



HRUC
HARROW, RICHMOND & UXBRIDGE COLLEGES

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HRUC celebrates fantastic partners at first Employer Awards



Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges (HRUC) recently held our first-ever Employer Awards.

The vibrant evening at Uxbridge College on Tuesday 13 October celebrated the achievements of HRUC's employer partners who have provided outstanding experiences for students and staff.

Those in attendance represented thousands of jobs and opportunities across a broad variety of industries which contribute millions of pounds to the local economy. They have helped HRUC students gain vital work experience, improve their skills, and build the confidence they need to thrive in the workplace.

HRUC works with almost 4,000 employers whose support is invaluable in opening doors for learners and helping to nurture the next generation through work experience, careers insight, workplace visits, mentoring, workshops, placements, and more. Through their commitment to delivering fantastic experiences, they have made a lasting positive impact on student success across HRUC.

Nominations for the awards were submitted by HRUC staff and reviewed by an independent panel of external judges, who had a challenging time choosing the winners due to the exceptional standard of entries.

Here are the well-deserved winners:

HRUC Employer of the Year

- AtkinsRéalis

Aviation, Travel and Tourism Employer of the Year

- Winner: British Airways
- Winner: Mixed Freight Services

Creative and Performing Arts Employer of the Year

- Winner: Orleans House Gallery
- Highly Commended: Museum of Richmond

ESOL Employer of the Year

- Winner: Dina Foods
- Highly Commended: Dale Avenue Nursery

Business and Finance Employer of the Year

- Winner: KBM Group
- Highly Commended: Alchemy Financial Solutions

A Levels and Sixth Form Employer of the Year

- Hayes End Pharmacy

Science Employer of the Year

- London North West University Healthcare NHS Trust

Motor Vehicle Employer of the Year

- Youngs Service and Repair Centre

Higher Education Employer of the Year

- Amazon UK

Childcare and Education Employer of the Year

- Winner: Chalkhill Primary School
- Winner: Petts Hill Primary School

Construction and Building Services Employer of the Year

- Winner: SCS Railways
- Highly Commended: Bugler Developments

Engineering Employer of the Year

- Winner: AtkinsRéalis
- Highly Commended: AMETEK

Digital and Technology Employer of the Year

- Winner: Cisco Systems
- Highly Commended: National Physical Laboratory

Hair and Beauty Employer of the Year

- Winner: Eve Taylor
- Highly Commended: HarSpa at Richmond Harbour Hotel

Health and Care Employer of the Year

- Winner: Fernbank Nursing Home
- Highly Commended: Specialist Care Services

Professional Cookery and Hospitality Employer of the Year

- Winner: Grocers' Hall
- Highly Commended: Brooklands Hotel

Sport and Uniformed Services Employer of the Year

- Winner: PureGym
- Highly Commended: RAF Brize Norton

Foundation and SEND Employer of the Year

- Winner: Mott MacDonald
- Highly Commended: Kneller Gardens Café

SME Apprenticeship Employer of the Year

- Winner: Buttercups Nursery Group
- Highly Commended: One Care IT

Large Apprenticeship Employer of the Year

- Winner: Constellium UK Ltd
- Highly Commended: Metroline

T Levels Employer of the Year

- Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust

Work Experience Employer of the Year

- Winner: PSD Group
- Highly Commended: Insight Digital

Senior Leaders' Award

- easyJet

Outstanding Contribution Award

- Heathrow Airport

Ellie Smith, Senior Social Value Consultant at AtkinsRéalis, said: “We’re incredibly proud that AtkinsRéalis has been named HRUC Employer of the Year and Engineering Employer of the Year. Over the past year, our partnership with HRUC has enabled us to engage more than 300 students through work experience, skills workshops, mock interviews, careers insights and inclusive design activities. This award reflects the enthusiasm of our brilliant colleagues who have volunteered their time, as well as the openness and ambition of the HRUC team. Harriet and I feel very lucky to work with such a fantastic college group, and we’re excited to keep building the partnership and creating even more meaningful opportunities for students.”

Jo Withers, HRUC's Executive Director for Business Growth and Partnerships, said:
"It was wonderful to attend our first-ever Employer Awards and celebrate our brilliant employer partners. Their dedication to furthering our students' learning and helping them succeed in the workplace has helped to introduce them to a world of exciting opportunities."

Liam Plumridge, Assistant Director of Enhanced Skills and Employability at HRUC, said:
"This event was all about celebrating our outstanding employers, organisations and partners who make such an incredible difference to our students every single day. Thank you to all those who continue to have such a positive impact on our students and help them on their path to a bright future."

Note to editors: Following a merger in 2023, HRUC (Harrow, Richmond and Uxbridge Colleges) has rapidly evolved into a thriving educational hub with three colleges and a strong apprenticeship provision. The diverse and aspiring college group now serves nearly 15,000 learners across west and south London, offering a range of courses, including A-Levels, vocational programmes, T-Levels, higher education courses and apprenticeships. The College group also proudly supports over 1,000 learners with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), providing tailored programmes and internships to help them thrive.