

WHERE LEARNING MEETS INDUSTRY

Success stories, alumni journeys and industry connections



wmgacademy.org.uk



University
Technical
Colleges®



UNIVERSITY
OF WARWICK

TURNING AMBITION INTO NEXT STEPS

At WMG Academy, success means being ready for what comes next.

Whether students progress to university, secure an apprenticeship, enter employment or continue their training, they leave with the skills, confidence and experience to move forward.

2025 SUCCESS AT A GLANCE

**Two thirds of leavers reached
Level 4+ destinations.**

**Nearly 3 times the national
average secured apprenticeships**

**Three quarters of apprenticeships
were at Higher or Degree Level.**

**99% of apprenticeships started
were Advanced Level or above.**

SUCCESS LOOKS DIFFERENT FOR EVERYONE

We combine academic achievement with real-world experience, helping students to:

- Progress to university, with many choosing STEM courses.
- Secure higher and degree apprenticeships with leading employers.
- Build confidence through industry projects, placements and employer experiences.
- Make informed choices about their future.

ENGINEERING YOUR FUTURE PROVEN SUCCESS AT WMG ACADEMY SOLIHULL

Our students leave ready for what comes next, with destination data showing the impact of a WMG Academy education.

LEADING THE WAY

88% of leavers progressed to education, employment or training.

Two thirds reached Level 4+ destinations in 2025, up from 49% in 2023.

Less than 5% were not in education, employment or training, compared with 15% nationally.

APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS

WMG students secured 3 times the national average for apprenticeships.

Three quarters of apprenticeships were at Higher or Degree Level.

99% were Advanced Level or above.

UNIVERSITY & STEM

90% of university-bound students secured STEM courses.

90% of female students reached Level 4+ destinations.

Majority of students from disadvantaged backgrounds reached Level 4+ destinations.

ENGINEERING YOUR FUTURE PROVEN SUCCESS AT WMG ACADEMY COVENTRY

WMG Academy prepares students for successful futures across university, apprenticeships and employment.

LEADING THE WAY

87% of leavers progressed to education, employment or training.

Two thirds reached Level 4+ destinations in 2025, up from 55% in 2023.

1% were not in education, employment or training, compared with 15% nationally.

APPRENTICESHIP SUCCESS

WMG students secured 3 times the national average for apprenticeships.

Three quarters of apprenticeships were at Higher or Degree Level.

99% were Advanced Level or above.

UNIVERSITY & STEM

90% of university-bound students secured STEM courses.

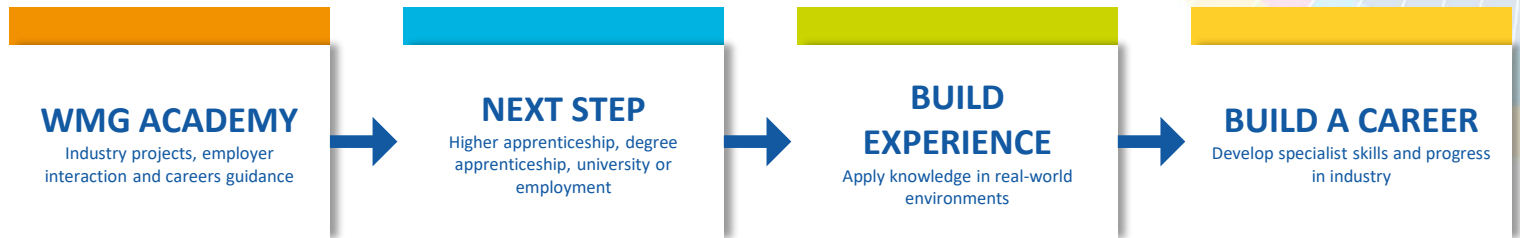
90% of female students reached Level 4+ destinations.

80% of students from disadvantaged backgrounds reached Level 4+ destinations compared to 50% national.

REAL ROUTES INTO THE WORLD OF WORK

Our students don't just learn about future careers, they gain the experience, knowledge and confidence to take their first steps into them.

FROM WMG TO WHAT'S NEXT



WHAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE?

Students benefit from:

- Exposure to real projects alongside industry professionals.
- Work experience and employer engagement.
- Support with interviews and assessment centres.
- Technical knowledge connected to real industry challenges.
- Opportunities to understand different career pathways.
- The confidence to take the next step and keep progressing.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

From major employers and specialist engineering roles to world-leading universities, our alumni are putting their WMG experience into action.

