

WEEK 9 - Friday 10 November 2023

An eight-week half-term was a slight shock to the system for many following a six-week summer holiday break, but it certainly meant we could hit the ground running and fit in a variety of careers activities and events to start of the new academic year! We said goodbye to our Year 11 and 13 leavers but welcomed our new Year 7 students and our current students moving up into the next year of their education journey.

I began the year by delivering a careers assembly to each year group, focussing on the Careers Programme and highlighting the different events and activities we have in store for the students over the next year. I talked about the importance of CEIAG (Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance) and how their time in school and involvement in these events and activities can prepare them for the decisions they will make in the future. My Year 9 assembly was teamed up with Miss Moore who coordinates and delivers the Duke of Edinburgh programme, which has proven to be very popular amongst students over the years. Demand continues to be higher than ever with nearly 100 students signing up to take part this year.

It is particularly a busy time for our Year 11 students, and full of mixed emotions as they prepare for their GCSE exams and the transition from school life to their post-16 destination! An exciting time for many as students can really start to take some ownership on their life. The 'Careers Info' group on TEAM's is up and running and open events have been shared for a wide range of Colleges, Sixth Form and Training Providers so that students can move forward with this process. It is hugely beneficial for students to look around, get a feel for a place and ask questions in order to help them make the right decision for them. Students can now begin completing their post-16 applications whether that be for the Consortium Sixth Form College, other sixth form and college providers, apprenticeships, Armed Forces, employment with training etc. and as a school we provide information, advice and guidance (IAG) on all the different options available to students so they can make a well-informed decision.

The Careers Programme for 2023/24 can be found [here](#).

Our External Careers Advisor, Graeme Peart and I have attended the Year 10 and 11 Parents' Information Evenings, offering support and information to students and their parents so that the work we do in school can continue at home. Graeme works in school typically on Mondays and Wednesdays conducting careers guidance interviews. All Year 11 and 13 students have had their initial careers interview, and we are now working through the follow up appointments for those who require. Please contact hayley.lawes@hessleacademy.com should your child require another appointment.

In my last blog before the summer, you may remember I mentioned a key development to our careers programme this academic year... we are delighted to announce the re-introduction of Work Experience for Year 10 students. This is an opportunity for students to take part in a short-term placement with an employer, gaining an insight into the world of work and develop valuable employability skills. Students are responsible for finding their own placement for three days between Wednesday 3 July and Friday 5 July 2024. The Launch for students and parents took place in October, and completed forms must be returned to their Tutor by the following deadlines:

Parental Consent/Medical Form – no later than Thursday 21 December 2023

Placement Form – no later than Friday 23 February 2024

Year 10 students have also completed a pre/post Interview Questionnaire in preparation for their initial careers guidance interviews which will commence from the end of November up until the summer term. Students included information about their initial post-16 plans and ideas; where they are thinking of applying, the types of jobs they're interested in and there was also an opportunity to rank their priority which will help to determine the order in which the students will be seen across the year.

Following a successful event last year, we delivered our newly integrated Year 9 Inspiration Day. The aim of this event is to prepare students for decisions they will be make as they choose their KS4 study options for years 10 and 11. The workshops aimed to motivate and inspire students, as well as prepare for life beyond school, and 92% of students agreed the event was useful in supporting with this.

Workshops included:

Careers with STEM subjects – Reckitt's

Careers Advisor – Finance & Budgeting

Choosing your Key Stage 4 Options (to study in Y10 & 11)

Post-16 Pathways (after Y11)

Log On Move On & Employability Passport – ESP Team

Apprenticeships & T-Levels – Hull College

Modeshift – Recruiting Active Travel Ambassadors

Post-14 Transitions and Preparations

An important part of my role is to network with external providers, employers and businesses as they play a vital role in supporting our careers events and providing

information to our students. At the start of the academic year, I met with a wide range of people to plan for the year ahead and book into our careers calendar of events. We are very lucky to have a strong and supportive network of professionals who engage with the school!

