



Build Your Future in Housing

Schools' and careers pack

#BuildYourFutureInHousing



Who is this for?

This pack is designed for **teachers, careers advisers, youth workers and parents**, who we hope will share these insights in careers sessions and conversations with young people.

We want to help you help young people to explore the many options of the housing sector. Here's how to get involved:

[Show our video](#) in classes or sessions or share it on social media, bust myths about the sector and use our links to signpost young people to good information on career paths and salary expectations.

Download social media images and our campaign toolkit with suggested posts from our [Build Your Future in Housing media pack](#).

Share the following resources in your classes or sessions, along with our message and hashtag: **#BuildYourFutureInHousing**



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Build Your Future in Housing: About the campaign





Housing is central to everyone's lives

- The new UK government's pledge to deliver **1.5 million homes over the next five years** means that there's never been a better time to Build Your Future in Housing.
- This new campaign from The Housing Forum's Futures Network sets out to reveal the huge range of **jobs and career opportunities** now open in the housing sector.
- **Housing is changing.** With both academic and on-the-job routes to profitable careers, there's something for everyone.
- As a strong growth sector with **green jobs** opportunities and a wider **range of roles** than you think, we encourage you to open the door for young people to consider a career in housing.

Armed with the information in this campaign, you'll help young people to explore their options and find the right route for them.

Did you know?

- At least an extra **225,000 construction workers** will be needed across all sectors by 2027.
- In a single month there have been as many as **140,000 job vacancies** across the housing sector, with ongoing demand for home-grown talent.
- It's not all about hard hats. Surveyors, council planning and social housing roles are all in demand.
- Housing and construction pay more than you think. According to Youth Employment UK, a construction operative makes, on average, between £15,000 and £29,000 a year while a building surveyor makes, on average, **between £22,000 and £70,000**.
- The world around us is changing and so is the housing sector. We're more **green**, more **diverse** and offer **more exciting careers** than ever before.

Check out the range of roles and salary expectations on [Youth Employment UK](#).





Why housing?

Information for young people

- In a fast-changing world, a career in housing provides **stability**, with a **growing demand** and **increasing flexibility** in how you work.
- The workplace is **safer than ever** with more robust regulations protecting staff from hazards.
- Employers are making marked efforts to ensure that **people working in the housing sector reflects its communities** and to create a work environment where women, LGBTQI+ and people from all backgrounds feel welcome.
- It's an industry where you can truly thrive, engaging with **cutting-edge technology** and contributing to projects that **shape our cities and communities**.

Why housing?

Information for young people

- Imagine being part of the team responsible for building everything from **landmark skyscrapers** to **smart homes** and cities. Construction is an exciting and dynamic field that offers you the opportunity to make a tangible impact on the world.
- The industry is **evolving rapidly**, and with advancements in technology, you could work with drones, laser technology, and the latest design software. These innovations are not just about making construction more efficient but also about creating **comfortable** and **sustainable** living environments.
- From entry-level roles and well into your career you can always **upskill**, **take on another specialism** or **branch out** as your skills and experience grow.





Why housing?

Information for young people

- The construction sector is part of the **green jobs revolution**. Globally, renewable energy jobs grew by one million between 2021 and 2022, and the demand for green skills in construction is soaring. This expansion isn't just about building with sustainability in mind; it's also about enhancing biodiversity and engaging with communities to co-create better solutions.
- Careers in housing provide a sense of **achievement** and **pride**. You'll have the opportunity to influence the built environment, **creating spaces** where people live, work, and play. There's nothing quite like seeing a project you've worked on come to life and knowing you've contributed to something meaningful.
- Be part of an industry that **values its workforce**, offers excellent career prospects, and plays a crucial role in making the future we see and live in. Get ready to build your future in housing.

See the range of different careers on offer on the [Youth Employment UK website](#).



Types of roles in demand and skills needed in housing

Types of roles in demand

Information for young people

The housing sector offers so many opportunities for young talent. Whether you prefer hands-on work or managing projects, there's a place for you.

You might be interested in becoming a **skilled tradesperson** like a carpenter, electrician, or plumber. These roles are essential for making buildings functional and safe. Specialised training and apprenticeships provide a strong foundation and excellent earning potential.

The industry is constantly evolving, with building regulations changing regularly, requiring robust **compliance**. This means more opportunities for individuals to support these requirements.

For those interested in taking on more responsibility, **technical and management roles** might be a good fit. Roles like being site manager, a building surveyor, planner or civil engineer offer exciting challenges and higher salaries, ranging from £27,000 to £70,000 or more with experience.



Types of roles in demand

Information for young people

Support roles are also crucial in construction projects.

Administrative positions, health and safety officers, and project coordinators help ensure everything runs smoothly. These roles are ideal for anyone who excels in planning and organisation.

A career in housing could also be a **creative** one with work for architects, landscape and interior designers, among others. This is a sector that offers lots of opportunities, challenges, and rewards.

If you're ready to build your future in this dynamic industry, take the first step today to #BuildYourFutureInHousing.

