

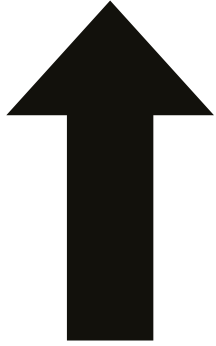


HM Government

INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICES T LEVELS

T
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14 MAY 2026



WELCOME



TL

TODAY'S TEAM



Kelly Goudge

Webinar Host

Head of Events
SDN Mesma Group



Simon Shaw

Webinar Presenter

Industry Placement Specialist
SDN Mesma Group



William Knox

Speaker

Ada Lovelace Church of
England High School



Jo Simovic

Speaker

Amazon UK and Chair of the
T Level Ambassador Network

Broadcast

Your microphone will be muted

Use the Q&A function for questions

Feel free to use the chat box

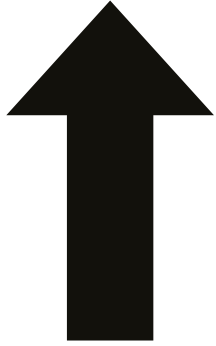
POLL

Which of these best describes where your organisation is currently at with industry placements?

- 1 We already host one or more students.***
- 2 We already host one or more students and are planning to expand the number this year.***
- 3 We're in the planning stage and intend to host one or more students this year.***
- 4 We haven't made up our mind about hosting students yet.***

AGENDA

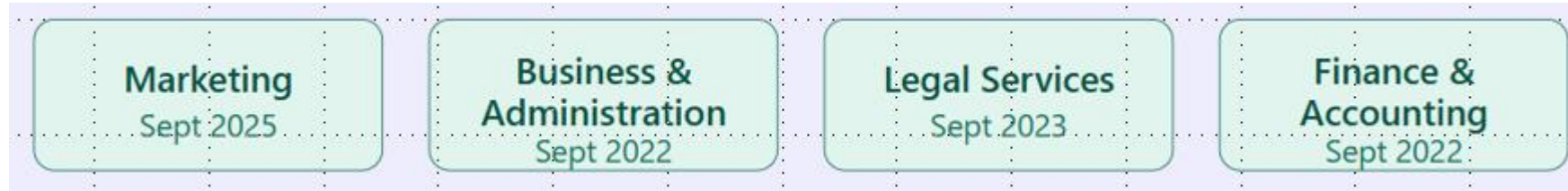
- 1 Professional services**
- 2 Placement design**
- 3 Roles and responsibilities**
- 4 Big picture**
- 5 Next steps and support**



PROFESSIONAL SERVICES



SHARED DNA



- Knowledge-intensive
- Compliance-and-regulation oriented
- Client-facing
- Digital skills
- Professional conduct and ethics

DIFFERENTIATION

- Few constraints
- Suited to hybrid/remote delivery
- Transferable skills
- Relevant to SMEs and PS firms
- Non-core / cross-company functions

SUMMARY

Professional services T Level cluster

Knowledge-intensive · compliance-aware · client-facing · digitally embedded

Marketing

Sept 2025

**Business &
Administration**

Sept 2022

Legal Services

Sept 2023

**Finance &
Accounting**

Sept 2022

Shared core characteristics

Ethics & compliance

Regulatory spine

Professional comms

Written & oral

Digital embedded

Sector tech tools

Apprenticeship routes

Level 3–6 pipeline

What sets them apart from other T Level routes

No licence to practise

Fewer site restrictions

Remote-compatible

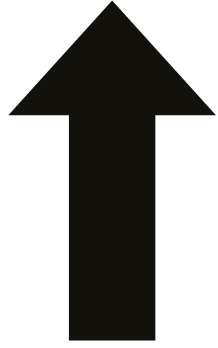
Up to 20% hybrid delivery

SME & office sector fit

Underserved employer pool

- What are placements for students on professional services T Levels like?
- How do they differ from placements in other T Level subjects?

