



Official Partner  
of Team UK

WorldSkills  
Shanghai 2026



Funded by  
UK Government

**Strict Embargo:** 09:00, Tuesday 14 April

## **Local apprentice / student selected to represent the UK at the global ‘Skills Olympics’ in Shanghai**

A skilled apprentice from (**Town**) has been selected to represent the UK at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026, known as the “Skills Olympics,” where the world’s most talented apprentices and young professionals go head-to-head in a high-stakes battle of skill, precision and innovation.

(**Name**), aged (**age**), who is training with (**employer / college/ university**) and has a **BTEC in (xxx)** will compete in (**insert competition skill**) as part of Team UK at WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 this September.

Selected, mentored and trained by WorldSkills UK, Team UK brings together a group of competitors at the very top of their fields. These individuals among the most highly skilled young professionals anywhere in the world.

Competing against the best from over 80 countries, Team UK will showcase world-class expertise across a diverse range of disciplines, including renewable energy, 3D games design, car painting, health and social care, chemical laboratory technician, bricklaying and (**insert skill of this Team UK member**). Each competition is a high-performance test of precision and endurance.

WorldSkills is globally recognised as the ultimate benchmark of skills excellence, where nations go head-to-head to prove their ability to power future industries and economic growth. This year’s event in Shanghai is expected to attract more than 250,000 visitors, alongside government leaders, global employers and education experts.

(**Insert name**)’s journey to this moment has been years in the making. They have progressed through rigorous WorldSkills UK regional and national competitions, followed by intensive specialist training both in the UK and internationally. In the final months before Shanghai, (**insert name**) will undergo further high-performance preparation to ensure they are ready to compete at the highest possible level.

Pearson, the lifelong learning company, is the official partner of Team UK for WorldSkills Shanghai 2026.

*Insert Team UK member quote*

**Ben Blackledge, Chief Executive, WorldSkills UK said:** “Congratulations to (name) on being selected for Team UK, it is a huge achievement and a proud moment for (insert town/region).

“At a time when employers are sceptical about employing young people Team UK show just how important it is to have young professionals in the workforce. These young technicians have an incredibly valuable mix of world-class technical skills, impressive employability skills and a mindset to succeed. If we are serious about tackling the NEET challenge, we need to get more young people ready for work, and skills competitions are a proven way to improve engagement in training and work readiness.”

**Freya Thomas Monk, Managing Director of Pearson Qualifications, said:** "Every member of Team UK has earned their place through exceptional dedication and commitment to their chosen fields, representing the very best of our nation’s talent. WorldSkills Shanghai is an opportunity to celebrate their vocational and technical expertise, and the skill, determination, and ambition it takes to set new benchmarks for excellence on the global stage. Pearson is proud to support Team UK as they take on this extraordinary challenge and inspire future generations to aim high and believe in their potential.”

*Insert employer / training provider quote*

WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 takes place from 22-27 September and will feature around 1500 young people taking part from over 80 countries.

ENDS

Notes for Editors:

For a full list of Team UK members please visit ([insert web link](#))

To arrange interviews with Team UK or for further information, please contact: Kate O’Connell – [koconnell@worldskillsuk.org](mailto:koconnell@worldskillsuk.org) / Dan Kirkby – [dan@dkpr.co.uk](mailto:dan@dkpr.co.uk)

### **About WorldSkills UK**

WorldSkills UK is a four nations partnership between education, industry and UK governments. It is a world-class skills network acting as a catalyst for raising standards through international benchmarking and professional development, championing future skills through analysis of rapidly changing economic demand and empowering young people from all backgrounds through competitions-based training and careers advocacy. For more information visit [www.worldskillsuk.org](http://www.worldskillsuk.org)

### **About Pearson**

*At Pearson, our purpose is simple: to help people realize the life they imagine through learning. We believe that every learning opportunity is a chance for a personal breakthrough. That's why our c. 18,000 Pearson employees are committed to creating vibrant and enriching learning experiences designed for real-life impact. We are the world's lifelong learning company, serving customers in nearly 200 countries with digital content, assessments, qualifications, and data. For us, learning isn't just what we do. It's who we are. Visit us at [plc.pearson.com](http://plc.pearson.com).*