Summer Hudson

WMG Academy Solihull | 2020–2024
Arcadis | Apprentice Civil Engineer – Rail Structures

Darla Caraher

WMG Academy Solihull | 2017–2019
National Grid | Associate Project Development Engineer

Khalil Ismail

WMG Academy Coventry | 2015–2019
Voyage | Founder & CEO

Oliver White

WMG Academy Coventry | 2020–2024
Helsing | Field Engineer

These are individual journeys, but each reflects the WMG approach: connecting learning to the real world and helping students see what could come next.

ALUMNI STORY - SUMMER HUDSON

After attending WMG Academy Solihull from 2020 to 2024, Summer joined Arcadis as an Apprentice Civil Engineer specialising in Rail Structures.

“After leaving WMG, I joined Arcadis as a Level 6 Apprentice studying at Coventry University. The experience I gained at WMG helped me answer interview questions with confidence.”



REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

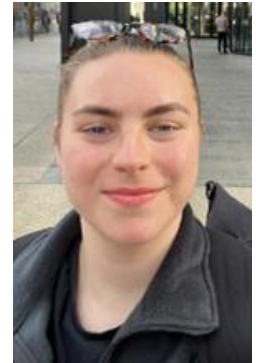
One of Summer's highlights has been visiting the Curdworth HS2 site to see how the project is progressing and seeing parts of the structures she has been involved with.

From WMG Academy to a Level 6 apprenticeship and a career in civil engineering.

ALUMNI STORY - DARLA CARAHER

After attending WMG Academy from 2017 to 2019, Darla joined Arup as an Apprentice Civil Engineer before moving on to National Grid, where she is now an Associate Project Development Engineer.

“I was always interested in engineering, but WMG helped me to understand what industry I wanted to go into. WMG Academy provided me with the tools to have successful interviews and understanding of what employers want.”



A CAREER THAT KEEPS MOVING

Darla's journey shows how an apprenticeship can be the beginning of a long-term engineering career, combining workplace experience, technical knowledge and continued progression.

ALUMNI STORY - KHALIL ISMAIL

FROM WMG ACADEMY TO FOUNDER & CEO. A PATHWAY SHAPED BY DESIGN, ENGINEERING & COMPUTING

Khalil's journey has continued through postgraduate study and roles spanning product, design, engineering and AI research.

"I joined the Academy to explore the unique intersections that interest me within STEM; combining design, engineering, and computing for complex problem-solving. The support of the Academy helped me to secure offers for all undergraduate programs I applied to. I am now a postgraduate double-masters student at Imperial College London and the Royal College of Art — I still think of WMGA as the first stepping stone."



SELECTED JOURNEY

WMG Academy

2015–2019



University of Nottingham

BEng Product Design Engineering
2019–2023



Apple

Software Engineer & Interaction
Designer
2022



Microsoft

Product Management
2023



Imperial College London & Royal College of Art

MSc Design Engineering & MA
Innovation Design Engineering
2023–2025 →

Harvard University

AI Researcher
2024–2025



Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Neuro Researcher
2024



University of Oxford

Visiting Scholar,
Philosophy of AI
2025



Voyage

Founder & CEO
2025–Present

ALUMNI STORY - OLIVER WHITE

After attending WMG Academy from 2014 to 2016, Oliver studied Engineering at the University of the West of England and Aerospace Engineering at Swansea University. He then became a UAV Technician at Overwatch Group before moving to Helsing, where he is now a Field Engineer.

“WMG Academy allowed me to break away from the traditional pathway.
Connecting my studies to real projects alongside industry professionals.

The academy highlighted my field of choice within engineering, with exposure to topics I would go on to cover at university. The teachers and opportunities at WMG gave me a firm foundation for the next stage in my education and career development.”



LEARNING CONNECTED TO INDUSTRY

Oliver’s journey from WMG Academy to field engineering highlights the value of connecting education with industry. The practical experience and exposure to different areas of engineering at the Academy helped shape his interests and gave him a strong foundation for university and his career.

LEARNING IN THE FACTORY OF THE FUTURE

YOUTH MANUFACTURING SUMMIT

Year 10 students from WMG Academy Coventry and Solihull attended the Youth Manufacturing Summit at the Manufacturing Technology Centre (MTC) in Coventry.

