



Team UK



worldskills
Shanghai 2026

 **Pearson**

Official Partner
WorldSkills
Shanghai 2026



worldskillsuk



Funded by
UK Government

FOREWORD



Good luck Team UK

As the largest WorldSkills competition ever held, Shanghai 2026 brings together the world's most talented young people to celebrate the transformative power of skills. Among them is Team UK, an outstanding group of young people who have earned their place on the world stage through a mix of talent, determination and dedication to their skill.

At WorldSkills UK, we truly believe that skills have the power to change lives, to build careers and to strengthen our economy. And Team UK embodies that belief. The 28 young members of Team UK will not only do us proud in Shanghai but are already demonstrating that technical and vocational skills are so vital to the growth of the UK economy and the opportunities for young people.

But no one reaches the world stage alone. So, a huge thank you to the Training Managers, employers, education providers, competition organising partners, and the families, friends and colleagues whose encouragement and expertise have made this journey possible.

My sincere thanks also go to our colleagues at Pearson for their continued partnership and belief

in Team UK. Together, we are creating opportunities for young people, raising standards and championing the skills our economy needs to thrive.

On behalf of everyone at WorldSkills UK, I congratulate Team UK and wish them every success. Reaching this stage is an extraordinary achievement and, as they compete alongside the very best in the world, I know everyone back home will be cheering them on.

Finally, this competition is especially meaningful for me, as it will be my final WorldSkills competition as Chief Executive of WorldSkills UK. It has been the greatest privilege of my career to work with so many exceptional young people and the networks that support them.

Team UK, we are incredibly proud of you. Good luck.



Ben Blackledge
Chief Executive,
WorldSkills UK

Welcome to WorldSkills Shanghai 2026

Across the globe, young people are applying their skills to build, shape and improve the world around them. WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 celebrates their talent and recognises the focus, precision and diligence it takes to compete at this level. The competitors of Team UK have earned their places on the international stage, and their achievements reflect the very best of vocational and technical education.

WorldSkills offers a front-row seat to the future of skills – a chance to set new benchmarks of excellence and understand the evolving demand for skills. At Pearson, we believe those skills change lives. They open doors, build confidence and help people thrive. That's why we're proud to partner with WorldSkills UK.

Many of the UK's competitors have studied BTECs or other technical qualifications as part of their journey. That real-world learning, combined with the expert training provided by WorldSkills UK, demonstrates exactly the kind of experience employers value.

Representing the UK at WorldSkills is a remarkable achievement. We're proud to support Team UK as they step on to the international stage.



Freya Thomas Monk
Managing Director,
Pearson Qualifications

FOREWORD



It is a great pleasure to welcome Team UK, partners and friends to Shanghai for WorldSkills Shanghai 2026.

WorldSkills is much more than a competition: It brings together outstanding young people, educators, employers and policymakers from around the world to celebrate excellence in technical and vocational skills. It also demonstrates the difference that skills can make to people's lives, creating opportunities, opening doors to rewarding careers and helping individuals realise their ambitions.

Across the UK and China, we face many of the same challenges. New technologies, changing industries and evolving patterns of work mean that people need the skills, knowledge and adaptability to succeed throughout their careers. Investing in skills is therefore not simply an economic imperative; it is about equipping people to thrive in a changing society and ensuring that future generations are ready for the opportunities and challenges ahead.

I am proud of the strong links between the UK and China in education, training and innovation. By sharing expertise and learning from one another, we can continue to develop the skills systems that employers need and that individuals deserve.

Shanghai is a fitting host for this global event. As a city known for innovation, industry and education, it provides an excellent setting for competitors, educators and employers to come together and celebrate achievement in skills.

To every member of Team UK, congratulations on earning your place in Shanghai. The competition ahead will test your skill, discipline and determination, but it is also an opportunity to show the world what can be achieved through talent, hard work and commitment.

Be ambitious, have confidence, and learn from your fellow competitors. Above all, demonstrate the excellence that has brought you this far. You are wonderful representatives for both the United Kingdom and for the power of skills to transform lives, create opportunities and build stronger communities.

