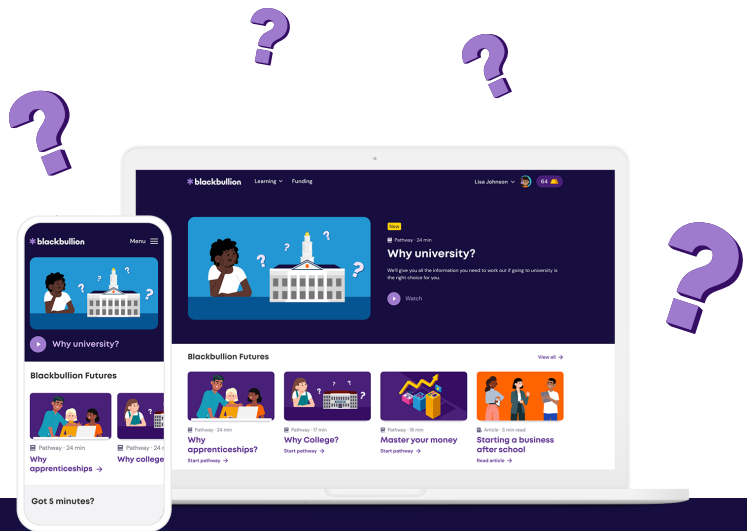


FAQ for pilot organisations



What is Blackbullion Futures?

Blackbullion Futures is a free online learning resource, hosted on the award-winning Blackbullion learning platform. It is filled with impartial, engaging and informative learning activities and resources for 16–19 year olds, and their parents/guardians.

Our free resources are designed to help young people explore career paths, financial wellbeing and education choices available after secondary school or college.

How can Blackbullion Futures support my community?

Blackbullion Futures can equip you, your school or college community, with the tools and resources to support progression across a range of pathways.

We recognise that every student is different, there are lots of options, and the information can be overwhelming. Blackbullion Futures is designed to help users navigate those choices. The platform has dedicated content for young people, and their parents/guardians, which is accessible and jargon-free.

Who is eligible to join?

Any young person aged 16–19 and their parents and guardians will be able to create a free profile and get all of the Futures content. At the point of registration, users are asked a short series of questions that will help them to navigate content that is most relevant for them, based on the information provided.

Schools and colleges play an important role in helping young people manage key transitions – we can help by providing impartial and free resources to ensure clear and consistent information and signposting.

Why are you asking schools and colleges to get involved?

Our aim is that schools and colleges will signpost their students to the platform and it will become a valuable resource in their careers toolkit. We also encourage partner organisations to promote and share content more widely across the school community i.e. with parents and guardians.

If my organisation registers, do we become a pilot organisation?

No, not automatically. Pilot organisations are schools and colleges we're asking to support the Futures launch by providing feedback at two to three key intervals during March and July, to help develop new content and improve the user experience.

This will be in the form of completing 2 surveys and/or attending a focus group. We want the platform to reach the broadest audience possible, so we need to understand the experience of delivery in a range of settings across the whole of the UK - which is why pilot organisations will play a pivotal role.

To recognise the important contribution pilot organisations will make, we are offering these organisations access to exclusive content including:

- CPD sessions designed to support careers and progression
- Student masterclasses, run in collaboration with leading training organisations in the country
- Blackbullion Futures founding organisation status (with logo featured on the website)

Regardless of whether or not you are a pilot organisation, you will be able to signpost your students to the platform.

What subjects are covered?

Content Library 30+ pieces of content

Over 25 modules, as well as scholarship and bursaries finder, are available as part of the Blackbullion Futures initiative.



Article · <1 min read
Working as an apprentice
What's a day in the life of an apprentice?
[Read article →](#)



Article · <1 min read
How to become an apprentice
Discover how to become an apprentice, including how to find the right apprenticeship for you and how to apply.
[Read article →](#)



Pathway · 5 min
Apprenticeships Guide for Parents
What apprenticeship programs are available, what career opportunities are there, and why do companies run apprenticeships?
[Start pathway →](#)



Pathway · 7 min
Why College?
Discover what further education colleges are all about.
[Start pathway →](#)



Pathway · 6 min
Fees and Funding - Further Education
Find out how much it costs to study at a further education college. Explore the funding options available for students in England.
[Start pathway →](#)



Pathway · 6 min
Parents guide to College
A guide for parents whose son or daughter is considering further education college.
[Start pathway →](#)



Tool
Budget Calculator
Understand, and plan for, your financial circumstances at university with this easy to use budgeting calculator
[Create your budget →](#)



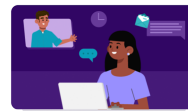
Pathway · 3 min
Futureproofing
Know how to prepare for any unexpected costs, and develop good financial habits early on in your university career.
[Start pathway →](#)



