supporting our graduates long after leaving campus.

We'll reach out via email and phone to check-in with you, so please check your contact details are up-to-date.

For the best experience, please update your information by the end of August by logging into your university account.



**GRADUATE
OUTCOMES**
SURVEY



Keep an eye out for the [Graduate Outcomes Survey](#) which will be sent approximately 15 months after graduation. It's a fantastic way to share what you're up to and help us stay connected.

You're also welcome to email us at gradcareers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk anytime to keep us updated.

CONGRATULATIONS!

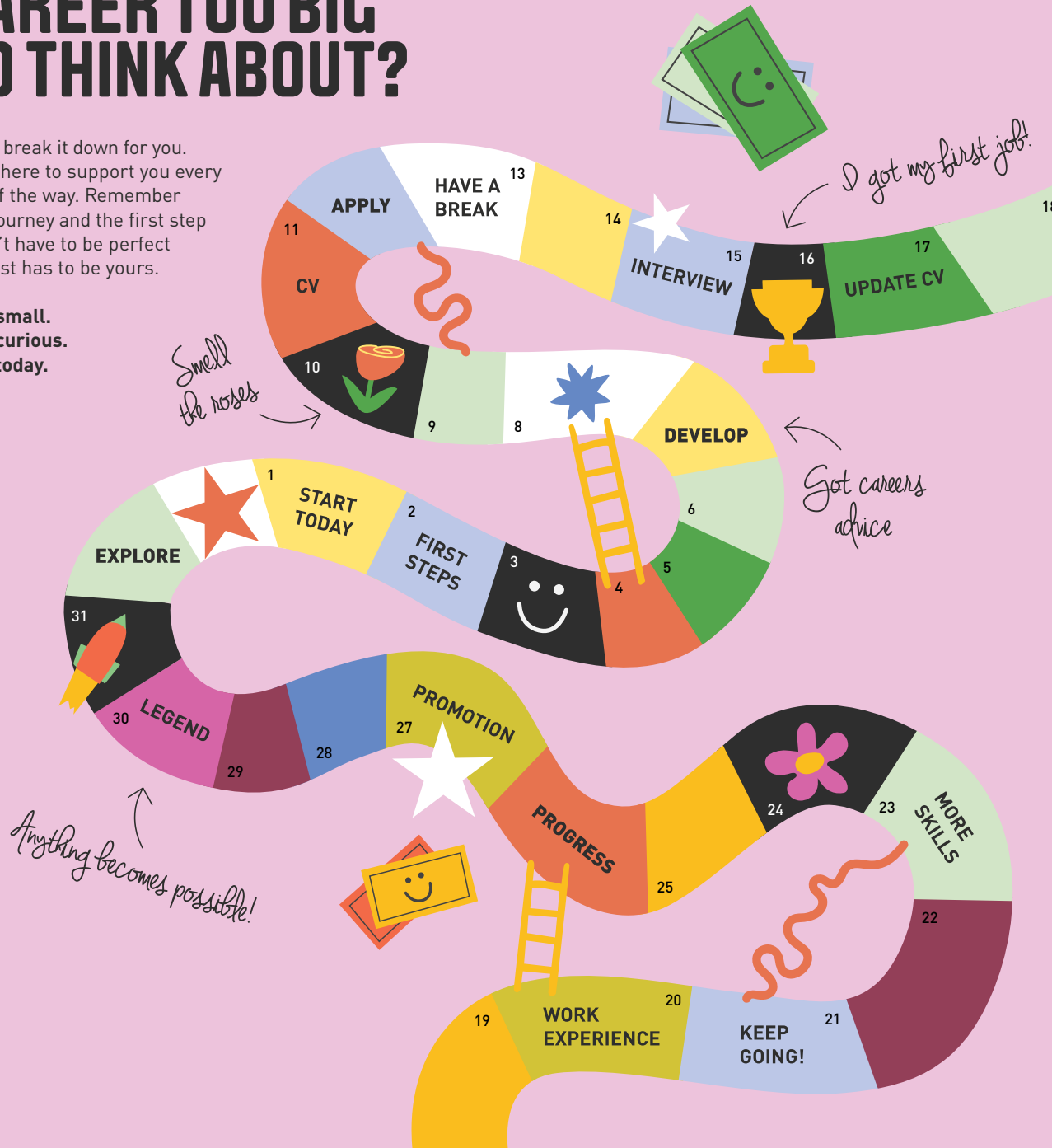
**WE'RE SO PROUD TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR
GRADUATE COMMUNITY!**



CAREER TOO BIG TO THINK ABOUT?

Let us break it down for you. We're here to support you every step of the way. Remember it's a journey and the first step doesn't have to be perfect — it just has to be yours.

**Start small.
Start curious.
Start today.**



WHERE TO START

After looking and reading through everything Beckett Careers has to offer, it's normal to feel a bit unsure about where to start. But doing one thing — however big or small — can help get you moving. Here are a couple of simple first steps to action:

FOLLOW US @BECKETTCAREERS

We're on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#).

JOIN BECKETT CONNECT

Be part of our alumni community and connect with other graduates. Find out where they are now on [Beckett Connect](#).

LOG IN TO BECKETT CAREERS ONLINE

When you've updated your contact details on [MyHub](#), make sure you start exploring the opportunities that will support your future.



CONTACT DETAILS

Graduate Progression team

Email: gradcareers@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Website: leedsbeckett.ac.uk/gradcareers



@BeckettCareers