We are immensely proud of you and wish you every success in Shanghai.



Matt Burney CMG
His Majesty's Consul-General,
Shanghai

Congratulations to every member of Team UK! It's inspiring to see the next generation of talented young people – from engineers and designers to those studying trades and creative industries – recognised for their exceptional hard work and dedication.

This government is backing young people to develop the skills they need to succeed through our £2.5 billion investment into the Youth Guarantee and Growth and Skills Levy, helping to deliver up to 500,000 opportunities to earn and learn. New V Levels and additional T Levels mean we are providing more choice for young people to build future-proof careers.

WorldSkills Shanghai is a tremendous opportunity to showcase the very best of British skills and apprenticeships to a global audience and I know you will make the whole country proud.



The Rt Hon Baroness Smith of Malvern
Minister for Skills

WorldSkills Shanghai 2026 showcases the very best of international talent, innovation and technical excellence.

For the UK, it reflects the ambitions of both our International Education Strategy and Industrial Strategy, including strengthening global partnerships, developing skills for the industries of the future, and reinforcing the UK's position as a world-leading destination for education, training and workforce development.

By working together internationally, we can equip the next generation with the skills, knowledge and opportunities needed to drive sustainable economic growth and prosperity.



The Lord Leong CBE
Minister for Small
Business and Enterprise

FOREWORD



From around the United Kingdom



Llongyfarchiadau – Congratulations to six young people from Wales, Peter Jenkins, Logan Cook, Tomas Ankers, Madeleine Warburton, Yuliia Batrak and Finn Gallagher on representing Team UK at WorldSkills Shanghai.

This is an outstanding achievement and a proud moment for Wales, showing once again that our nation produces world class talent. These young people embody the ambition, dedication, and excellence at the heart of our skills system.

Their success reflects not only their hard work, but the strength of our colleges, universities, training providers, and employers, alongside the invaluable support of Welsh team managers. Through initiatives such as the Inspiring Skills Excellence in Wales project, we are developing best-in-class talent, ready to succeed on the global stage.

WorldSkills inspires future generations and raises standards.

Pob lwc i chi gyd yn Shanghai — good luck, we are immensely proud of you.



Cefin Campbell MS
Deputy Minister for Skills and
Tertiary Education, Wales



Our competitors should be extremely proud of what they have achieved. Their success clearly demonstrates the wealth of talent we have here in the north. I wish them every success as they embark on this adventure, which will allow them to demonstrate their skills on the world stage. It is testament to their hard work and commitment supported by the diversity of the training offering available locally.



Dr Caoimhe Archibald MLA
Economy Minister,
Northern Ireland



The five Scots who qualified are a testament to the expertise and dedication of our colleges and training providers across the country. We applaud the competitors and experts who will represent Scotland and showcase their skills internationally. I wish them the very best of luck.



Ben Macpherson MSP
Minister for Innovation,
Technology and Tertiary
Education, Scotland



Team UK

SHANGHAI 2026



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Experts and Performance Coaches. Their dedication, commitment, and professionalism are the driving forces behind our training programmes and our work in international benchmarking.

We also express our sincere thanks to the training providers, colleges, and employers of Team UK for their unwavering support of our participation in WorldSkills Shanghai 2026.

Additionally, we are immensely grateful to the organisations that generously provide equipment, materials, and training facilities for our development programmes. Your contributions are invaluable to our success.



Scan the QR code to connect with us and stay updated on key activities, events, and exclusive insights into our journey...