Over the last half term, we have been fortunate to take groups of students on visits to the WiME exhibition (Women into Manufacturing and Engineering) at the Guildhall, Hull and Foundations Live Construction Event at Bishop Burton College. Both events had a wide variety of local employers, apprenticeship and training providers for students to explore and find out more about the opportunities available to them.

The annual Restart a Heart Day took place on Monday 16th October. Our Year 7 students met some of our local NHS heroes as they learned vital lifesaving CPR skills as well as hearing about different roles within the health sector. This event has been running for ten years and sees thousands of people across the UK and many more worldwide, come together to increase the public awareness of cardiac arrests and increase the number of people trained in life saving CPR and defibrillator use. Anyone would agree a very important day in the calendar.

Finally, our Year 13 students took part in their first Pathways Event of the year. As with previous years, the sessions included interview skills, personal statements, revision & motivation techniques and post-18 plans including apprenticeships, and we saw several providers and businesses attend the event to discuss the opportunities available including BAE Systems, HETA, Siemens, McArthur Dean, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation.

Last year, two of our Year 13 students were selected to represent The Hessle Academy by taking part in a Student Voice Careers Panel with the Hull & East Yorkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (HEY LEP). This has continued into its second year with a new cohort of students involved and we are proud to have two of our Year 13 students involved again this year, sharing student opinions, suggestions and ideas relating to careers guidance within schools and colleges.

Upcoming Events:

Y7 All About Me Day – Wednesday 15 November 2023

Sixth Form Taster Day – Tuesday 14 November 2023

Y11 Careers Week – w/c 18 December 2023

Advanced notice: Year 11 Mock Interview Day – Friday 2 February 2024

Please click the links below for local training provider upcoming events:

HETA Open Evenings and Taster Days

Hull College Open Events

Bishop Burton Open Events

Wyke College Open Events

East Riding College Open Events

Miss Lawes

Careers Leader

WEEK 16 - Friday 12 January 2024

The final week of last half-term was a busy one for our Year 11 students as they took part in a variety of workshops and presentations as part of their Year 11 Careers Week. This event follows on from the Year 10 Careers Week in the summer with a focus on CV completion, post-16 options, specifically focussing on T-Levels and Apprenticeships, post-16 application support, interview preparation, post-18 University insight and useful tips as students head closer towards completing their GCSE exams, including revision and handling nerves/stress. We also had talks from the NHS with information on how to apply for the volunteering programme and Brown Sugar Academy for our students interested in Hair & Beauty. The week gave the students lots to think about as they headed off to their Christmas break.

We also delivered our Mock Interview Day Launch as part of the Careers Week, in which students received the job profile for the role they are being interviewed. We base this on the 'Top 3 Jobs' form they completed in tutor and then, as best we can, we match students up to a particular job role. This is always a great session as students become excited and nervous about the prospect of being interviewed by a REAL employer! Students are encouraged to research the company they're being interviewed for and prepare to answer questions, as well as think about what they would wear in an interview setting. As part of the process, we provide the employers with the students' CVs which students have been working on during the careers weeks. All CVs must be emailed to cv@hessleacademy.com by Friday 26 January 2024. If you need any support with this, students can attend CV support sessions on Thursday lunchtimes in the LRC. These sessions are also available for those who need support with post-16 applications.

It's great to see that 73% of our Year 11 students have already completed their post-16 applications, with many receiving offers based on their predicted grades, they just need to continue to work hard now to achieve these. I encourage students to complete their

applications by February half-term where possible, as this enables me to pick up students who have not yet applied and need more support and it also means students are less likely to miss out on a place at their preferred destination. Apprenticeship vacancies for September 2024 will become more available from March, please email hayley.lawes@hessleacademy.com if your child needs any support with their post-16 applications.

Our External Careers Advisor, Graeme Peart has been busy conducting interviews with Year 11 students who require additional support with their post-16 plans. We have now moved onto initial careers guidance interviews for Year 10 students and will continue to work through these up until the summer but there will also be an opportunity this half-term for Year 9 students who need additional support with choosing their KS4 options and would like to discuss further with a professional, details will be shared in tutor time.

