NOTTINGHAM
2026

Macademia
NUTS ABOUT EDUCATION

Schools & Organisations Partnership Brochure

Real-World Career Education for Schools, Colleges & Alternative Provision.

REAL CAREERS
Explore industries and pathways.

REAL PROJECTS
Work on meaningful, industry-inspired challenges.

REAL CONFIDENCE
Build skills, self-belief and clarity for the future.

REAL ENVIRONMENT
Studio-style learning designed for focus, creativity and collaboration.

Prepared for headteachers, careers leads, SENCOs and Sixth Form coordinators.

Young PROFESSIONALS Academy
HOLIDAY Studio

Contents

Discover how Macademia helps young people explore careers, build confidence and prepare for the future through real-world learning experiences.

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Welcome to Macademia

Macademia is a Nottingham-based education studio where young people step into the shoes of architects, doctors, engineers, artists, designers, and more. Founded by Adriana, a university architecture lecturer, and Natalie, a former Army professional turned designer, Macademia was created to solve a problem they kept seeing first-hand: students arriving at college or university without a real understanding of what a profession actually involves.

We work alongside schools to give pupils genuine insight into career pathways through small-group, studio-style sessions led by tutors working in those industries, calm, hands-on, and rooted in confidence, curiosity and community.

Why Career Exploration Matters

Many young people are leaving school feeling uncertain about future pathways, disconnected from learning, or unaware of careers that may genuinely suit their strengths.

Macademia was created to bridge that gap — helping students experience industries, build confidence and make more informed decisions before major educational choices are made.

Sessions can be delivered in-school or at our Nottingham studios

Why Choose Macademia?

Benefits:

- Small-group studio learning for focus, calm and confidence.
- Led by industry professionals with real experience.
- Inclusive by design, supporting a wide range of learners and SEND.
- Fully aligned with Gatsby Benchmarks 1-8.
- Real-world projects and simulations instead of passive “careers talks”.
- Flexible delivery in-school or at our Nottingham studios.

Outcomes & impact

- Students build confidence, communication and teamwork skills.
- Programmes support informed decisions about future pathways.
- Provides strong evidence for careers records, EHCPs and Ofsted.

We work with mainstream schools, SEND settings, colleges, alternative provision, home-education communities and local employers across Nottinghamshire and the surrounding areas.

Trusted partners and networks

We work with organisations including **Catch22** and **Autism East Midlands** to support inclusive, real-world learning and Preparing for Adulthood outcomes.

- Local schools
- Home-education families
- University-linked tutors
- Industry professionals
- Community organisations across Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire & Derbyshire

Our Nottingham Studios

Inspiring spaces for creativity, collaboration and career exploration

Macademia operates from two dedicated studio locations in Nottingham, designed to provide professional, welcoming and inspiring learning environments for young people.
Most programmes can be delivered in-school or at either of our specialist studios.

SHERWOOD STUDIO

627 Mansfield Road
Above The Crimson Tree Café
Sherwood
NG5 2FX Nottingham

Features
✓ Creative Studio Environment
✓ Small Group Learning
✓ Model Making & Design Facilities
✓ Accessible by Public Transport

WEST BRIDGFORD STUDIO

Trent Business Centre
Thoroton Road
NG2 5FT Nottingham

Features
✓ Professional Teaching Space
✓ Presentation & Workshop Facilities
✓ Ideal for Career Programmes
✓ Easy Access & Parking

Public transport accessible

Parking nearby

Easy access from the city

Why Students Thrive Here

Creative Learning Environments
Inspiring spaces that spark ideas and curiosity.

Small Group Delivery
Focused learning with expert tutors.

Professional Facilities
High-quality resources for real-world learning.

Safe & Supervised Studios
Well-managed environments with safeguarding at our core.

Visit Our Studios

Book a discovery visit to our studios to explore facilities and discuss partnership options.

www.macademia.co.uk

What We Currently Offer

Flexible pathways, real-world learning and industry-inspired experiences for young people aged 8-18.

- **Mainstream Schools:** Curriculum enrichment, careers education and work experience alternatives.
- **SEND & Alternative Provision**: Calm, structured and inclusive programmes tailored to diverse learners.
- **Home Education**: Flexible studio-based learning, workshops and social opportunities.
- **Holiday Clubs & Summer Career Camps:** Immersive career experiences during school holidays. Our summer programmes focus on immersive career experiences rather than childcare, giving learners a meaningful taste of professional life.

