



# future force.

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If you want a job that truly makes a difference to other people's lives, a career in the uniformed protective services could be the start of something special. Whether you want to explore what it takes to be a Police Officer, Fire Fighter or a member of the Armed Forces, you'll need to develop essential skills in problem solving, team working, leadership and more.

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## **CAREER CARD**

Uniformed Protective Services

## Sectors to explore

**A career in the uniformed protective services can be extremely rewarding and help protect communities across the country. Here's just a few of the possible careers to get you started:**

### Police

There are a huge number of job roles available in the police force in specialist units. After a probationary period you could explore areas such as child protection, the Fraud Squad, fire arms, dog handling and many more. It's an exciting field with a lot of opportunities for career progression. [www.joiningthepolice.co.uk](http://www.joiningthepolice.co.uk)

### Fire and rescue

There are a variety of roles within the fire and rescue service, not just firefighters! They offer a wide range of operational and corporate roles to help deliver a high quality service, and there are lots of volunteering opportunities available.

[www.fireservice.co.uk](http://www.fireservice.co.uk)

### Army

The Army has many different careers available for people wanting to join as a soldier or an officer. The types of roles include combat, engineering, HR, finance, intelligence, communications and IT, medical, logistics, and even music.

[www.apply.army.mod.uk](http://www.apply.army.mod.uk)

### Royal Navy

There are a lot of career opportunities available in the Royal Navy and you can tailor your skills to a service that interests you. Once you've satisfied the eligibility criteria, you'll be able to specialise even further, gaining a range of unique skills through the Royal Navy's world-class training. [www.royalnavy.mod.uk](http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk)

### RAF

The Royal Air Force (RAF) gives you the experience to work at the top of your field, both in the UK and overseas. A career in the RAF is all about discovering your natural skills and talents. There are a wide range of careers ranging from a chef to a jet pilot.

[www.raf.mod.uk](http://www.raf.mod.uk)

### Prison service

The prison service offers you an opportunity to develop your skills as a role model, negotiator and team player. You'll be able to make a real difference to people's lives and receive excellent training. [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-prison-service/about/recruitment](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-prison-service/about/recruitment)

### Ambulance service

There are a variety of roles within the ambulance service from paramedic or clinical care assistant, to an ambulance care assistant, emergency medical despatch, and many more. You could be part of a team providing rewarding and vital support that's valued by the community.

[www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service](http://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service)

### Coastguard

As a coastguard you'll work for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) helping to support search and rescue services to prevent the loss of life on the coast and at sea. There are a variety of roles including a coastguard watch assistant, coastguard watch officer or coastguard rescue officer volunteer.

[www.careersatsea.org/maritime-and-coastguard-agency](http://www.careersatsea.org/maritime-and-coastguard-agency)

*Always check the relevant career websites for the most up-to-date career routes and entry requirements, as each uniformed service has their own specific entry criteria.*

## Routes to success

**If you choose to study uniformed protective services, there are a number of routes you can take to further your career such as:**

### • Further study at university or college

You can look at foundation degrees or an NCFE level 3 qualification in uniformed services or policing. If you go to university there are a number of opportunities, including Professional Policing. Each uniformed service has their own entry requirements.

### • Apprenticeships

As an apprentice, you'll complete a set programme of learning and earn a wage at the same time. This will provide you with a structured training period and a solid foundation of knowledge from which to progress to further career choices.

### • Entry level roles

An entry level role will give you the chance to work your way up through your chosen route whilst finding your feet, often developing and learning new skills.

## Where next?

We understand the amount of information out there can be daunting. To help, we've included a small collection of useful websites for you to visit:

**The National Careers Service** offers an overview of many different careers. It's a great starting point to help you take your first step towards planning your career.

[www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk)

**All About Careers** includes really useful information about specific career opportunities. You can also take a career 'test' which will give you ideas about the industries you might want to explore based on your answers.

[www.allaboutcareers.com](http://www.allaboutcareers.com)

**The National Apprenticeship Service** offers information about what apprenticeships are and how they work. It's particularly useful as a general introduction and will help you and your parents understand what kind of opportunities an apprenticeship offers. [www.apprenticeships.gov.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk)

**Not Going to Uni** is a website that aims to offer a full range of options and choices if you feel that university is not the route for you. [www.notgoingtouni.co.uk](http://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

**Which University?** is a website that can help you decide what to study, where to study and how to get there. [www.university.which.co.uk](http://www.university.which.co.uk)

**UCAS careers advice** website offers help about the route you can take into a chosen uniformed service.

[www.ucas.com/careers-advice](http://www.ucas.com/careers-advice)

**For our list of qualifications spanning uniformed protective services, visit: [www.qualhub.co.uk](http://www.qualhub.co.uk)**