

Employment & Skills 2026



Build your future today!

Brent Council's Employment and Skills programmes provide free support to help residents improve their job prospects. Whether you are looking to gain new skills, return to work, or explore training opportunities, our programmes offer personalised guidance designed to support you at every stage of your journey.

Telephone: 0208 937 6295 E: brent.works@brent.gov.uk

Brent Works

Supporting Brent residents aged 18+ into meaningful employment through personalised, holistic support, including CV and interview preparation, motivational workshops, skills development, and access to training. <https://brentworks.brent.gov.uk> T: 0208 937 6295 E: brent.works@brent.gov.uk

Gas Engineering Skills Bootcamp

Level 3 Gas Engineering course - free for Brent residents, with no prior experience needed. Funded by the Mayor of London Skills Bootcamp programme, it is open to residents aged 19+ with full-time availability for 16 weeks and a UK driving licence and can lead to employment with a Gas Safe company or self-employment. Email Mark.Allen12@brent.gov.uk

Supported Internships,

The Supported Internship programme at Brent Council is designed for neurodiverse Brent residents aged 17–24 who want to develop employability skills through a structured combination of study and workplace placements. The programme is delivered in partnership with CNWL and Kaleidoscope. **Eligibility:** Young people aged 16–24 with SEND and an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), who live in Brent or neighbouring boroughs. Participants should be able to travel independently.

Email: Richard.Allen@brent.gov.uk

Brent Good Work Standard

This free year-long programme helps Brent based businesses improve workplace standards and gain official accreditation. Businesses benefit from quarterly sessions on London Living Wage, Wellbeing, Diversity & Recruitment, and Skills Progression, with ongoing council support. Email: Mark.Allen12@brent.gov.uk

Mental Health and Employment forum

The forum coordinates service delivery across different providers, promoting good practices, and partnership working. Contact: Elizabeth.rojas@brent.gov.uk

Brent Start

Brent Start supports Brent residents who are unemployed, under-employed, or looking to improve their skills to access work, training, and career progression. **Eligibility:** Brent residents aged 16+, People not currently working, or working but wanting better hours, pay, or progression. [Link Brochure 2026](#). T: [0208 937 3950](tel:02089373950) E: brent.start@brent.gov.uk W: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills/courses-training-and-skills>.

Brent Digital Skills Hub

Supporting residents and employers to improve their digital skills in order to increase inclusivity in the digital world and the digital workplace. <https://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills/courses-training-and-skills/brent-digital-skills-hub>

Young people provision

Young Brent Foundation

Contact details: info@youngbrentfoundation.org.uk Address: 4B Excelsior Studios 17-19 Sunbeam Rd NW10 6JP.

Catch-22 Care Leavers Support

Contact details: info@catch-22.org.uk. Address: 27 Pear Tree Street, London, EC1V 3AG Telephone Number.020 7336 4800.

Via Elev8. Young Persons Health & Wellbeing (substance use) & Emotional Health & Wellbeing service.

Offering 121 structured support, educational workshops for young people, parents & careers and training for professionals. **Eligibility:** for young people aged 10-25yrs, who lives, attends school or has a GP in the borough of Brent (this includes Brent looked after YPs living outside the borough) Referrals can be made via our referral form found on our <https://www.viaorg.uk/services/brent-elev8/>, or by emailing elev8@viaorg.uk

Reframe (Shaw Trust):

Focused on supporting young adults who are currently not in Education Employment or training by developing their soft skills and introducing micro interactions with employers to progress them closer to their next steps. The service also offers cognitive behavioural mentoring to support individuals' progression.

