



# CAREERS EDUCATION

**AT NORTHWOOD SCHOOL**

**TERMLY BULLETIN** Spring / 2022



# Our Careers Education Vision

Each student has a clear Career Pathway that addresses their individual needs. Their plan is ambitious, yet realistic and opens doors in the future. It provides them with opportunities to be leaders of tomorrow, be resilient young people who are ready to take their place in society. It will give them the brightest future possible.

## Spring Term Highlights

The Spring term was marked by our “**World of Work Month**” during March. This coincided with some notable dates in the annual careers calendar some of which are spotlighted below. Careers education was heavily promoted to each year group in line with their Year Group theme with a particular emphasis on STEM, although students had an opportunity to explore all career pathways. Some highlights this term include:

- **Northwood School Careers Day (9th March 2022)** - took place during National Careers Week. The day began with an assembly by English teacher, Ms Elliot, for the sixth form, on the importance of making career choices. This was followed by Alumni Workshops: we welcomed back 3 former pupils who spoke about their career pathways leading them to work in the film industry. LinkedIn, and VMware. We had over 35 delegates gathered in the main school hall to share their career experiences and company recruitment process with students in Y8 - 13. Students were briefed ahead and met at least 5 meaningful encounters with employers, apprenticeship providers, further and higher education institutions. After lunch, five career insight sessions took place, linking curriculum learning to careers in Science, Food, English, Drama and Business. We thank the following employers who took the sessions: Chelsea FC, Creative Network Mentor, Aviva Investors, Air Transport and the British Army.
- British Science Week - a celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths. Students became budding scientists undertaking experiments each lunchtime in the science corridor. A young junior paediatrician was invited in to speak to aspiring medics in Y11 and the sixth form.
- [Labour Market Information Bulletin March 2022](#) - UK employers are struggling to recruit skilled workers despite UK vacancies standing at a record 1.2 million. Thousands of apprenticeships are being created, including Amazon!
- Impartial advice and personal guidance continues every Wednesday with our external careers adviser undertaking tailored, one-to-one student meetings. Year 10 and sixth form are our priority.
- Parent Feedback - please spend a few minutes on our [Careers & Education Programme Survey](#)
- Spotlight on our Science CareersEd Champion - Ms Parshotam (next page)

- **N. McManus** | Careers Leader

# WHAT HAPPENED THIS TERM FOR EACH YEAR GROUP?

## YEAR 7

“In science, our goal is to allow the students to explore a diverse range of career options by allowing them to learn about and practise new skills. Studying science can provide students with many transferable skills that they may need in a vast array of different career paths, from engineering to data analysis; there's something in science for everyone. We guide students to their chosen careers and provide them with the knowledge that they need to succeed. Science also equips students with the awareness and understanding of the expertise required by employers, for example, developing the ability to work well independently as well as part of a team and being able to communicate effectively”. **Ms Parshotam**



# INSPIRE



- **English:** during World Book Day students got to hear from an author, inspiring them to think about a career in the creative industry.
- **Science:** students undertook experiments during Science Week
- **Art:** after school art club: collaborating and working together the students have learnt key employability skills. Learning different artistic techniques allows students to explore a career in the Arts.
- **Design & Technology:** students had a careers insight session from employees of Chelsea Football Club Hospitality Team.



### **Leona A (Y7): Careers Insight Session: Chelsea FC Hospitality**

“Ezaz told us about his reception duties and how he had to deal with rude customers. Katie told us about her work in catering serving some difficult customers who were very choosy about their food. It was interesting to learn about the skills they needed for their jobs, such as being patient when dealing with people and how hard their work is. However they told us some highlights of working at their company, for example, meeting the owner of Chelsea FC”.

### **Adib B & Neha S (Y7): World Book Day Author Visit**

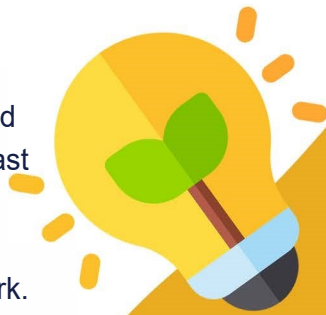
“The author, Dan Smith, told us all about how travelling the world (because his father worked in the rubber industry) inspired him to start writing and become an author”.

Top tips for Year 7 students (and parents/carers)

- Take the buzz quiz @ <https://icould.com/> to find out what roles best suit your personality!
- Watch videos on different jobs @ [www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk)

# YEAR 8

- **PHSE:** students were briefed about the purpose of a careers fair and were tasked with selecting 5 delegates to help inform them of the vast range of careers available.
- **Maths:** students signed up for “Data Explorers” allowing them experience of what it is like to work with data in the real world of work. LMI starters at the beginning of maths lessons helped introduce labour market information to students in an easy format.
- **Science:** students undertook experiments during Science Week
- **Computer Science:** Two professionals (Sales & Marketing, Operations Manager) from Chelsea FC came in to talk about their roles in sales and operations. They were also joined by an employee from Air Transport. A CyberFirst competition for Girls took place on a Saturday with students encouraged to participate.
- **History:** inter-school Debate Competition helped utilise key employability skills.



