

Careers Newsletter

July 2023 Edition



Welcome to Careers Newsletter

The aim of this newsletter is to highlight a few of the fantastic opportunities our students have engaged with and to highlight some of the ways we plan to support students and parents/carers whilst at the academy and when moving to the next exciting stage of their education. The information at the end of the newsletter has been put together to support students, parents, carers and staff.

What's Been Happening In Careers Around The Academy

Year 11 Transition Day for Post 16

A fantastic day, where year 11 students who had selected our Academy Post 16 as their first and second choice got to experience the Level 3 subjects they intend to study in September and also had an opportunity to see what daily life is like in Post 16. We still have some places available for September in our Post 16 Centre, so if you are interested please contact Mrs Baker on 0121 329 4600 or by emailing juliebaker@graceacademy.org.uk



Year 11 Mock Interviews



We invited 11 employers/business partners from a variety of industries to come and deliver one to one mock interviews with our year 11 students. The feedback from students showed how much they valued the experience, with 100% of our students saying that this has helped them prepare for their next steps. Our guests were overwhelmingly positive about our students' attitude and engagement, and all said they would love to return and support next year.

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National Careers Week



During National Careers Week 2023 we invited a range of organisations from the RAF to Willmott Dixon, one of the largest UK construction businesses, to deliver assemblies that opened our students' eyes to the world of work. Students also had an opportunity to ask the employers questions after the assembly. As well as companies coming in there were activities taking place throughout the whole week, including competitions for the students to enter, workshops centred around core skills and tutor time activities that explored a range of ambitious careers.

National Apprenticeship Week

A variety of activities were delivered throughout the week during tutor sessions and assemblies. Students also took part in the Open Doors Event where they had the opportunity to explore an active construction site in the heart of Birmingham City Centre. Whilst on site they had the opportunity to catch up with a senior project manager. Students showed real enthusiasm for the industry which was evident by the range of questions asked.



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Enterprise Week

Congratulations to the winners of our Enterprise competition, Oliver, Alfie, Charlie and Sam from 8F, for their fantastic and initiative business design. Their products were sold at the Christmas Fayre making £50 profit, all of which was donated to our chosen charity.



Year 9 - 13 Careers Fair

Year 9 - 13 students all had the chance to visit our Careers Fair and interact with over 40 post 16 institutions, from higher education providers to organisations offering apprenticeships and traineeships. Students were well prepared for this event, as they worked during tutor time on their careers booklet prior to the event where they came up with their own questions to ask and they decided who they wanted to approach and find out further information from.



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STEM Events

We invited small groups of our most ambitious students to take a deep dive into STEM through educational visits. Y10 students explored SOCOTEC, one of the fastest growing construction and engineering companies in the UK and had the opportunity to interview some of their staff members, allowing them to better understand life within the industry.

Our Y8 students took part in the Big Bang Fair, one of the largest STEM events in the UK where they explored and allowed their mind to wander into all aspects of Science from bioengineering to software development.



University Trips and Open Days



Year 12 students had two visits to universities this year, Aston University and Birmingham City University, where students had the chance to ask questions of student ambassadors and to have tours of both campuses, they also received talks about higher education and around the courses/societies available.

Open Days - www.ucasopendays.com Virtual Tours – www.ucasvirtualtours.com

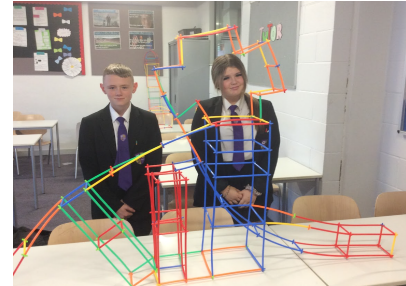
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Skills Builder

During tutor time students are delivered sessions on the 8 essential skills, which prepare them for a range of situations such as Post 16, College/Apprenticeships and University. Students also worked with Wilmott Dixon in an employability workshop to show them the benefits of working as a team.



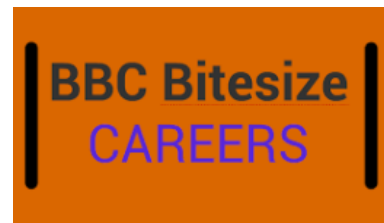
Upcoming Events

On Thursday 20th and Friday 21st July the year 8 students will be meeting with Balfour Beatty, the international infrastructure group, to test their critical thinking, teamwork, communication, leadership and construction skills.

On Thursday 21st Y12 students will also be meeting with TSB Bank for a 'Money Matters' workshop aimed at developing their Money Management skills.

Careers A-Z Find Your Perfect Job

Where could your favourite subject take you?
Explore [Careers](#) by job sector and get help with job applications, CVs and good interview technique.



Aim Higher Information for Parent/Carers



The Aimhigher **Parents & Carers** link helps provide you with information about higher education to help support your child's future choices.

Results Days 2023



Thursday 17 August: A-level results
Thursday 24 August: GCSE results

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Student Careers Ambassadors Wanted

We are looking for students from each year group to be Student Career Ambassadors, who would work closely with our Subject Careers Champions and career team. More information about this will be provided in September but have a think about whether this is something you would be interested in.

Careers Staff

			
Mr Neil Stoddart Independent Careers Advisor	Mrs Knight Assistant Principal	Mr Brad Pettitt Careers Lead	Mrs Baker Post 16 Manager/Careers Admin
Who else can help you with careers – Subject Career Champions/Tutors/Teachers/Head of Year/Assistant Head of Year			

Labour Market Information

Take a look at the links below to find out more information about the labour market in the West Midlands

<https://careersinspiration.co.uk/West-Midlands/West-Midlands-Job-Market/Birmingham-and-Solihull>

[LMI Sector Insights - Business, Professional & Financial - BNP Paribas](#)

[LMI Sector Insights - Life Sciences - NHS](#)

[LMI Sector Insights - Creative - McCann](#)

Feedback

Could we please ask you to complete a [short feedback form](#) which will help us to continue to improve our careers provision.