Article · <1 min read
Entrepreneurship
Explore one of the options for unlocking your future: starting your own business. Discover the benefits and challenges of becoming an entrepreneur.
[Read article →](#)



Article · <1 min read
Gap Year
Explore one of the options for unlocking your future: taking a gap year. Travel, have unique experiences, learn new skills and grow.
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Article · <1 min read
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Explore one of the options for unlocking your future: entering the world of work. Earn a living and kickstart your career.
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Article · <1 min read
Studying at a further education college
Let's take a look at what you can expect when you study at an FE college
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Pathway · 7 min
Student Lifestyle
Make the most out of your uni experience and find out how to cut costs on necessary spending such as food, fashion and accommodation.
[Start pathway →](#)



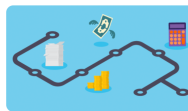
Pathway · 8 min
Why Apprenticeships?
Find out what an apprenticeship is and why companies run apprenticeships. Discover the pros and cons of becoming an apprentice
[Start pathway →](#)



Pathway · 6 min
Why University?
We'll give you all the information you need to work out if going to university is the right choice for you.
[Start pathway →](#)



Tool
Student Loan Repayment Estimator
It can be difficult to put the numbers into perspective. Our estimator tool will put your student loan figures in context.
[Estimate your repayments →](#)



Article · 3 min read
The Budget Decision Tree
A step by step decision tree to help to examine your income and expenses and put a plan in place to balance them - or ideally have more income than expenses!
[Read article →](#)



Article · 3 min read
Building an emergency fund
An emergency fund can keep you covered financially, no matter what awaits you. We'll look at how much you should have and how to get started.
[Read article →](#)



Article · 3 min read
Figuring out your insurance
Discover what kinds of insurance are out there? why you might need insurance? And how to choose the right insurance?
[Read article →](#)



Pathway · 6 min
University Funding UK
Ensure that money doesn't get in the way of your university experience as we explain how to make the most of your cash.
[Start pathway →](#)

50+ Scholarships and bursaries available

Leverhulme Undergraduate Grant The Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust Up to £3,000 a year.	Childcare Grant NHS	UK Scholarship Programme BAFTA Upto £12,000	Chevening Scholarship Chevening
(ISC)² Information Security Undergraduate Scholarship Center for Cyber Safety and Education Between \$1,000 – \$5,000.	Novus Biologicals Scholarship Program Novus Biologicals \$1,500	Virtual Internship Scholarships Think Pacific	British Army Bursary The British Army up to £25,000
Unite Foundation Scholarship Unite Foundation	Sheikh Family Scholars' Fund COSARAF Foundation	Brian Large Bursary Brian Large Bursary Fund £6,000 - £14,000	Snowdon Masters Scholarships Snowdon Masters Scholarships
All Ireland Scholarship Scheme All Ireland Scholarship Scheme £5,500 per year.	RIBA Boyd Auger Scholarship RIBA, Royal Institute of British Architects £6,000	Bird & Bird Bursary Scheme Bird & Bird	Army Officer Scholarship Scheme The British Army Up to £3,000.
The Vegetarian Charity Grant Vegetarian Charity	NHS Bursary NHS	Royal Caledonian Education Trust Royal Caledonian Educational Trust Family support for Scotland's armed forces	British Army Medical Bursary The British Army Up to £75,000.

Can I preview the content/platform?

Yes, you can register for free on the Blackbullion platform. To create your free profile, go to futures.blackbullion.com and add the 'Blackbullion Futures' content pack to access all learning tools and resources available.

The user journey is different for students depending on the information they provide upon registration i.e. if they express an interest in apprenticeships they will be signposted to content related to that. The great thing is, no options are removed, students will still be able to view and compare different pathways to ensure they are making well-informed decisions.

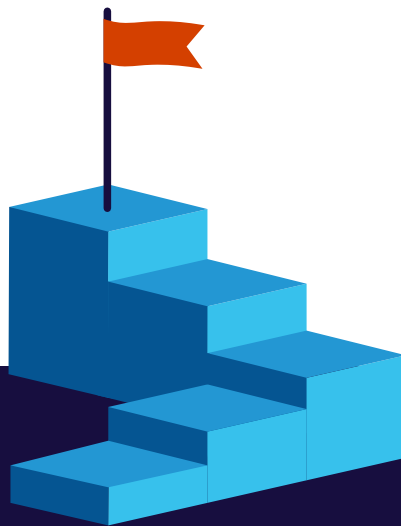
How do my students register?

Your students will need to provide their name, email address and school/college details to register on the platform.

We do not require a school or college-specific email address to register on the site and this is because we can then offer free ongoing support to students who progress to FE or sixth form colleges.

How much does it cost?

All learning resources available through the Blackbullion Futures initiative are 100% free to use, so you can signpost with a clear conscience ;)



I'm interested,
how can I find
out more?

Drop us a line at

hello@blackbullion.com