SUBJECTS:

ARCHITECTURE · ENGINEERING · FASHION · INTERIORS · ART · PRODUCT · BUSINESS · MEDICINE · ASTROPHYSICS · AI LAB

LAW & CRIMINOLOGY · ARMED FORCES · MODEL MAKING · DRAMA · SUSTAINABILITY · MEDIA · LANGUAGES · STREET ART · CREATIVE WRITING · MARKETING

School Packages

Working with schools & organisations

Three Flexible Partnership Packages

Why Schools Partner With Macademia

We work with schools, colleges and education organisations to provide meaningful career exploration, industry insight and hands-on learning experiences.
Our programmes complement school education, support **Gatsby Benchmarks** and help students make informed decisions about their future pathways.
All packages are delivered by experienced, DBS-checked professionals and can be adapted to suit different cohorts, timetables and educational settings.

All sessions are delivered by experienced, DBS-checked professionals.

PACKAGE 1 Young Professionals Explorer Programme

Discover careers before making big decisions.

- 10 weeks
- 2-hour sessions
- Up to 24 learners
- Multiple career pathways

Ideal for:
Students exploring options.

PACKAGE 2 In-Depth Career Modules

Explore one profession in depth.

- 6-week specialist module
- Industry projects
- Portfolio building
- Career-specific skills

Ideal for:
Students considering a specific pathway.

PACKAGE 3 Real-World Practice Simulations

Experience how professionals actually work.

- Workplace simulations
- Team roles
- Real briefs
- Presentation outcomes

Ideal for:
Work experience, employability and career readiness.

The Student Journey

1. DISCOVER → 2. EXPLORE → 3. EXPERIENCE

A flexible progression that supports students at every stage of their career journey.

PACKAGE 1

Career Pathways Discovery Programme

Explore up to 10 career pathways before making future education and career choices.

Outcomes: confidence, communication, teamwork, problem-solving, career awareness and employability skills.

This structured careers exploration programme introduces students to a range of professional industries through engaging presentations and practical mini-projects.

Programme Format

OPTION A	OPTION B
10 WEEKS	5 WEEKS
2-Hour Weekly Sessions	4-Hour Weekly Sessions

Each week, students explore a new industry, complete a practical challenge in teams and build a portfolio of work to help them discover their strengths, interests and future aspirations.

How the Programme works?

WEEK 1 — ARCHITECTURE
Mini design project: Explore space, form and function, and draw plans and sections.

WEEK 2 — ENGINEERING
Bridge challenge: Design, build and test.

WEEK 3 — MEDICINE
Medical diagnosis activity: Investigate and solve.

WEEK 4 — BUSINESS
Product pitch: Create, plan and present

WEEK 5 — LAW
Court case challenge: Analyse, argue and decide.

WEEK 6 — INTERIOR DESIGN
Space redesign: Emotions, colours, textures and atmosphere of a dream bedroom.

WEEK 7 — FASHION DESIGN
Design challenge: Create a collection and mood board.

WEEK 8 — MEDIA & MARKETING
Campaign creation: Plan, film and promote.

WEEK 9 — SUSTAINABLE PRODUCT DESIGN
Innovation challenge: Design, prototype and improve.

WEEK 10 — PRESENTATION & REFLECTION
Showcase your work, reflect and receive career advice, report, and certificate.

EVIDENCE & IMPACT

Every student receives an A3 portfolio and achievement report that evidences skills, strengths and progression for careers records, EHCPs and future applications."

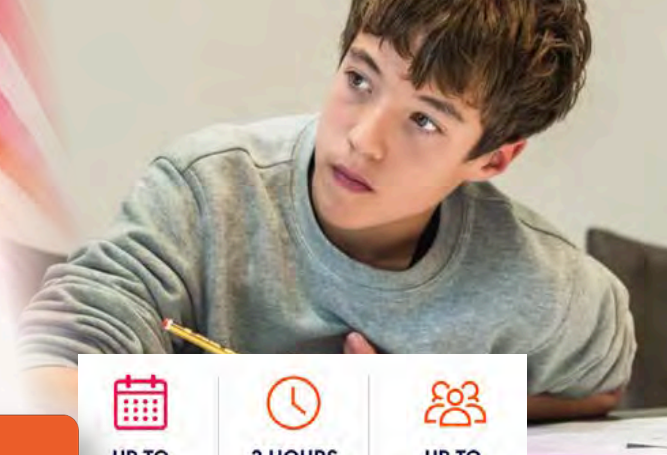
VIEW AN EXAMPLE REPORT HERE:

WHY SCHOOLS CHOOSE THIS PROGRAMME

- Reduces the need for multiple external career talks
- Supports Gatsby Benchmark delivery
- Introduces a wide range of careers in a structured format
- Helps students make informed future choices
- Provides tangible evidence of participation and progression
- Suitable for careers education, transition programmes, SEND and alternative provision

STUDENTS EXPERIENCE

- Up to 10 professional career pathways
- Industry-led presentations
- Real-world project briefs
- Team-based challenges
- Design, making and problem-solving activities
- Reflection and career exploration exercises
- Professional portfolio development
- Final achievement report
- Certificate of participation



PACKAGE 2

In-Depth Career Academy

Explore One Career Pathway Through a Real Industry Project

Outcomes: confidence, communication, teamwork, problem-solving, career awareness and employability skills.

UP TO 6 WEEKS	2 HOURS PER WEEK	UP TO 24 STUDENTS

This specialist programme allows students to immerse themselves in a single professional discipline chosen by the school. Students spend six weeks developing a substantial industry project.

They investigate a realistic brief, develop ideas, learn specialist skills, create solutions and present outcomes — mirroring the process used by real professionals. Students gain a deeper understanding of the subject, discover whether it is a potential future career pathway and develop a portfolio of work that demonstrates their achievements.

How the Programme works?

WEEK 1
Understand the Industry
- Explore the profession
- Real-world case studies
- Career routes and opportunities
- Receive the project brief

WEEK 2
Research & Investigation
- Gather information
- Analyse examples
- Explore users, clients and contexts
- Begin project planning

WEEK 3
Concept Development
- Generate ideas
- Design Process
- Sketch, design and test concepts
- Receive tutor feedback

WEEK 4
Project Development
- Refine proposals
- Test & analyse
- Apply specialist knowledge
- Develop practical solutions

WEEK 5
Final Production
- Create final outcomes
- Prepare presentation materials
- Complete portfolio evidence

WEEK 6
Professional Presentation
- Present work
- Reflect on learning
- Receive career guidance
- Celebrate achievements

Example Projects

Design a Sustainable Community Hub

Design and Test a Bridge Structure

Transform a Community Space

Develop and Pitch a New Product

Create an Innovative Sustainable Solution

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students develop the specialist knowledge, practical skills and professional behaviours associated with their chosen career pathway.

For details of reporting, portfolio evidence and student certification, please refer to **Package 1.**

PACKAGE 3

Real-World Practice Simulations

Experience how professionals actually work.

This hands-on programme puts students in realistic situations, working in teams to solve real problems, make decisions and present outcomes — just like in the workplace.

Ideal for:

- Work experience
- Employability skills
- Careers education
- Preparing for the world of work

Four Industry Practice Studios

1

Built Environment Practice

Architecture • Engineering • Interior Design

Students form a multi-disciplinary design practice responding to a real brief — a school building, community space or emergency shelter. They interpret the brief, work with site and sustainability constraints, develop designs, build models and present outcomes.

2

Emergency Response Simulation

Medical • Police • Fire • Armed Forces

A realistic incident unfolds. Coordinated response teams take on roles as paramedics, police, fire & rescue and strategic command — assessing risk, making rapid decisions, communicating between services and reflecting on ethics and responsibility.

3

Sustainable Product & Business Studio

Product Design • Sustainability • Entrepreneurship

Students form a start-up developing a sustainable product from concept to pitch — identifying a real-world problem, designing a solution, assessing sustainability and viability, and pitching to a panel.

4

Criminal Justice & Crown Court Simulation

Law • Criminology • Policing • Public Services

Students investigate a criminal case, assess evidence and take on professional roles including police officers, barristers, judges and jurors. The experience culminates in a realistic Crown Court trial, developing communication, critical thinking and decision-making skills.

Why this package makes a real impact

- **Authentic experience of professional practice**
- **Builds confidence, resilience and decision-making**
- **Develops teamwork, communication and leadership**
- **Strong evidence for careers records, EHCPs and Ofsted**
- **Fully aligned with the eight Gatsby Benchmarks**

PACKAGE 3

EXAMPLE SIMULATION

Built Environment Practice Studio

Architecture • Engineering • Interior Design

Outcomes: confidence, communication, teamwork, problem-solving, career awareness and employability skills.

This studio gives students the opportunity to experience what it is like to work within a built environment practice. They collaborate on a real design brief, develop creative and technical solutions, and present their ideas to a client panel.