Eligibility:

- Are not currently looking for work, and don't feel ready to move into work right away
- Experiencing health, wellbeing, or personal challenges
- Not required to carry out work-related activities as part of any benefits received
- Website: <https://shawtrust.org.uk/work-support-west-london/> For referrals: reframe@shaw-trust.org.uk

Tel: 0808 1962 386 or worksupportwestlondon@shaw-trust.org.uk. Referrals: [Work Support West London - Shaw Trust Free Employment Support](#)

Other employability and skills providers:

Besides the council they are other local partners delivering a range of services across the borough to support our residents:

Shaw Trust

- **Connect to Work (IPS):** intensive personalised support for those facing barriers to entering the workforce. **Eligibility:** Unemployed, facing barriers to employment (e.g., health conditions, disabilities), at risk of losing work. The programme uses a model called Individual Placement and Support (IPS) — an evidence-based approach that focuses on matching people with real job opportunities and providing. **Link:** <https://shawtrust.org.uk/connect-to-work/>
- **Work Well:** Focused on supporting residents who are out of work or at risk of leaving work due to health conditions or disabilities, particularly musculoskeletal issues and mental health challenges. **Eligibility:** Residents in work but struggling due to health issues, those who are off work on short- or medium-term sick leave, and people who have recently left work due to health reasons. Website: <https://shawtrust.org.uk/work-support-west-london/>
- **MSK Trailblazer – Musculoskeletal Employment Support:** For people with joint, bone or muscle pain, chronic back pain, mobility issues, etc. **Offers:** 1-to-1 health and job support — a dedicated coach helps you build skills and plan work that fits your health, Physical health resources, including up to six months free physiotherapy and access to therapies tailored to your needs. Gym membership — up to six months free to strengthen fitness and mobility, helping manage pain and improve work readiness. Integrated support with NHS services — so your health and employment plans are coordinated. **Eligibility:** Adults aged 18 or over living with joint, bone or muscle conditions (even without a formal diagnosis). Unemployed or off work due to health, looking to get back into work or ready to find suitable work around health needs. Referrals: Before 28th February 2026.
- **Reframe:** Focused on supporting young adults who are currently not in Education Employment or training by developing their soft skills and introducing micro interactions with employers to progress them closer to their next steps. The service also offers cognitive behavioural mentoring to support individuals' progression. Website: <https://shawtrust.org.uk/work-support-west-london/reframe@shaw-trust.org.uk>

Tel: 0808 1962 386 or worksupportwestlondon@shaw-trust.org.uk.

Referrals: [Work Support West London - Shaw Trust Free Employment Support](#)

CNWL IPS (CNWL NHS)

Delivering Individual Placement and Support services for people experiencing mental health challenges. **Email:** russell.ubah@nhs.net, **Mobile:** 07702 140 750

- **Working Chance:** Supports women with convictions to build confidence, skills, and self-belief to access employment, training, or education. They work with employers nationwide to match women with suitable opportunities that align with their skills and aspirations.
info@workingchance.org or by phone at 0800 035 1570
- **PLIAS Resettlement / Back on Track Brent:** Supports young people with criminal records, or those at risk of offending, to move into employment, education, training, or work experience. The programme provides regular one-to-one support and a structured action plan, alongside help with wider life challenges. PLIAS Resettlement (serving Brent and West London) provides services for ex-offenders and those at risk. Contact them at **020 8838 6800**, via email at **enquiries@plias.co.uk** Website/Referral: <https://www.pliasresettlement.co.uk/services/back-on-track-brent/>
- **Not Going Back:** A charity offering intensive, tailored employment support for people with convictions, aiming to reduce reoffending, transform lives, and challenge perceptions.
Email: referrals@nogoingback.uk No Going Back referrals@nogoingback.uk

Other resources:

Employment and Skills Directory	Includes information on organisations working in Brent who offer support and information about finding employment and training, starting your own business or finding an apprenticeship. https://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills/employment-and-enterprise-directory?page=1&skip=0&order=brent_item_title&size=25
<u>Courses, training and skills directory:</u>	Brent Council Information on courses, training and skills available to Brent residents. https://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills/courses-training-and-skills .
<u>Brent ESOL directory:</u>	Brent Council If you are a new resident in the UK and want to learn English, then you can develop your spoken, written, reading and listening skills with an ESOL course. https://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs-training-and-skills/courses-training-and-skills/brent-esol-directory?page=1&skip=0&order=brent_item_title&size=25
Learner Hub (tribal-ebs.com):	List of courses available. Financial support for students Brent Start Adult Education Service Discretionary Learner Support Fund (DLSF) is available to support learners who are suffering from extreme hardship. This fund is used to support students on a low income with assistance with any associated costs with their study, while studying at Brent Start. https://ebsontrackprospect-brent.tribal-ebs.com/Page/ProspectusList