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CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY

BRICKLAYING



COMPETITOR

Joseph Shingler

(Apprentice) Shrewsbury College
Hometown: Shrewsbury, England
Employer: Shingler Group



EXPERT

Stephen Chapman

Employer: Southern Regional College

CABINET MAKING



COMPETITOR

Stanley Mackintosh

(Apprentice) Rycotewood Furniture Centre,
Activate Learning Group
Hometown: Norwich, England
Employer: Bill Cleyndert and Company



EXPERT

Christian Notley MBE

Employer: Self-Employed

CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY



ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION



COMPETITOR

Jonathan Gough

(Apprentice) Southern Regional College
Hometown: Waringstown, Northern Ireland
Employer: Self-Employed
Pearson qualification: BTEC

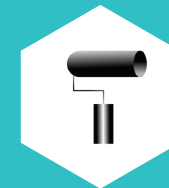


EXPERT

Mitchel Smith

Employer: NICEIC

CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY



PAINTING AND DECORATING



COMPETITOR

Shelby Fitzakerly

(Apprentice) Accrington and Rossendale College
Hometown: Accrington, England
Employer: SPAIN Building and Maintenance



EXPERT

Mike Swan

Employer: Dundee and Angus College



JOINERY



COMPETITOR

Jamie Matthews

(Apprentice) Northern Regional College
Hometown: Ballyclare, Northern Ireland
Employer: Mivan



EXPERT

Andrew Pengelly

Employer: Self-Employed



PLUMBING AND HEATING



COMPETITOR

Andrew McCann

(Apprentice) South West College
Hometown: Aghnacloy, Northern Ireland
Employer: AMC Plumbing & Heating Services



EXPERT

Ronnie Ferris

Employer: Self-Employed

CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY

REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING



COMPETITOR

Samuel Jones

PRTC Burnley

Hometown: Ashton, Wigan

Employer: Industrial Cooling Equipment Ltd



EXPERT

Mark Forsyth

Employer: Coriolis International

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

IT NETWORK SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION



COMPETITOR

Charlie Priestley

North East Scotland College / Robert Gordon University

Hometown: Aberdeen, Scotland

Employer: North East Scotland College



EXPERT

Nitheesh Kaliyamurthy

Employer: Birmingham City University

CREATIVE ARTS AND FASHION

3D DIGITAL GAME ART



COMPETITOR

Logan Cook

Coleg Gwent

Hometown: Newport, Wales

Pearson qualification: BTEC



EXPERT

Paul Browne

Employer: Cheshire College South and West

WEB TECHNOLOGIES



COMPETITOR

Finn Gallagher

Cardiff University

Hometown: Cardiff, Wales

Pearson qualification: BTEC



EXPERT

Valentin Adamescu

Employer: University of Portsmouth

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING



COMPETITOR

Oliver Coombs

(Apprentice) Bath College
Hometown: Bath, England
Employer: BIMTek
Pearson qualification: BTEC



EXPERT

Bryn Jones

Employer: Grŵp Llandrillo Menai



CHEMICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGY



COMPETITOR

Ruth Douglas

(Apprentice) Southern Regional College
Hometown: Banbridge, Northern Ireland
Employer: Almac



EXPERT

Deirdre Murray

Employer: Southern Regional College

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



CNC MILLING



COMPETITOR

Tomas Ankers

(Apprentice) Coleg Cambria
Hometown: Wrexham, Wales
Employer: Electroimpact
Pearson qualification: BTEC



EXPERT

Adam Youens

Employer: Coleg Cambria

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



INDUSTRY 4.0



COMPETITOR

Caolan McCartan

(Apprentice) Southern Regional College
Hometown: Newry, Northern Ireland



COMPETITOR

Patrick Sheerin

(Apprentice) Southern Regional College
Hometown: Portadown, Northern Ireland
Employer: A J Power



EXPERT

Omid Teimoori

Employer: Didactic Services Ltd



MECHATRONICS



COMPETITOR

Emily Bettridge

(Apprentice) Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK
Hometown: Nottingham, England
Employer: Toyota Manufacturing UK



COMPETITOR

Liz Hopkinson

(Apprentice) Toyota Motor Manufacturing UK
Hometown: Alferton, Derbyshire, England
Employer: Toyota Manufacturing UK



EXPERT

Calum Knott

Employer: Didactic Services Ltd

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY



MECHANICAL ENGINEERING: CAD



COMPETITOR

Stuart Lyons

New College Lanarkshire
Hometown: Lanark, Scotland
Employer: New College Lanarkshire