The Experience Journey

1. Understand the Brief
Students receive a real-life client brief and explore the needs, constraints and opportunities.

2. Research & Analyse
They investigate the context, users, site and sustainability factors to inform their ideas.

3. Design & Develop
Working in teams, students generate concepts, develop designs and test their ideas.

4. Make & Model
They create physical or digital models to communicate scale, form and material choices.

5. Present & Reflect
Teams present their proposals to a client panel and reflect on feedback and learning.

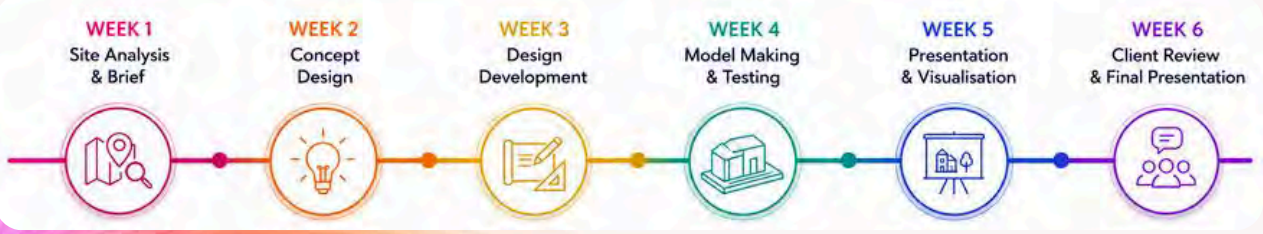
★★★★★

Real Client Brief Example

Design a flexible, sustainable community building that can be used for learning, events and wellbeing.

Considerations:

- Site context and community needs
- Sustainability and environmental impact
- Space, access and inclusivity
- Materials, construction and cost
- Wellbeing, light and natural ventilation



Arrange a consultation to tailor this programme for your learners

www.macademia.co.uk

One-Day Workshops

Flexible, high-impact experiences that inspire curiosity, confidence and future aspirations

Macademia's one-day workshops provide schools, colleges and community organisations with engaging, industry-led experiences that can be delivered as standalone enrichment activities or as part of wider careers and curriculum programmes.

Designed to be practical, creative and accessible, workshops immerse learners in real-world challenges while developing confidence, communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

"A single workshop can inspire a future career."

How It Works

Flexible Format
4-6 hour workshop tailored to your timetable

Delivered Anywhere
In-school, community venues or Macademia studios

Small Group Learning
Up to 24 learners per workshop

Real-World Challenges
Hands-on projects inspired by professional practice

Ideal for:

- ✓ Curriculum Enrichment
- ✓ Careers Education
- ✓ STEM Days
- ✓ Project-Based Learning
- ✓ Student Voice Projects
- ✓ Transition Activities
- ✓ SEND Provision
- ✓ Alternative Provision

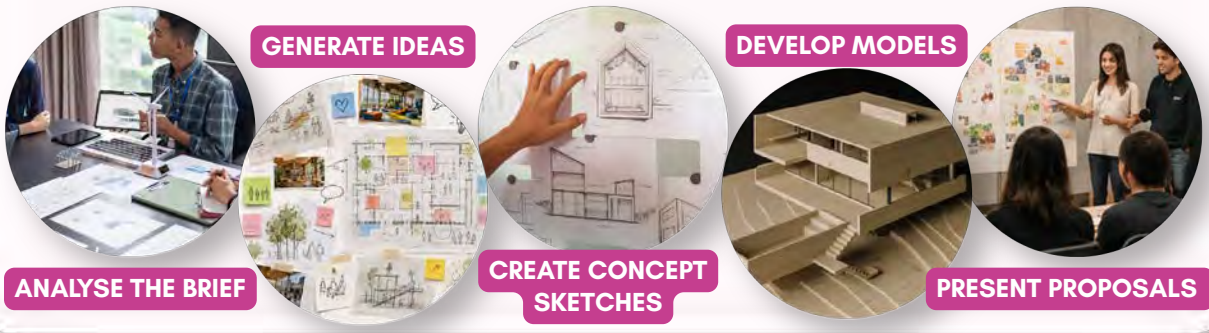
Typical outputs

- Design Concepts & Moodboards
- Models & Prototypes
- Drawings & Presentation Boards
- Team Presentations & Showcases
- Reflection & Evaluation Activities

EXAMPLE WORKSHOP: Architecture • Engineering • Interior Design

Design a Sustainable Community Hub

Students work in teams to respond to a real design brief for a new community building.