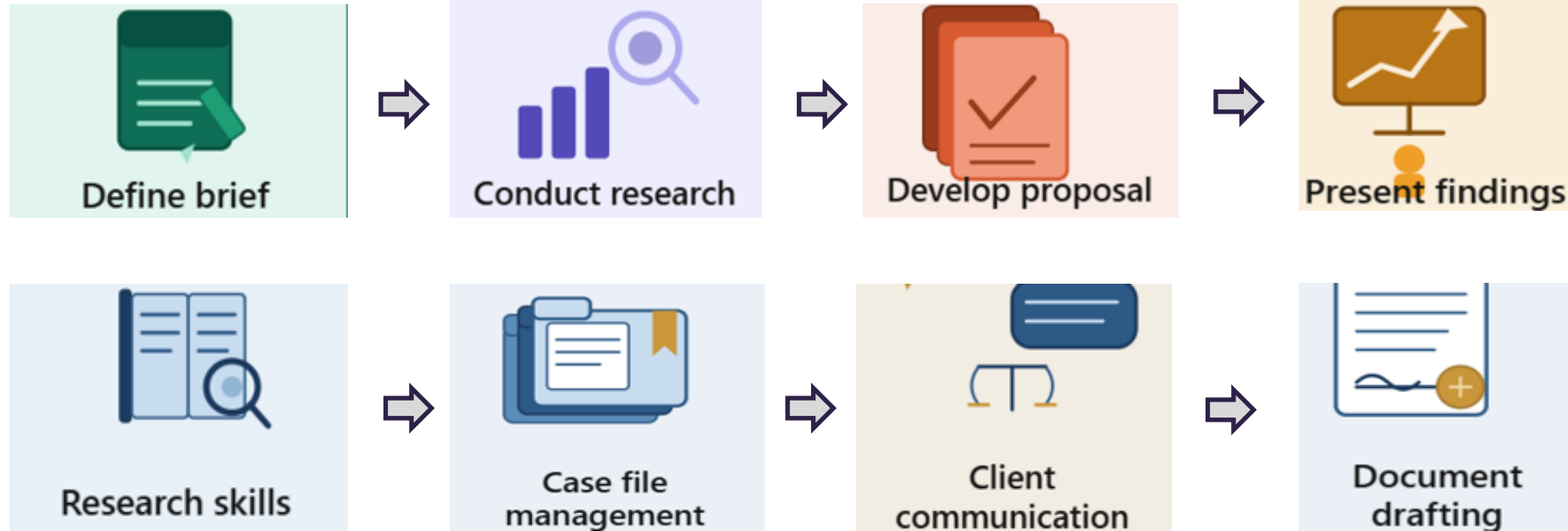




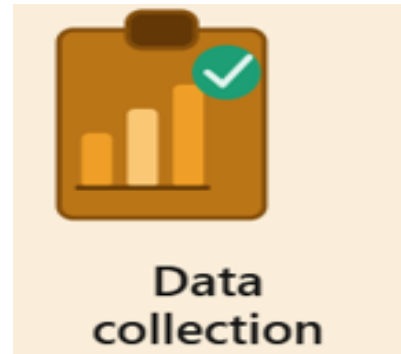
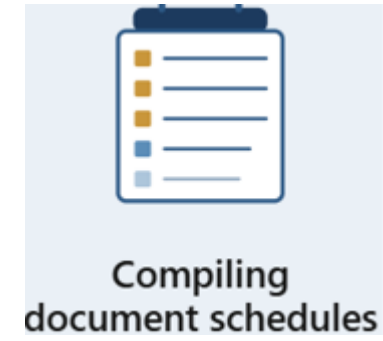
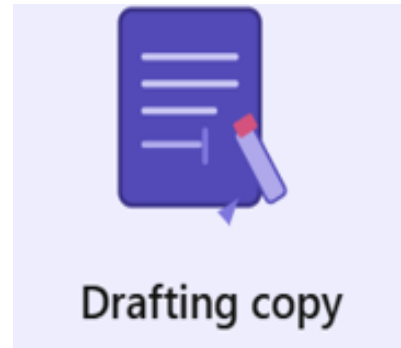
PLACEMENT DESIGN



PROJECT-BASED



ACTIVITY-BASED



- Are your placements projects or activity based – or both?

- How do you design them together as employer and provider?

- Which other design features do you use?