We have now passed the deadline for the Year 10 Work Experience Parental Consent forms and are now working towards our next deadline of Friday 23 February for Placement Forms. If any student has misplaced their form, spare copies can be collected from their tutor. We appreciate it is not always easy to find a placement and it can take a lot of perseverance, but it's great to see that a number of students have already secured placements, particularly as this is our first year running WEX for many years. It is important to return forms as soon as possible so that the safeguarding and health & safety checks can be completed in time. If you are struggling, please speak to Tutors, Head of Year or Miss Lawes, students can also drop in to see Graeme Peart, Careers Advisor for tips and potential contacts.

From Monday 15 January the Sixth Form Building will be open at lunch each day to all Year 11 students offered a Sixth Form place; this will provide a quiet study space for those students wishing to make use of it. We have received a record number of Sixth Form applicants this year but will still consider students who put in a late application. All students who have been offered a place will be invited into the Sixth Form on Friday 26 January for an extended break to collect their formal offer letters – Mr Jarman and the team are looking forward to celebrating with them.

There is a lot of support that goes on behind the scenes for students to help with planning for the future and preparing for key transition stages in their careers journey, I continue to attend ECHP annual review meetings across Year 9 – 11 to discuss these upcoming changes and put support in place for our young people. Our All About Me Day for Year 7 took place, which supports our most recent students who have transitioned to secondary school by focusing on important topics to help keep themselves safe, as well as exploring post-16 options and potential career opportunities by reflecting on

their strengths, interests and personality and being able to see the types of jobs that link to different personalities.

Finally, we ran two visits last half-term, a group of Year 11 students attended the East Riding Apprenticeship Event held at Bishop Burton College; this is a large careers fair in which students were able to gain information, advice and guidance from a wide variety of apprenticeship providers & employers in the local area. And back in October a group of Year 9 students attended the WiME (Women into Manufacturing and Engineering) Careers Fair at the Guildhall, as part of the event, students were asked to complete a quiz to help them to interact with the employers and one of our students, Phoebe won first prize out of nearly 300 participants. Phoebe was able to select 5 peers to attend the KCOM Training Academy to hear from current employees and apprentices working there and learn about how the equipment works and what a day in the life of an engineer entails including overhead cabling and excavation... it was a very cold day, so they learnt first-hand how this job is not for the faint hearted.



Upcoming careers events this half-term:

Year 11 NCS Launch (National Citizen Service)– Monday 15 January 2024

Year 7 & 8 STEM Roadshow – Monday 22 January 2024

Year 9 Pathways Fair – Wednesday 31 January 2024

Year 11 Mock Interview Day – Friday 2 February 2024

Miss Lawes

Careers Leader

WEEK 21 - Friday 23 February 2024

It was that time of year again when we welcomed nearly 50 employers onto our school site to conduct interviews with our students as part of the Year 11 Mock Interview Day. We are very lucky as a school that we have such a wide network of external support, and that is a testament to our students as each year we see many of our employers wanting to return and take part in this event which is always a highlight in the school's calendar and never fails to deliver! Students have been preparing for this event since December when we launched, and they received the job profile they were being interviewed for. Students worked on their CV as well as attending interview skills sessions with tips and advice to help them prepare. We ourselves know that interviews can be a daunting part of the career process, so our aim is to give the students a 'real-life' experience of what an interview entails so that when they attend their first interview in the world of work, it may not feel as scary, and they will have gained some useful feedback from the employer to help them moving forward. As well as this, there is also the competition element to the event as five students are interviewed for each role and one winner selected 'for the job'. Again, this is what happens in real life and it's good to have a bit of healthy competition. It's always a heart-warming moment to see how proud and supportive the students are during the Celebration Seminar. Each year we have a wide range of roles to interview for based off the questionnaire students completed at the start of the year, take a look at this year's list:

Royal Marine	Electrical Engineer	Nurse	Social Worker
Electrician	Therapist	Aerospace Engineer	Photographer
Construction Worker	Police Officer	Physiotherapist	Senior Sports Coach
Tattoo Artist	Beauty Therapist	Accountant	Cabin Crew