EXPERT

Andrew Beel

Employer: Howden



RENEWABLE ENERGY



COMPETITOR

Madeleine Warburton

(Apprentice) Grŵp Coleg Menai
Hometown: Ashby-de-la-Zouch,
Leicestershire, England
Employer: RWE



EXPERT

Chris Turnbull

Employer: Didactic Services Ltd



MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

ROBOT SYSTEMS INTEGRATION



COMPETITOR

Peter Jenkins

Coleg Menai
Hometown: Holyhead, Wales
Employer: Science and Technology
Facilities Council (STFC)



COMPETITOR

Pratham Lohia

Middlesex University
Hometown: London, England
and Mumbai, India



EXPERT

Karla Kosch

Employer: Middlesex University

SERVICE INDUSTRY



BEAUTY THERAPY



COMPETITOR

Neve Dunn

Tyne Coast College
Hometown: South Shields, England
Employer: Crown Hair & Beauty



EXPERT

Hayley Huxtable

Employer: Beauty Therapy Consultant



HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE



COMPETITOR

Grace Longden

Macclesfield College / Keele University
Hometown: Macclesfield, England



EXPERT

Sau Man Li

Employer: JS Consultants



HAIRDRESSING



COMPETITOR

Katie Sime

(Apprentice) Reds Hair Company
Hometown: Forest of Dean, England
Employer: Reds Hair Company



EXPERT

Linzi Weare

Employer: Reds Hair Company



RESTAURANT SERVICES



COMPETITOR

Yuliia Batrak

Grŵp Llandrillo Menai
Hometown: Llandudno, Wales
Employer: St George's Hotel



EXPERT

Ian Whitaker

Employer: Bean 2 Work CIC

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS



AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE



COMPETITOR

Elyot Harmston

(Apprentice)

Hometown: Biggleswade Bedfordshire, England

Employer: The Shuttleworth Collection

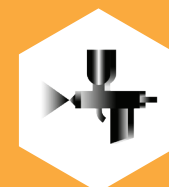
Pearson qualification: BTEC



EXPERT

James Callaghan

Employer: Self-Employed



TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

CAR PAINTING



COMPETITOR

Oisin McKerr

Southern Regional College

Hometown: Lurgan, Northern Ireland

Employer: Porters Body Shop



EXPERT

Richard Wheeler

Employer: Coleg Gwent



AUTOBODY REPAIR



COMPETITOR

Joe Wilton

(Apprentice) Riverpark Training

Hometown: Ballymena, Northern Ireland

Employer: SDM Paintwork

Pearson qualification: BTEC



EXPERT

James Brown

Employer: Self-Employed

WORLD SKILLS UK DELEGATION



Hannah Sheehan

Official Delegate.
Director International
and Student Experience,
Department for Education.



Parisa Shirazi

Technical Delegate.
Director of Standards,
WorldSkills UK.



Jeanette Prole

Technical Delegate Assistant.
Senior International
Development Manager,
WorldSkills UK.



Marion Plant OBE

Chair, WorldSkills UK.
Principal and Chief Executive
North Warwickshire and
South Leicestershire College.



Ben Blackledge

Chief Executive,
WorldSkills UK.



Emma Roberts

Communications Officer.
Director of External Affairs,
WorldSkills UK.



Chris Herron

Member Support Officer
(Experts). International
Development Manager,
WorldSkills UK.



Shereen Syed

Member Support Officer
(Experts). International
Development Coordinator,
WorldSkills UK.



Bianca Jakubowski

Member Support Officer
(Competitors). International
Development Coordinator,
WorldSkills UK.



Nikita Hall

Team Leader.
Neonatal Specialist Nurse,
South Eastern Health
and Social Care Trust.



Pami Johal

Team Leader. Teaching, Learning,
Innovation & Competitions
Manager, North Warwickshire
& South Leicestershire College.



Louise Kerr

Team Leader.
Performance
Psychologist,
LK Consulting.