***ROLES AND
RESPONSIBILITIES***



PROVIDER-EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIP

PROVIDER

- Sources**
Finds and matches placement
- Prepares**
Students before they arrive
- Administers**
All paperwork and logistics
- Reviews**
Regular three-way check-ins
- Monitors**
Logbook at regular intervals
- Supports**
Adjustments for SEND needs

EMPLOYER

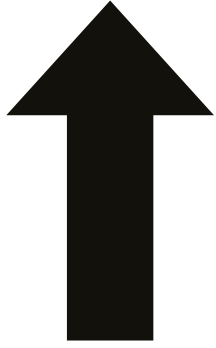
- Mentors**
Assigns a work-based mentor
- Participates**
Joins review meetings
- Assesses**
Progress against learning goals
- Projects**
Provides meaningful real work
- Welcomes**
Treats student as junior hire
- Evaluates**
Talent for future pipeline

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

STUDENT	
Commits	Signs placement agreement
Logs	Maintains placement logbook
Behaves	Professional conduct throughout
Applies	Classroom learning in practice
Communicates	Proactively with mentor & provider
Completes	All 315 hours — mandatory

- How do the roles of employer and provider inter-relate and mesh?
- What does the partnership mean for both, in practice?
- How / how well do students play their part?





BIG PICTURE



TL

T LEVEL OPTION

A LEVELS

Academic qualifications
 Taken over 2 years (typically 3 or 4 subjects)
 Assessed through exams and other assessments

T LEVELS

Technical qualifications
 Taken over 2 years
 Includes a core component, occupational specialism and an industry placement (minimum 315 hours)

V LEVELS

Vocational qualifications
 Taken over 1-2 years
 Practical, hands-on learning with work experience and industry relevance

PROGRESSION ROUTES



EMPLOYMENT

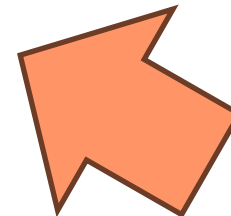
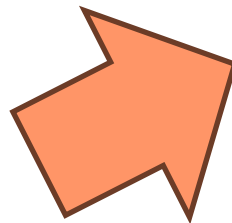
Enter skilled employment in your chosen occupation.
 T Levels are designed with employers to meet industry needs.

HIGHER LEVEL STUDY (DEGREE)

Progress to university degree courses.
 T Levels provide UCAS points for entry.
 May include foundation year.