Students develop:

- Teamwork & Communication
- Creative & Technical Skills
- Sustainability Awareness
- Problem Solving & Critical Thinking
- Confidence for the Future

SEND & Preparing for Adulthood

Creating calm, autism-aware pathways into adulthood, work and community life.

Inclusive by design

We work with organisations including Catch22 and Autism East Midlands to strengthen support for autistic and neurodivergent learners.

Our programmes are designed to support a diverse range of learners, including those who may find traditional educational environments challenging.

Small groups, structured delivery and supportive tutors help every student participate with confidence.

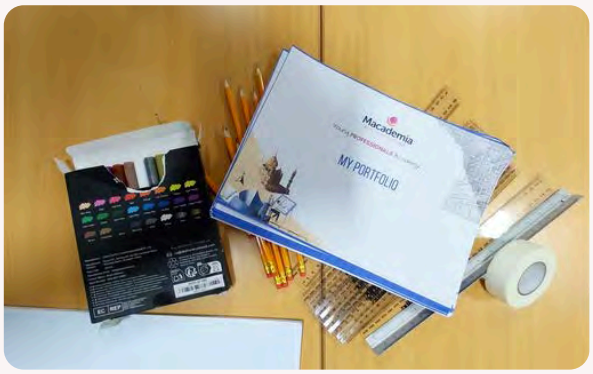
Autism-friendly & neurodiversity-aware

- Calm, scaffolded studio environment with clear routines and expectations.
- Sensory-friendly activities and flexible pacing where possible.
- Focus on strengths, interests and practical achievement.

Preparing for Adulthood outcomes

- **Employment**: real-world projects, enterprise activities and workplace simulations.
- **Independent living skills**: planning, problem-solving, teamwork and decision-making.
- **Community participation**: community-based briefs and social learning.
- **Health & wellbeing**: activities that build resilience, belonging and self-belief.

Calm, structured studio sessions supporting autistic and neurodivergent learners.



Arrange a consultation to tailor this programme for your learners

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Safeguarding & Governance

Macademia & Gatsby Benchmarks

Macademia programmes provide meaningful, structured and industry-informed experiences that help schools deliver high-quality careers education while supporting the Gatsby Benchmarks in practical, measurable ways.

GATSBY

THE GATSBY BENCHMARKS

1. **A stable careers programme**
2. **Learning from career and labour market information**
3. **Addressing the needs of each pupil**
4. **Linking curriculum learning to careers**
5. **Encounters with employers and employees**
6. **Experiences of workplaces**
7. **Encounters with further and higher education**
8. **Personal guidance**

Macademia programmes support confident transitions, informed choices and improved readiness for work, training or further study.

Careers-Ready Real-World Impact

BENCHMARK 4 Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers

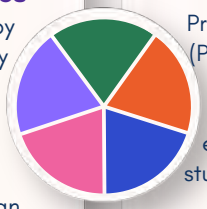
Students apply knowledge from subjects such as maths, science, design, technology, art and communication through real-world projects and professional scenarios.

Supported by: All Packages

BENCHMARK 5 Encounters with employers and employees

Sessions are led by tutors and industry professionals with real experience in architecture, engineering, design and related fields.

Supported by: Packages 1, 2 & 3



BENCHMARK 6 Experiences of Workplaces

Our Real-World Practice Simulations (Package 3) provide structured, role-based workplace experiences where students collaborate within realistic professional environments.

Supported by: Package 3

BENCHMARK 7 Encounters with Further and Higher Education

The studio environment mirrors university learning through project-based work, critiques, portfolio development and professional presentation.

Supported by: All Packages

BENCHMARK 8 Personal Guidance

Students receive structured feedback, reflection and guidance that helps them understand their strengths, interests and potential pathways.

Supported by: All Packages

FOCUS ON PACKAGE 3

Real-World Practice Simulations

Our flagship work experience alternative places students in the heart of a multidisciplinary professional project.

- Students take on real professional roles
- Collaborate in teams
- Work to deadlines and client briefs
- Solve problems and make decisions
- Present outcomes to peers and professionals
- Receive expert feedback
- Build confidence and clarity for future choices

WHY IT MATTERS

Traditional work experience can be difficult to access, inconsistent in quality, or passive in nature.
Our model provides an inclusive, structured and high-impact alternative that prepares students for the world of work.