FROM COMPETITOR TO CHAMPION

Our Skills Champions are former Team UK competitors who know first-hand what it takes to compete on the international stage.

Having demonstrated excellence in their own skills journey, they now give back by supporting the next generation of Team UK members. Through sharing their experiences, practical insights and encouragement, they help competitors build confidence, prepare for success and develop the skills, mindset and employability needed to thrive both in competition and throughout their careers. **They also explain how the competition works, lead tours and help visitors better understand the Team UK journey.** Their continued involvement strengthens the Team UK community and inspires future competitors to pursue excellence and realise their full potential.



Lewis Newton, is a web developer from Portsmouth and a former WorldSkills UK Web Technologies competitor. In 2017, while studying for a BTEC Level 3 in IT at Highbury College (City of Portsmouth College), Lewis lacked confidence and doubted his future. Encouraged

by his lecturer, Lewis entered the National skills competition with low expectations, but left with a gold medal and a newfound self-belief.

That moment opened the door to representing the UK at EuroSkills Budapest 2018 and WorldSkills Competition 2022 Special Edition in Goyang, achieving a Medallion for Excellence. The experience transformed Lewis' mindset, leading him to complete a Computing degree at the University of Portsmouth and secure his role at Radweb.

Now, Lewis applies the skills he learned to create meaningful impact through his work and give back as a Skills Champion. He hopes to be a relatable figure for anyone who doubts themselves and show what is possible when you push beyond your comfort zone.



In 2019 Tonicha Roberts became the first UK representative in the Chemical Laboratory Technology skill at an international WorldSkills competition after completing a Laboratory Technician apprenticeship.

Unable to take the traditional university route into forensic science, she was determined to prove herself and became the first Forensic Scientist in her field without a degree.

Tonicha progressed to Team UK, achieving a Medallion for Excellence and placing fourth in the world at the international competition, recognised for achieving world class standards. Her experience taught her to apply technical knowledge in new situations and build life skills that have shaped her career. Now a Forensic Training Manager, she leads a complex programme developing every new forensic recruit, tailoring to different learning styles, and expanding her programme nationally, all enabled by the skills developed through WorldSkills UK.

Now a WorldSkills UK Skills Champion, an advocate for skills, she says 'WorldSkills UK didn't just change my professional path – it showed me how powerful skills, mentorship and perseverance can be'.



Jason Scott is a Northern Irish former Team UK competitor for Robot Systems Integration. Along with his teammate, Jason secured a Medallion for Excellence at EuroSkills Gdansk in 2023 and then again at WorldSkills Lyon in

2024. He is now an Automation and Lead R&D Engineer at AES Global, having completed a Level 3 Pearson BTEC in Engineering, Foundation Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering and now his Bachelor's Degree in Mechatronics and Robotics at Middlesex University.

Jason says "My journey with WorldSkills UK pushed me further than I thought possible, developing my professional, personal and interpersonal skills to a whole new level".

Now as a Skills Champion, one of his goals is to encourage as many people as possible to take part in skills competitions, so they can gain the same experience and personal growth he did through the programme.



SHANGHAI 2026

PROGRAMME

VENUE:

National Exhibition and Convention Center, Shanghai
168 East Yinggang Rd (South Gate)
333 Songze Avenue (North Gate)
111 Laigang Rd (East Gate)
1888 Zhuguang Rd (West Gate)

OPENING CEREMONY

Tuesday 22 September 2026: 19:00 – 21:00*

COMPETITION DAYS

Wednesday 23 – Saturday 26 September 2026

CLOSING CEREMONY

Sunday 27 September 2026: 19:00 – 21:00*

GETTING THERE

Official delegate transport arrangements will be confirmed closer to the event. Official transfers will be provided as part of your delegate package.

If you are not on a package, and need to travel independently, options include:

Metro: Shanghai has an extensive metro network. The NECC is served by Metro Line 2 (National Exhibition Centre station). Journey from the city centre takes approximately 40–50 minutes.

