



Summer Term Careers Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of the school year, it has been fantastic to get back to delivering in-person events to students again and have our careers programme back in full-flow.

Miss Ashworth is the school's Careers Adviser, and if you would like to contact her with any questions about careers or for advice then please email her at g.ashworth@stjamesheadle.co.uk.

Feedback

We are always asking for parents and students to provide feedback on our careers support within school, and you can do this using one of our online forms:

- Parents click here: <https://forms.gle/r2NJ3HRQxHdxhgC18>
- Students click here: <https://forms.gle/CMDtFUJUUSFQSNuS7>

What is included in this newsletter?

- The year so far
- Careers event planning for the next school year
- Careers in the curriculum
- Spotlight on Careers
- Useful online information and resources for parents and students
- Stockport Youth Council



The year so far

As Year 11 approached the end of the year, we offered all pupils the chance for a careers appointment with Miss Ashworth. These appointments are for them to discuss their plans and aspirations for their career and help them make concrete plans. Now that the Year 11 pupils have finished, we are well underway with seeing the Year 10 pupils to prepare them for when they leave St James'.

Year 8 Careers Breakfasts have taken place this term and pupils have heard about careers in the Navy as engineers and also about careers in TV and Radio with Chris Warburton from BBC Radio 5 Live.

Year 10 pupils and parents were invited to the school for our Apprenticeship Evening on the 23rd of June where we heard from Matt Leigh from the National Apprenticeship Service. Students were able to learn about the types of apprenticeships available, as well as how they might go about finding one.

A group of Year 9 and 10 girls visited the offices for On The Beach to learn about digital careers in order to encourage more women and girls to go into STEM careers. Year 9 girls had a presentation from Russell Construction aimed at encouraging more girls to go into careers in construction. On the 1st July, a group of Year 10 students were invited to Cheadle College for a taster day of subjects they may be able to do when they go to college.

Last week we held our 'Careers Day', where each Year group from 7-9 had their own activities to take part in. Year 7 took part in our Dragon's Den enterprise day, Year 8 had sessions on employability skills and workers rights and Year 9 had an Enterprise Day organised by MPloy.





Year 10 have been doing their work experience last week and many have had exciting opportunities in different careers in a variety of different industries.

Mrs Rarity and Miss Ashworth have continued to hold their Careers Drop-In every Monday lunchtime for Year 10 and 11 pupils where they can come and ask any questions they have as well as seek support with college applications.

In April, Max, one of our Year 11 pupils took part in a day's work experience with Andy Burnham. Below is a short write-up about his experience.

We started off in a warehouse dedicated for medical supplies that would soon be shipped off to Ukraine. Andy completed his weekly call-in news show and we talked with the founder of UK Med about their relief efforts. Then we got in the car and headed to the building site of the Stockport bus station interchange to see the exciting redevelopments that are coming to our town centre. Then into the car again to head to the central Manchester offices where we joined a meeting about the up and coming Bee Network public transport meeting. After a small bit of late lunch interspersed with recording videos for various events we headed to the Edge Hill University building in the city and spoke to student nurses and paramedics about their studies and the wider NHS. I hopped on the train back home after a long day of insight into the life of one of the UK's most influential politicians!



Plans for the new year

From September, our school Careers programme will begin all over again and we will be starting off with our Careers Convention for Year 10 and 11 pupils. They will be able to speak to colleges, employers, training providers and universities to learn more about what they have on offer and help them in their planning for after they leave St James'. Year 11s will also have assemblies from local colleges to learn about their courses and application process.

We will also be starting with our Year 8 careers breakfasts, connecting them with a career that they have an interest in to learn about different careers open to them. We will be continuing the work we are doing across our school careers programme to provide meaningful employer encounters for all Year groups in school.



Careers in the curriculum

English - Miss Wilde

It is no secret that many of us struggle to see a clear career progression path with a subject like English language and literature. We all know English is important, but we are often unsure as to how exactly it supports the progress of our children into their future career.

To start with, we can all agree that spelling, grammar and good oral and written skills matter in all lines of work. However, English is much further reaching

than this. The study of a variety of texts helps our children develop a better understanding of the world we live in allowing them to build up their cultural capital through the written and spoken word. Moreover, through textual analysis, our students develop their research, planning, critical and analytical skills, all of which are crucial in highly sought-after careers such as software development, accountancy, data science, criminology, marketing, media, publishing, cyber security, business analysis and many others.

With the significance of the above skills in mind, and as part of the unit on Greek Mythology, our Year 8 students undertook a focused study of archetypes (typical characters in books and media). The aim of these lessons specifically was to explore careers in publishing through collaborative work. Students worked in small groups to plan and develop detailed presentations of typical characters using archetypal character traits. Each group had set roles: Editor in Chief, Editorial Assistant, Author (writer) and Artistic Director.

