The only thing certain about our weather is that it changes. It affects all of us, whether individually, as a community or through business.

Almost every day there are news stories about weather events - floods, droughts, hurricanes, tornadoes and melting ice. The changing climate will have a big impact on our lives, either directly because of the weather or because of the changes we will need to make in lifestyle. Underpinning our understanding of all of this is meteorology - the study of weather and climate, and how these affect the Earth’s eco-systems.

www.metlink.org
There are many openings in business and insurance for trained meteorologists.
What qualifications do you need?

Most meteorologists have a strong background in physics and maths, preferably to degree level. Degrees involving a significant proportion of meteorology are offered at BSc or MSc level by a number of UK universities. Several also offer PhD opportunities. Some jobs are suitable for people with qualifications in geography and environmental science.

For non-graduates, some employers offer vocational, on-the-job training leading to HND/ NVQ/SVQ qualifications in meteorology.

A large proportion of the professional forecaster training in the United Kingdom is carried out at the Royal Navy’s Flagship Officer Sea Training group and the Met Office College, where courses are run for trainees from countries around the world.

You can find lots more about courses and public, private and academic employers on our web site at:

www.metlink.org

The Royal Meteorological Society is the professional and learned Society for meteorologists in the UK, and awards experienced meteorologists the professional qualification of Chartered Meteorologist.

Royal Meteorological Society
104 Oxford Road, Reading, RG1 7LL, UK

Telephone: +44(0)118 956 8500
e-mail: education@rmets.org

www.rmets.org

Registered charity number 208222
Meet some meteorologists

Fiona Fitzherbert-Brockholes
Meteorology Consultant

“My work combines my love of sailing with qualifications in meteorology. Amongst other things, I produce forecasts for all Olympic, European & World regattas, helping boat designers and all competitors optimise their performance.”

Michael Dukes
Weather Forecaster, MeteoGroup UK

“After studying geography I took an MSc in applied meteorology. Now I manage a team of forecasters in one of Europe’s biggest weather businesses.”

Prof Andy Challinor
Climate Scientist, Leeds University

“I wanted to put my physics degree to a practical use. My research brings together meteorology, agriculture and socio-economics to try to help improve global food security.”

Dr Mat Collins
FRMetS
Climate Scientist, The Met Office

“To do research in meteorology you need a strong background in maths and/or physical sciences and computer programming experience, but most of all you need a keen interest in understanding how the atmosphere works.”

Steff Gaulter
FRMetS
Weather presenter, Al Jazeera English

“Soon after leaving Cambridge, I saw an advert for a job at the Met Office. They were looking for maths and physics graduates to become forecasters. I’ve never looked back. A career in meteorology can take you anywhere!”

Cdr Derek Swannick
FRMetS
Royal Navy

“There are lots of ways of doing meteorology and it’s an exciting field. We’re really good at it although it’s not the easiest subject to learn. It’s a very practical subject and it’s very much driven by current events.”