Taxi/Ride-hailing: DiDi (China's equivalent of Uber) is widely used and can be booked via app. Ensure you use marked vehicles only – see taxi safety guidance above. Download the app or use via Alipay before you travel to China

From Pudong Airport: The Maglev train runs from PVG to Longyang Road station, where you can connect to the metro network. Journey time to NECC is approximately 1 hour in total.

COMPETITION RULES

FOR VISITORS

WorldSkills UK is hugely grateful of your support for Team UK and asks for all supporters to abide by the WorldSkills International Rules to ensure a fair and enjoyable competition for all:

- Interference by visitors that may hinder or assist a competitor in the completion of their competition project is forbidden and may result in that competitor being disqualified.
- During the formal competition time, visitors are not allowed to talk to competitors. Failure to comply with this, may result in that competitor being disqualified.
- Visitors are not allowed to hand anything over the competition barriers to competitors at any time.
- Please do not stand at the competition barrier for long periods of time as this can be distracting for competitors and you may be asked to leave the venue.
- Whilst we encourage and value your support during competitions, we discourage you visiting the competitors at their hotel. Please allow competitors the space to be part of Team UK and access the benefits of the team's programme of activity at the competition.
- We hope you appreciate the need to comply with the above as failure to do so could result in a competitor being disqualified from the Competition.



* Details correct at time of printing, please scan QR code to check the official website for updates
worldskills2026.com

WHERE TO SUPPORT TEAM UK

CONSTRUCTION AND BUILDING TECHNOLOGY

Bricklaying	Hall 1.1 L1	20
Cabinet Making	Hall 6.2 L2	24
Electrical Installations	Hall 2.1 L1	18
Joinery	Hall 6.2 L2	25
Painting and Decorating	Hall 2.1 L1	22
Plumbing and Heating	Hall 2.1 L1	15
Refrigeration and Air Conditioning	Hall 2.1 L1	38

CREATIVE ARTS AND FASHION

3D Digital Game Art	Hall 4.1 L1	50
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INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

IT Network Systems Administration	Hall 6.2 L2	39
Web Technologies	Hall 6.2 L2	17

MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

Additive Manufacturing	Hall 5.1 L1	57
Chemical Laboratory Technology	Hall 5.1 L1	52
CNC Milling	Hall 5.1 L1	7
Industry 4.0	Hall 3.1 L1	48
Mechanical Engineering CAD	Hall 1.2 L2	5
Mechatronics	Hall 3.1 L1	4
Renewable Energy	Hall 3.1 L1	62
Robot Systems Integration	Hall 1.2 L2	63