During the design process, the students developed their collaborative and communication skills through a brainstorming session in which they developed ideas about the appearance and personality of their character. In addition, the students further enhanced their negotiation and persuasive skills in order to reach agreement on the final outcomes of their work. Once the detailed descriptions and background stories were created, the students practised their oracy and presentation skills before convincingly delivering their presentations to the class.

While the focus of these sessions was on careers in publishing, the underlying guiding principle was to develop transferable skills which our students can use in any career they choose to follow in future. The engagement levels and desire of our students to do well in these sessions serve as proof that our students are well on their way to becoming valuable assets in the workforce of the future.



Spotlight on Careers

Luke - Cyber Security

Hello, my name is Luke, and I am a security operations professional working for Aldermore Bank in Manchester. My job is to monitor the bank's network and computers to defend against hackers and people trying to steal information or money. Cyber security is a fascinating field and I would tell anyone who is interested in a job that is fast paced and nail biting to have a look at getting involved no matter your background.

I have always been good at Maths, Science and IT and did Maths,





Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry at A level. After this, I went on to study Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering to master's level at the University of Manchester. During university I was selected to be part of a training scheme by GCHQ called CyberFirst. This organisation has multiple programs running aimed at different ages from primary school all the way to PhD level, so definitely have a look at how you can get involved. After university, I got my first cyber role at Rolls-Royce working as a threat hunter. My job involved researching on reddit, discord and the internet different vulnerabilities that could affect our digital estate then performing rigorous checking to see whether these were applicable to our network then finally fixing any found. I am now in my second role at Aldermore.

Useful online events, information and resources for parents and students

- [Creative Careers with The School of Communication Arts - Thurs 7th Jul | 18:00-19:00](#)
- [Virtual Work Experience Day with Royal Mail - Mon 25th July | 10:00-15:00](#)
- [Insights into careers in screen industries with Escape Studios - Tues 26th Jul | 10:00 -15:00](#)
- [Free online skills and careers courses for young people](#)
- [Online career workshops and resources for Year 8 and 9 girls](#)
- [Informative Videos on Further Education, Apprenticeships and Universities](#)
- [Short information leaflet about Traineeships and what they are](#)
- [Browse free Virtual Work Experience opportunities by signing up here](#)
- [InvestIN Virtual Work Experience 10% discount using code STJAMES10](#)
- [Oxford Scholastica courses 15% discount using code STJAMESCHEADLE-15](#)
- [Local opportunities for students to build their skills, employability and work experience](#)

Youtube Informative Videos:

- [Stockport Jobs Match guide to A Levels and T Levels](#)
- [Stockport Jobs Match Guide to Apprenticeships and Vocational Qualifications](#)
- [Department for Education guide to Apprenticeships](#)

Information

- [Download a free parents' guide to T levels](#)
- [Latest Government information on Apprenticeships for Parents](#)
- [Lots of useful information and resources are available on our school website](#)
- [InvestIN Industry information for parents and pupils](#): Includes information on careers in medicine, law, politics, media, business, engineering, art & design, writing, sport, computing, environment, finance and psychology.



Stockport Youth Council

Stockport Youth Council is a group of young people who represent other young people locally with councillors and decision-makers. They also have 2 members of Youth Parliament, who get to go once a year to London to debate like MPs in the House of Commons. The youth council has created a newsletter for young people across the borough, which you can read here: <https://spark.adobe.com/page/YjtBomvSsz2uD/>

Anyone can get involved in the Youth Council as long as you live in Stockport Borough Council and are aged 11-18. It's a great opportunity to have a say in decisions that will impact on young people locally, as well as something to put on your CV when it comes to applying for jobs or college. They meet once a week on a Wednesday from 5:30pm to 7pm. The Youth Council is a great way for any students who are interested in work around helping others, or anything about politics and government. If you would like to get involved then you can email steve.davies@stockport.gov.uk.

We are extremely excited and proud that Rodrigo Palmer, in Year 10 was recently elected as one of the members of Youth Parliament in Stockport and are excited to see what he goes on to do in the role.

College / Apprenticeship open events

It can be really important for students to get a feel for what a college campus is like before applying, which is why open days are so important. The below links are virtual open days which might not be the best thing to get a feel for the campus but it is certainly a start.

[Loreto College Virtual Campus tour](#)

[Xaverian College Virtual Campus Tour](#)

Open events for Aquinas College will be in the Autumn term on the following dates:

- Saturday 24 September 2022 10.00am – 1.00pm
- Thursday 13 October 2022 6.30pm – 8.30pm
- Wednesday 2 November 2022 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Xaverian College Open Days will take place on the following dates:

- Applicant Open Day 1 - Saturday 8th October 2022
- Applicant Open Day 2 - Sunday 16th October 2022



ST JAMES'
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Thank you all very much for taking the time to read our Careers Newsletter. As always we really do appreciate parental and student feedback on the careers provision in school. You can find the links to these feedback forms on the first page.

Sending you all best wishes for the Summer break.

Yours faithfully,

G Ashworth

Miss G Ashworth

Careers Advisor

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With God
all things are possible

Matthew 19:26