The event introduced students to advanced industrial facilities, often described as the “**factory of the future**” where they took part in hands-on workshops covering:

Aerospace • Robotics • Automated Hardware • Software Coding

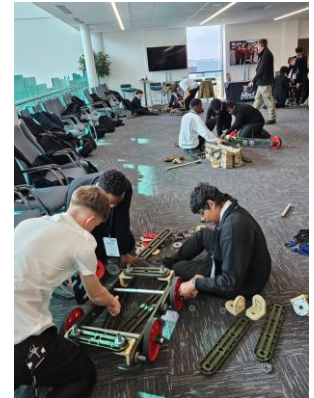
WHY IT MATTERS

The summit gives students early exposure to modern manufacturing techniques and demonstrates the wide range of technical careers available across the sector.

By exploring a live industrial environment and networking with engineering professionals, students broaden their technical awareness, spark their interest in STEM and gain a clearer view of their future Key Stage 4 and Post-16 choices.

Students don't just hear about STEM careers, they experience the environments where those careers happen.

mtc training



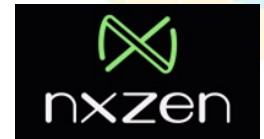
ENGINEERING A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

nxzen x WMG Academy

Working in partnership with technology firm nxzen, Year 10 and Year 12 students took on a sustainable engineering challenge to redesign the infrastructure of Solihull's 122-acre Blythe Valley Park.

The challenge took place at the National Automotive Innovation Centre at the University of Warwick, where students developed AI-driven energy models and infrastructure solutions.

Their work was presented to a panel of net-zero and renewable energy executives.



SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE

Through the challenge, students developed:

- **Data analysis**
- **Public speaking**
- **Critical reasoning**
- **Technical problem-solving.**

The experience gave students the opportunity to tackle a complex real-world challenge, defend their ideas to industry specialists and demonstrate their capability in environmental engineering and sustainability.



FROM CLASSROOM TO CONCEPT VEHICLE

T-Level Engineering × Contechs

Contechs, taking on a real-world Concept Vehicle Design project.

Working with industry specialists across **body, interior and electrical engineering**, students gained end-to-end exposure to the vehicle development lifecycle from initial concepts through to prototype testing.

The experience also included a tour of the **McLaren Technology Centre**.

WHAT STUDENTS TAKE AWAY

- Commercial awareness
- Technical expertise
- Cross-functional problem-solving
- Professional confidence
- Industry insight.

By experiencing the rigour of professional automotive engineering first-hand, students build the technical foundation and confidence to progress into higher education or high-level engineering apprenticeships.



WOMEN LEADING THE WAY IN STEM

Jaguar Land Rover × WMG Academy

To celebrate International Women's Day, female engineering and design students from WMG Academy took part in a STEM leadership event hosted by **Jaguar Land Rover**.

Working in collaborative teams, students completed a rapid product development challenge. They designed an original concept before pitching their proposal to a panel of senior automotive industry judges.

AND THE RESULT?

1ST PLACE

WMG Academy students secured **overall first place** in the challenge.

MORE THAN A COMPETITION

Students developed practical skills in:

- Product design
- Teamwork under pressure
- Commercial pitching
- Public speaking
- Business awareness
- Creative problem-solving.



JLR

They also had the opportunity to meet leading female engineers and engage directly with industry executives, building confidence to pursue high-level engineering and technology careers.

INDUSTRY IS PART OF THE EXPERIENCE

At WMG Academy, industry isn't an occasional add-on, it's an important part of the student experience. During 2025/26, our academies worked with a broad network of employers and organisations, creating 202 company interactions that connected students with the world of work.

2025/26 at a glance WMG Academy Solihull

95

events in Solihull

2,000+

hours of company interaction in Solihull

2,500+

points of contact with Solihull students

WMG Academy Coventry

107

events in Coventry

2,200+

hours of company interaction in Coventry

3,200+

points of contact with Coventry students

180+ COMPANIES • 480+ CONTACTS

Our employer network includes organisations such as:

Jaguar Land Rover • National Grid • Arup • Tata Motors • Aston Martin • Arcadis • Collins Aerospace • AtkinsRéalis • Birmingham Airport • Severn Trent • WMG • University of Warwick • Coventry University • MTC • Contechs • Schneider Electric

Through these partnerships, students meet professionals, work on genuine challenges and develop a clearer understanding of where their skills could take them.

YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

At WMG Academy, students connect **SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, MATHS** and **DIGITAL** subjects with real-world experience.

They develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to take on future challenges and the opportunities to discover where their interests could take them.

DISCOVER WHAT YOU COULD ACHIEVE

WMG
Academy for Young

engineers
Coventry



WMG
Academy for Young

engineers
Solihull



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