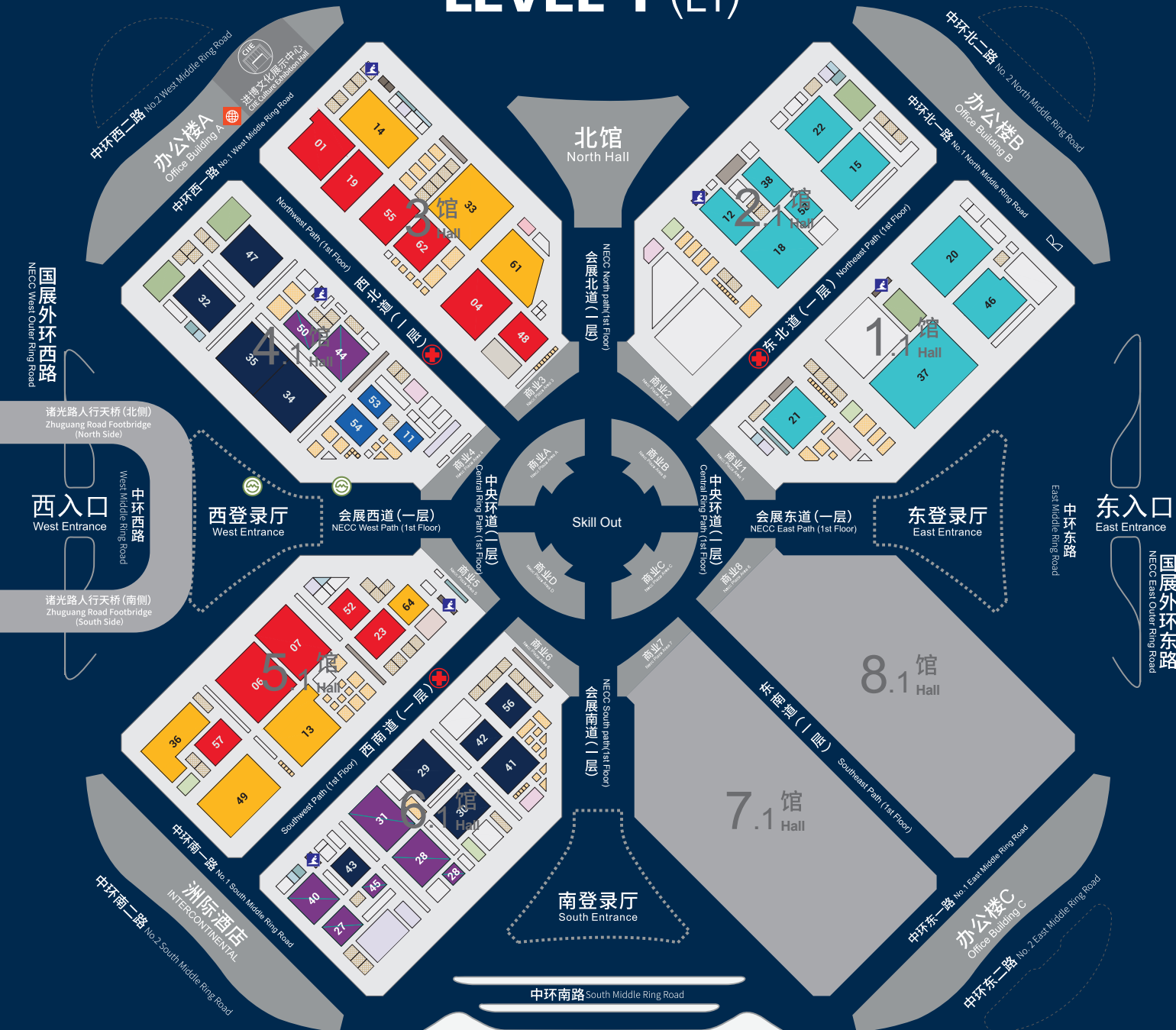
SERVICE INDUSTRY

Beauty Therapy	Hall 6.1 L1	30
Hairdressing	Hall 6.1 L1	29
Health and Social Care	Hall 6.1 L1	41
Restaurant Services	Hall 4.1 L1	35