INCLUSIVE BY DESIGN

Our approach supports all learners, including those who may find traditional placements challenging, by offering a calm, scaffolded and supportive studio environment.

HOW OUR PROGRAMMES BRING THE BENCHMARKS TO LIFE

EXPLORE	ENGAGE	EXPERIENCE	REFLECT	PLAN
Career paths and industry insights	With professionals and real projects	Workplace practice and collaboration	On skills, strengths and interests	Next steps with confidence

Safeguarding, Compliance & Professional Standards

Safe. Professional. Trusted.

At Macademia, the wellbeing and safety of every young person is central to everything we do.
Our programmes operate within a safeguarding-first framework designed to create safe, supportive and inclusive learning environments for all learners.

Our Commitment

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)**
- **Enhanced DBS-Checked Staff**
- **Risk Assessments**
- **Clear Reporting Procedures**
- **Small Group Supervision**
- **Partnership with Schools & Families**

Available To Partner Schools

- **DBS Confirmation**
- **Safeguarding Policy**
- **Risk Assessments**
- **Insurance Certificates**
- **Tutor Documentation**
- **Programme Information**

Public Liability Insurance

Professional Indemnity Insurance

Employer's Liability Insurance

Insurance arrangements are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain appropriate for the nature of our educational and creative activities, including school-based delivery, studio sessions, workshops and project-led learning.
Copies of insurance certificates can be provided to partner schools, organisations and venues ahead of any programme delivery upon request.

Inclusive By Design

Our programmes are designed to support a diverse range of learners, including those who may find traditional educational environments challenging. Small groups, structured delivery and supportive tutors help every student participate with confidence.

Trusted School Partner
Professional, reliable and committed to student success.

Fully aligned with current UK safeguarding guidance and safer recruitment practices.

Schools, parents and learners can be confident that every Macademia programme is delivered with professionalism, transparency and student wellbeing at its core

For our full safeguarding policy, visit:

Macademia Academic Calendar

Inspiring Learning. Building Futures.

SEPTEMBER

Future Pathways & New Beginnings

- National Coding Week
- National Emergency Services Day
- Careers in Public Services
- Transition and confidence-building activities

OCTOBER

Innovation & Digital Futures

- World Space Week
- ADHD Awareness Month
- Gaming, VR and immersive technology
- Diverse innovators and role models

JANUARY

Dream Big

- Goal setting and aspirations
- Careers in media, gaming and emerging technologies
- Mentoring and future planning

FEBRUARY

Apprenticeships & Skills

- National Apprenticeship Week
- Safer Internet Day
- Employability and technical skills workshops

MAY

Health, Wellbeing & Community

- Mental Health Awareness Week
- Resilience, wellbeing and teamwork activities

JUNE

Careers & Transition

- Work experience preparation
- Employer encounters
- Transition and Preparation for Adulthood activities

Macademia
NUTS ABOUT EDUCATION

Empowering young people with the skills, confidence and opportunities to thrive.

ARCHITECTURE · ENGINEERING · FASHION · INTERIORS · ART · PRODUCT · BUSINESS · MEDICINE · ASTROPHYSICS · AI LAB

LAW & CRIMINOLOGY · ARMED FORCES · MODEL MAKING · DRAMA · SUSTAINABILITY · MEDIA · LANGUAGES · STREET ART · CREATIVE WRITING · MARKETING

NOVEMBER

Enterprise & Employability

- UK Disability History Month
- Enterprise projects
- Workplace communication and teamwork
- Product and branding challenges

DECEMBER

Creativity, Community & Wellbeing

- Community projects
- Sensory-friendly creative experiences
- Digital arts and enterprise activities

MARCH

STEM & Neurodiversity

- British Science Week
- Neurodiversity Celebration Week
- Robotics, engineering and inclusive STEM experiences

APRIL

Creativity & Enterprise

- World Creativity and Innovation Day
- Business and enterprise simulations
- Creative media and digital production

JULY

Celebration & Showcase

- Showcase events
- Learner exhibitions
- Celebrating achievements and progression

YEAR ROUND FOCUS

Building Skills for Life

- Safeguarding & wellbeing
- Personal development
- Employability skills
- Inclusion & belonging
- Preparation for Adulthood

Contact us to reserve dates for your next enrichment or STEM day.

www.macademia.co.uk

Macademia

NUTS ABOUT EDUCATION

Contact us

- **Book a Discovery Visit**
- **Arrange a School Consultation**
- **Request a Sample Programme & Costing**

www.macademia.co.uk

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