Midwife	Journalist	Eating Disorder Therapist	Bricklayer
Hairdresser	Primary Teacher	Personal Trainer	Software Developer
Wind Engineer	Sports Coach	Estate Agent	Football Coach
Mechanic	Army Recruit	Customer Service Administrator	Actor
Founders Assistant	Paramedic	Secondary Teacher	Legal Assistant
Animal Care Assistant	Solicitor		

...and this is why we put on the event:

Student responses
97% students enjoyed the experience
96% students found the event useful
98% enjoyed their encounter with the employer
99% found the feedback received by the employer useful and will use this in the future
Some comments
I enjoyed telling people about myself and being put out of my comfort zone
Good to talk to someone with experience in the job role I'm interested in
The interviewer was lovely and made me feel calm
It was good to see how an interview would work and be set out

Enjoyed seeing how I would do in the situation and helped me to improve for future
Good feedback – personal to me and will help me in the future
A new experience (in a good way)
My interviewer was lovely and incredibly helpful. The full experience was great!



Next week all Year 11 students will complete a 'Post-16 Destination Form' and this will give me visibility of the students who have completed their post-16 applications and identify those students who still need additional support as they prepare for the transition. Please continue to get in touch if your child requires any additional support: hayley.lawes@hessleacademy.com. Students who have been accepted into the Consortium Sixth Form College were invited over to Tranby House to receive their acceptance letters and find out about their next steps.

The options process is well underway for Year 9 students, they attended the Options Fair before half-term which gave students a chance to explore subjects, speak to

teachers and ask questions about studying at KS4. It is great that we offer a large variety of subjects for our students to choose from, so they are already able to start tailoring their choices early to set them up for the future! Students will shortly receive their options booklet & form to complete. We have set aside a block of appointments with our external career's advisor, should any Year 9 students need any additional support and guidance with this process or to discuss any career plans and ideas, the sign-up sheet has been shared with tutors.

Thank you to those students who have returned their Work Experience Placement Forms in time for the deadline this week, we understand that it is not always easy to find a placement and it takes a lot of proactivity and perseverance. After meeting with the company who conduct the health & safety checks, we are pleased that we can extend the deadline for Placement Forms, with a new and FINAL deadline set for Friday 12th April 2024. This will hopefully give those students who are still searching for a placement more time.

We had a visit from the STEM Roadshow again this year who delivered to our Year 7 and 8 students. This year's topic was focussing on the science behind energy and the importance it plays in everyday life, as well as this, the aim of the show is to open the eyes of young people to the career possibilities of studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) subjects. This aligned nicely with National Apprenticeship Week (NAW) which is becoming a popular post-16 destination choice for many, students received up to date information about apprenticeships during tutor-time and their knowledge was tested with the NAW 2024 quiz – have a go!

Upcoming Open Events

East Riding College: [Click Here](#)

Hull College: [Click Here](#)

Bishop Burton: [Click Here](#)

Spotlight on Careers in Health: [Sign-up Here](#)

Miss H Lawes

Careers Leader

WEEK 26 - Friday 12 April 2024

"Can we do this again next Friday?" ... that was one of the comments from our Year 10 students who attended the Careers Networking Brunch last half term. We introduced

this event last year and it was a real success as we invited a small group of employers from a variety of businesses to join a selection of students for a morning brunch. The aim of the event is to push students out of their comfort zone as they converse with employers. Students were provided with a question sheet to help conversations flow and after the initial meetings took place, the hour flew by and we could hear many interesting conversations taking place, and students opening up about their own aspirations. When students transition into the world of work, they will have many 'first time meetings' with employers and colleagues so the more we can get students used to communicating with people they are unfamiliar with, the more prepared they will be for these scenarios.

Preparations are underway for the Year 10 Careers Week in June. Students have recently completed their 'My Future' Post-16 Questionnaire, which highlights the areas in which they require additional support and information with regards to post-16 options, post-18, sectors/industries and personal support. We use this information to plan our programme of workshops and presentations and create bespoke timetables for each student. This year we have our three days of Work Experience embedded into the programme which the students are very much looking forward to as we now reach our placement deadline on Friday 12 April 2024.