“Hopefully I’ll be able to fulfil my dream role by learning whilst I’m still working.”

Kyle Milton, labourer, Metropolitan Thames Valley



What skills are needed?

Information for young people

- You can learn **lots of skills on the job** but in general, in construction, you'll need to be comfortable using tools and machinery and an understanding of construction methods and materials.
- Specific **technical skills** might include building pathology, performance analysis, latent defect analysis and remediation. Critical evaluation of information and the ability to present well-constructed arguments, analyses, and reports are highly valued.
- The sector is evolving, with trends such as **sustainability and technology** playing significant roles. There is a growing emphasis on sustainable building practices and materials, as well as the use of digital tools like Building Information Modeling (BIM) and drones.



What skills are needed?

Information for young people

- There is also a notable demand for **IT skills**, particularly in data compilation, validation and analysis. Mathematical competencies are crucial, as well as specialisms in sustainability and carbon reduction. Access free digital skills courses on the [Education and Learning Foundation training platform](#).
- Understanding **building safety legislation, regulatory compliance, and construction standards** is something you can access from every route.
- Essential, or **soft skills** like teamwork, communication, problem-solving, and time management are in demand across the full range of jobs and careers. Find out more and build these on the [Skills Builder website](#).

“A lot of the time something you think you can’t do, you definitely can.”

Sara Shu, Graduate Landscape Architect, HTA Design





Routes into housing – Apprenticeships, T-levels and on-the-job, further and higher education

Housing is one of the few careers you can enter at any level and receive funding to train and gain qualifications.

Whether you start with T-levels, an apprenticeship, on-the-job training, or a university degree, there are clear pathways for career progression and promotion.

This industry values upskilling and continuous learning, ensuring you can build experience and advance at any point in your career.

You can take several paths to get started.

- Apprenticeships provide hands-on experience and classroom learning, ranging from Level 2 (intermediate) to Level 6/7 (degree). This allows you to earn while you learn, gaining valuable qualifications. You can build experience and upskill throughout your career, making use of emerging technologies. Find out about construction apprenticeships on [Apprenticeships UK](#).
- Vocational qualifications such as NVQs and BTECs in construction-related subjects are also a strong pathway. Find out about technical qualifications on the [City and Guilds website](#).
- For those aiming for highly technical and management positions, university degrees in civil engineering, construction management, and related fields provide routes to graduate careers.





Stories of young people building their future in housing

Kyle Milton, aged 21, Labourer, Metropolitan Thames Valley

Kyle loves his role because it suits his capabilities and allows him to interact with different members of the community. He works locally to where he lives and he's able to gain experience learning different trades on the job. His ambition is to become a supervisor and he's looking forward to gaining these skills while he earns.



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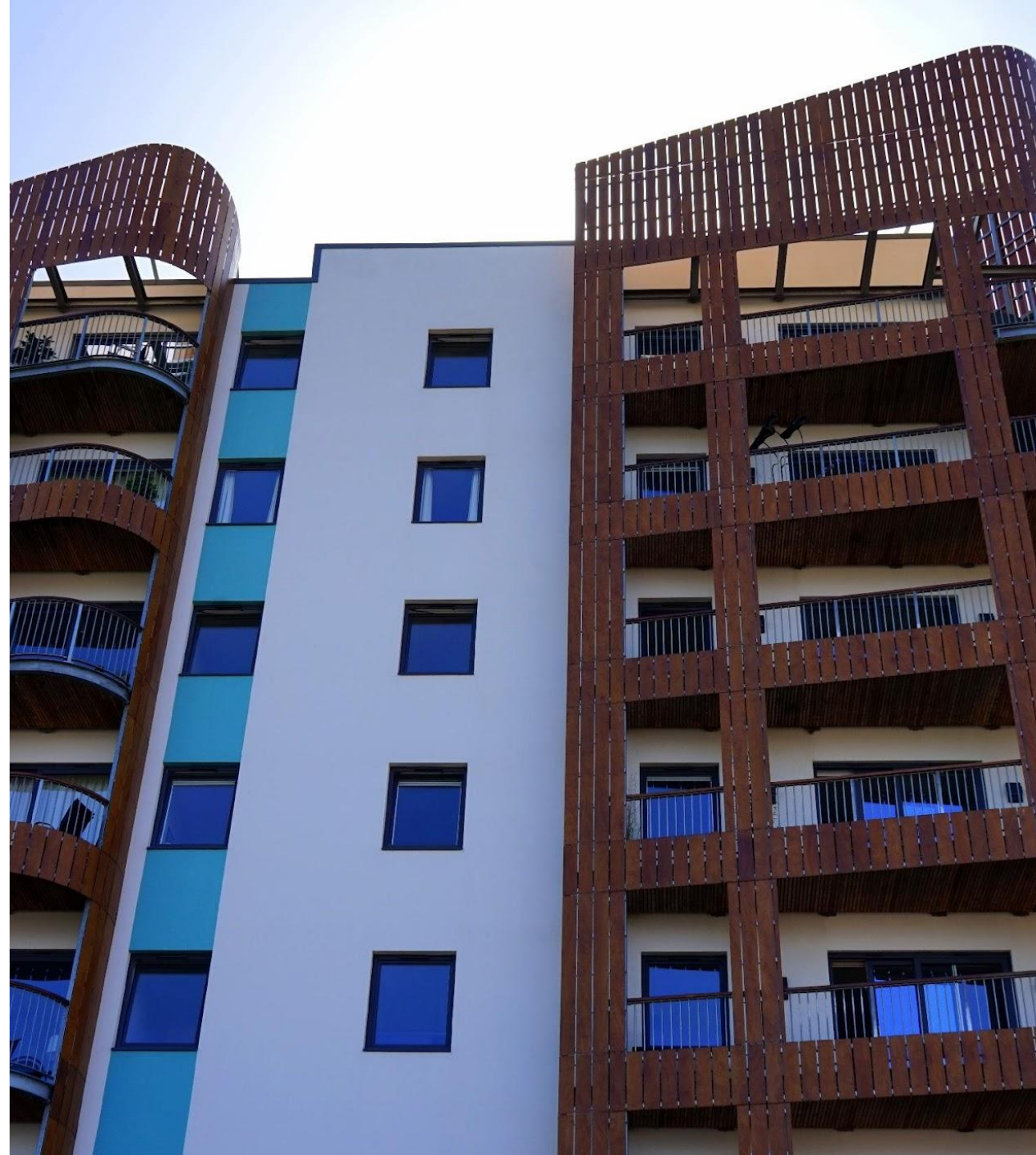