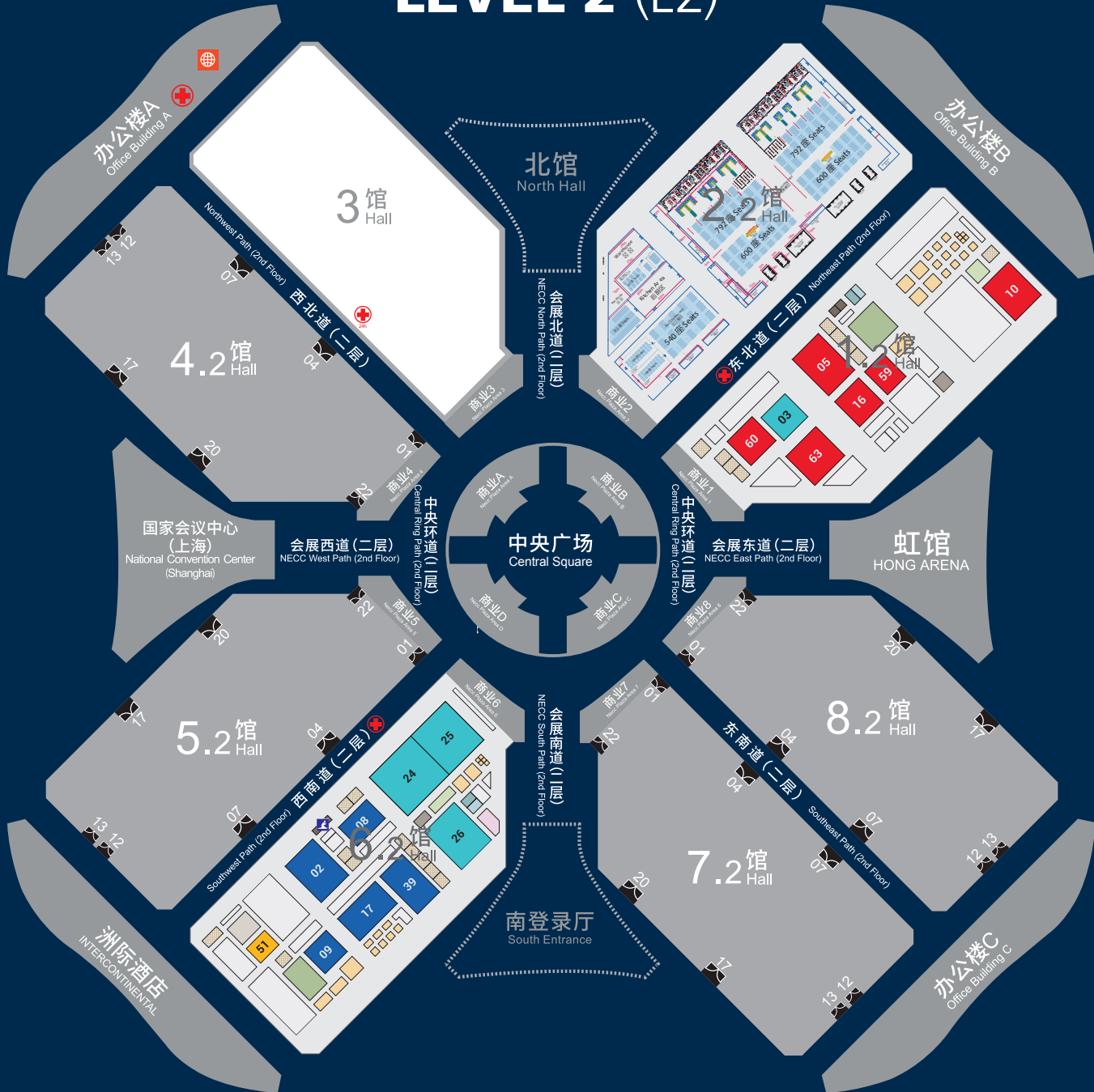
TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS

Aircraft Maintenance	Hall 3.1 L1	14
Autobody Repair	Hall 5.1 L1	13
Car Painting	Hall 5.1 L1	36

LEVEL 1 (L1)

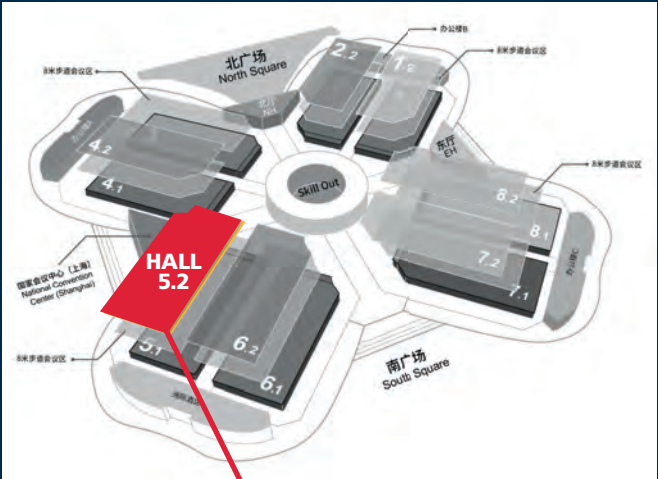


LEVEL 2 (L2)



WORLD SKILLS
SHANGHAI EXPO
HALL 5.2

Visit WorldSkills UK at the
United Kingdom stand



THANK YOU FOR
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