Each year I publish an overview of the post-16 destinations for our school leavers. Our careers programme provides a wide range of experiences that deliver key information, advice and guidance to help prepare our students for their next steps. I always enjoy seeing the variety of destinations that our Year 11 students move onto after their time at Hessle High School and it continues to vary year on year. Most of our Year 11's have now completed their post-16 applications and have a plan set in place for September 2024, and I am continuing to work with students who are still finalising. We typically receive the 'actual' destination data for our leavers in November with a final update in February.

2023 Leavers Overview

Destination	2020	2021	2022	2023
FE College	35.1%	25.9%	32.4%	37.6%
School Sixth Form	32.7%	45.2%	38.7%	30.4%
Other Sixth Form College	19.9%	14.7%	19.7%	20.5%

Apprenticeship / Traineeship / Employment - Training	9.9%	13%	7.5%	9.9%
Other	2.3%	1.2%	1.7%	1.6%

It's great to hear that some of our Year 11 students have signed up for the National Citizen Service (NCS) which takes place this summer. The upcoming summer break will be one of the longest breaks our students will have and although they will be ready for a well-earned rest, I'm sure some will become fidgety! The NCS programme is largely funded by the UK Government and is designed to give the students a fantastic experience of living away from home, meeting new friends and taking part in fun activities to develop key life and employability skills. This year NCS have introduced three different programmes in which students can sign up to depending on their interests, these include: LIVE IT, BOSS IT, CHANGE IT. More information can be found in the Parent Information Pack.

It was that time of year again when the Prison Me No Way (PMNW) team came on mass to deliver a wide variety of impactful workshops to our Year 9 students. This has become an annual event at Hessle High School due to the positive feedback received from students, staff and parents. PMNW began in 1993 when three prison officers decided to act to reduce the increasing number of young offenders they were meeting at work. The range of workshops offer students the opportunity to not only think about their own personal health & safety but also to explore the consequences of making 'wrong' choices and how this can affect not only their lives but the lives of others. Students were able to ask questions about a variety of job roles and to learn about volunteering opportunities within the criminal justice service.

Something different for this academic year was our first ever Living Faith event for Year 7 students. This took place across two afternoons and students were given the opportunity to meet and talk with people that hold working roles across a variety of religions, this included an Imam, Vicar, Missionaries and volunteers supporting local religious communities. The students revelled in the opportunity to speak with these influential people, and we were enthused by their stories and the information they shared. It's definitely an event for next year's calendar!

We continue with our Careers Tutor Programme and recently I focussed on several student requests for our 'Career in the Spotlight' topics, it's nice to see that students are engaging with the programme and are having an input. Some of the more recent careers we have covered include; Hairdressing, Royal Air Force, Estate Agent and a popular one amongst the students was looking at the different roles that make up

Formula 1, often when we look at a company, we think about the obvious roles but forget about the ones behind the scenes! We also looked at Religious Education and important links to the world of work, T-Levels and Self-employment, as well as celebrating National Careers Week (NCW) with a 'Real or Fake' jobs quiz... and students were surprised to learn that ALL the jobs were in fact REAL and had fun learning about them. Some of these included; Professional Queuer, Professional Bed Warmer, Cool Hunter, Sewer Flusher, Waterslide Tester and Pet Food Taster.

Upcoming Careers Events:

Year 8 Ambition Day – Thursday 18 April 2024

Year 9 Enterprise Day – Wednesday 22 May 2024

Sixth Form Induction – 27 & 28 June 2024

Year 10 Careers Week – w/c 1 July 2024

Year 10 Work Experience – Wednesday 3 to Friday 5 July 2024

Year 12 Work Experience – w/c 15 July 2024

Miss Lawes

Careers Leader

WEEK 33 - Friday 7 June 2024

Last half-term felt like it stretched out for many weeks, and this could be due to the fact we had a lot of different activities going on!! We ended the term with our Year 9 Enterprise Day. This event is inspired by 'Dragons Den' and is great for building creativity, confidence and teamwork skills. Our Careers Link Governor, Kallum Nicholson, is our main advocate for this event as he is very passionate about promoting self-employment and driving business ideas! Kallum launched the event in the morning with a motivational talk, as he spoke about his personal journey into becoming a Business Entrepreneur. Students then worked on their business ideas, with the top 10 winning teams going head-to-head in the final in front of a panel of guest judges. Our Director of Sixth Form, Mr Jarman joined the panel this year and he said "That was great fun! Can I join you again next year?" Well done to our winning team 'Me Time' who created a mental health support subscription box.

Another annual event we run each year is our Year 8 Ambition Day. This event has something for everyone as we aim to invite a wide variety of employers and training providers into school to deliver workshops to our students, giving them an insight into their careers and the different opportunities available to them. The student's carousel

around the building, meeting our visitors at each stop, these included; Connexin, Yorkshire Archaeology Society, Humberside Police, Hull & East Yorkshire Ambulance Service, Cranswick Foods, HETA, East Riding College, BCD Travel, Camps International and the Duke of Edinburgh, as well as hearing about the various post-16 options available.

As well as Careers, I also teach Performing Arts, and this year we were excited to see the return of our School Production! Since covid, we have put on an annual summer showcase with a variety of acts from Music, Dance and Drama, but we have held back from a full-scale musical. But this year we were delighted to put on the performance of 'Oliver!'. This type of extracurricular activity gives students a great insight into what it would be like working for a theatre company, from the audition process to the extensive rehearsals, including dress and technical rehearsals and finally the demands of show week! The students worked incredibly hard and audience members commented on their talent and professionalism; we are very proud of them! Well done to all involved!

Our Year 10 Careers Week is fast approaching, and plans are well underway. This year the week will run slightly differently to previous years as we see the return of Work Experience – which the students are very excited about! This has been implemented into the week, along with the Aspirational Dinner, which one student quoted last year 'the cherry on top of the careers week'. This was launched last half-term, and is now fully booked up, so along with our post-16 providers, sector talks and CV workshops, we have a fantastic 7 days planned for our students. Please see the plan below of how this will look:

Monday 1st	Tuesday 2nd	Wednesday 3rd	Thursday 4th	Friday 5th	Monday 8th	Tuesday 9th
Careers Week activities	Careers Week activities	Work Experience <i>*or in school as normal</i>			Careers Week activities	CV Workshops --- Aspirational Dinner

I recently delivered a 'Ready for Work Experience' session with Year 10's during their Bridge Day. We focused on how to get the most out of the experience, employability skills and top tips! Students will receive their 'Student Information Sheet' the week prior to WEX taking place, this will include the start and finish times, lunch details, a brief outline of tasks, what to wear, contact details etc. Students are encouraged to contact their placement 1-2 weeks prior to check in with the employer and make sure everything is good to go!

Our Sixth Form Specialist Careers Advisor, Darrell Collins has been meeting with Year 12 students to discuss their post-18 plans and ideas as they prepare for transitioning into their final year. Some big decisions to be made, these interviews will continue right up until the summer, along with Year 10 initial interviews with Graeme Peart.

We welcomed our Enterprise Advisor, Alvin Fernandes, and one of his apprentices on site to join the textiles department. They delivered a workshop with our Year 8 students giving an insight into BAE Systems and the different roles within the company, they particularly focused on the designers and the materials used to create the pilot's uniform when flying the jets – students loved trying on the real-life uniforms and pieces of equipment.

Reminder of upcoming events/activities this half-term:

Sixth Form Induction – 27 & 28 June 2024

Year 12 UCAS Convention - Thursday 27 June 2024

Year 10 Careers Week – w/c 1 & 8 July 2024

Year 10 Work Experience – 3, 4 & 5 July 2024

Year 10 Aspirational Dinner – Tuesday 9 July 2024

Year 6 Induction Event – 10, 11 & 12 July 2024

Year 12 Work Experience – w/c 15 July 2024

Miss Lawes

Careers Leader