Sia Musa, Level 6 Apprentice on the Architecture Team, HTA Design

Sia is part of the architecture team at HTA, working as a Level 6 Apprentice. She says her employer has supported her a lot with work as well as with her studies at University, as she works towards her qualifications. She finds being in meetings and listening to other team members really insightful and helpful for her learning.



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Dwayne Porter - Quantity Surveying Management Trainee at Wates

Dwayne's Grandad was a civil engineer. Walking around the city looking at buildings that his Grandad had been part of making inspired Dwayne to pursue a career in construction. He didn't want to be stuck behind a desk all day and loves the variety in his work. As a Quantity Surveying Management Trainee, between site visits and being in the office, he looks forward to one day showing his family the buildings he's worked on in London.



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Jennie Ellis, Community Investment Manager at Wates

Jennie is a Community Investment Manager who loves how her role in a profit-making business can have a positive impact on people, communities and the world. She progressed to this role through the network of opportunities and on-the-job training available to her. She loves how varied her work is and the wonderful people she works with.



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Build Your Future in Housing: conversation starter

[PLAY OUR VIDEO](#), then choose a few of these talking points to start a conversation with young people about the housing sector. Be sure to signpost them to the resources below once you've got their interest.



Build Your Future in Housing: conversation starter

Housing is a sector where your background, skills and potential are valued.

- What would make a career in housing attractive to you?

From architecture and planning to building and retrofitting, you can influence how we live, where we live and how well we live.

- What do you want to change about how people are housed?
- What types of jobs in the housing sector do you think will give you influence?

With opportunities in construction, architecture and design, planning, surveying, conveyancing and community building, there's more to housing than you think.

- What are some of the stereotypes about housing and construction?
- How do you think it's changing?

Apprenticeships, on-the-job learning and flexible training pathways in housing mean you can grow your skills and earn as you go.

- Are you thinking about going to university or do you want to start earning and learning on the job?
- What route into housing do you think best suits you?

Develop in-demand skills and be at the forefront of innovation and design for a greener future.

- What's important to you in terms of climate and nature?
- How do you think a career in the housing sector could help you have an impact on that?

If you're a creator, designer or problem solver, take a look at the range of career paths you could follow.

- What are you looking for in a creative career?
- How do you think you can use your creativity in a career in housing?

If you want to work outside, stay fit and get stuck in then your future in housing is in your hands.

- What could the physical benefits of working in construction or housing be?

Whoever you are, wherever you're from and whatever route you take, you'll have opportunities to learn and develop throughout your career.

- How do you think the housing sector might be changing to make everyone feel welcome?
- What are you looking for in terms of training and development once you're in work?

More information and resources

- [Build Your Future in Housing: young people](#)
- [Youth Employment UK](#)
- [Go Construct](#)
- [Apprenticeships UK - construction](#)
- [Your Career in Housing Scotland](#)
- [Skills Assessment - Government run career quiz](#)
- [Skills Builder for educators](#)

Thank you for supporting the Build Your Future in Housing campaign. For social media assets, go to our [Build You Future in Housing media pack](#).

Please let us know how you've used our materials and any feedback using our online form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/yaG8yNqKLi>.



“I’m passionate about what I do and know that I can make a real change in the community by doing it.”

Emma Gubbins, Social Value Management Trainee, Wates