HIGHER APPRENTICESHIPS

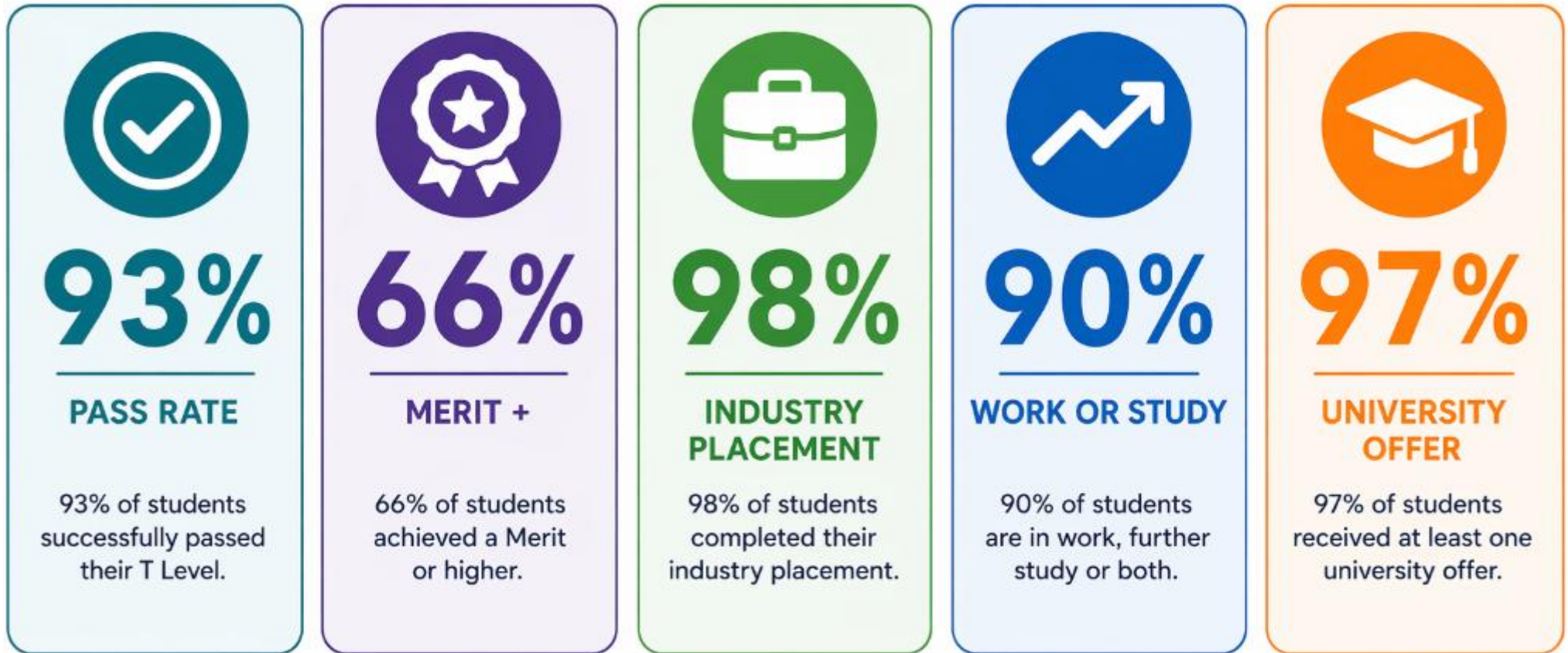
Progress to higher apprenticeships (Level 4 and above) in your industry.
 Build on your skills and experience.

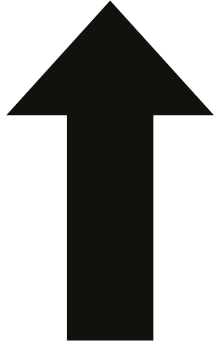


T LEVEL PROGRESSION

- Shared basis with apprenticeship standards
- Aligned with professional body qualifications
- Progression routes to Level 4 and above
- Some mechanisms for recognising prior learning
- Exemptions / partial exemptions emerging

T LEVEL OUTCOMES





***NEXT STEPS
AND SUPPORT***



POLL

Based on what you have heard about industry placements:

- 1 Are you more likely to implement industry placements?
- 2 Are you more confident to implement industry placements?
- 3 Has this webinar been useful and practical for your industry placements planning?

<https://employers.tlevels.gov.uk/>

- Bespoke one-to-one support
- Tools, resources and case studies
- Book workshops and webinars

T Levels and industry placement support for employers



[About industry placements](#)

Find out more about what industry placements and T Levels are, and how they could work in your business.



[Business benefits and case studies](#)

Discover the benefits of hosting an industry placement at your company, including the £1,000 employer incentive.



[Plan industry placements](#)

Guidance to help you plan, including information about legal compliance, working with providers and paying students.



[During industry placements](#)

How to work with students while they are on a placement, and end-of-placement reviews.



[Skill areas and courses](#)

Discover the skill areas that industry placements cover and find out what placement students can offer.



[Workshops and webinars](#)

Online events to help you understand, plan and prepare to offer industry placements.

FUNDED BESPOKE HANDS-ON SUPPORT

A call with an industry placement specialist

1-2-1 call or Online group session

Talk through what's involved in hosting placements in your organisation

Discuss options, practicalities or challenges



THANK YOU

<https://employers.tlevels.gov.uk/>

T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

 **SDN**
Part of the SDN Mesma Group

SKILLS
FOR LIFE

Disclaimer

This advice is general guidance and is not legal advice. It should not be acted on without a full understanding of your current situation. You can access the latest government guidance on industry placements at www.tlevels.gov.uk. SDN Enterprises Ltd (trading as SDN) has tried to ensure that the information and advice we give is accurate. However, SDN will not accept liability for any loss, damage or inconvenience arising as a consequence of any use of or the inability to use any information or advice given.