## Livie T (Y8): Data Explorers

“I have found it really interesting learning how to explore different types of data. It was fascinating to see correlations between different sets of data. I particularly liked the project element. I feel like I learnt a lot of skills that will be useful at school and in the real world”.



## Pranav P (Y8): Careers Insight Session: Creative Media Network

“It was really inspiring to learn about the job of a Director of Advertising and how it can open doors. Sam spoke about the pros and cons of the job and how important English is to being a script writer and for writing subtitles”.

## Kian M (Y8): Careers Insight Session: Accenture

“After growing up in war-torn Yemen, Mohamed Ali told us about how he had to learn English and educate himself in order to work in the UK. He achieved a PhD in astrophysics and is now working in a risk role at Accenture. I found his talk very inspiring because of all the challenges he had to go through and to hear how much he has achieved.”

# INFORM

### Top tips for Year 8 students (and parents/carers)

- Find out about different jobs and their salaries @ [www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk)
- Find the salary of your dream job @ [://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)
- Take the buzz quiz @ [/icould.com](http://icould.com) to find out what roles best suit your personality

# YEAR 9



## EXPLORE

- **PHSE:** students were briefed about the careers fair so that they could explore, in more depth, at least 5 employers of interest.
- **Maths:** LMI starters at the beginning of lessons so students understand what labour market information is
- **Science:** Students were given a British Army Careers lesson highlighting the varied career roles in the army whilst also undertaking a STEM challenge. We set them the challenge of designing and building a structure to protect an egg when dropped from a first floor window
- **History:** inter-school Debate Competition which utilised key employability skills

### Isabella P (Y9): Career Fair

"The careers fair was something that I highly anticipated. I have to say I was not let down. The people I met were kind and inclusive, willing to share what I asked for and were able to provide semi detailed summaries to each course. Personally I chose to ask about Computer science and Creative writing as they are 2 things I am passionate about. I believe that it was useful because it allowed me to understand more in depth what the courses on offer were. I was not swayed in a new direction however I was swayed to consider other options along with the ones I had previously selected"



### Fran B (Y9) - Alumni Workshop by J Cole (Film & Media)

"I really enjoyed this session hearing John talk about his experience working in the film industry. It helped me make future career choices and I learnt about the different paths that can be taken. It was incredible to hear all about how he had worked in many different jobs, how he found a job after he was unemployed and how he moved from working at British Airways to the film industry."

#### Top tip for students (and parents/carers)

- Watch videos on different jobs @ [www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk)
- Research what an Apprenticeship is @ [amazingapprenticeships.com](http://amazingapprenticeships.com)
- Find the salary of your dream job @ [://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)
- Take the buzz quiz @ [/icould.com](http://icould.com) to find out what roles best suit your personality



# YEAR 10



- **PHSE:** Careers week allowed Y10 to plan and explore career pathways by engaging with employers, further and higher institutions
- **Science:** Medical Doctor workshop for students interested in medicine
- **Computer Science:** Some US representatives of Google came in to do a talk to our computer scientists. A parent who works in Cyber Security also talked to the class about shortages in the industry. Signposting to various different work experience opportunities in technology
- **History:** inter-school Debate Competition which utilised key employability skills

## **Nasser I (Y10): Employer Workshop on Cyber Security**

“Mr Patel from Palo Alto Security, came to talk to us about careers in cyber security. I was able to gain a lot of information from the talk which has helped me have in-depth conversations about cyber security with my peers and family. This talk has inspired me to consider a career in cyber security. Furthermore the talker was able to answer my questions perfectly. I had a clear understanding of why cyber security is so important for companies and for humans because of data privacy as I asked a question about how I would be able to spot if I was being hacked and how the police locate hackers using encrypted VPNs”.

## **Arya T (Y10): Medical Doctor Workshop**

“We learnt about the life of a doctor, about studying medicine at university and jobs in medicine. It was very fascinating and interactive to hear from someone working in the profession, as a junior doctor. We learnt about how exams don't end but also how it's fun to learn and have friendly people working with you. We also learned about the advantages and disadvantages of being in medicine. Being in medicine makes you sacrifice a lot of things but in order to learn a new skill, we always have to sacrifice a few things. Overall, it was a lovely experience!”

## **Jonny H (Y10): Alumni Workshop by Senior Global Manager of LinkedIn**

“This workshop was really good as I learnt that you do not have to be a techy person to work in the technology industry. I learnt a lot about the LinkedIn app and how it can help people find work. She also talked about how companies use LinkedIn to find employees so it is a useful platform to join when you need to find work. Attending the workshop influenced my career choices and helped inform me about work I would never have considered before”.

# PLAN

### **Top tip for students (and parents/carers)**

- Find out your options at the end of KS4 @ [www.northwood-school.org.uk/Year-11-The-Next-Steps](http://www.northwood-school.org.uk/Year-11-The-Next-Steps)
- Watch videos on different jobs @ [www.careersbox.co.uk](http://www.careersbox.co.uk)
- Search different roles / sectors @ [://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)

# YEAR 11

Students have been making important **decisions** on what to do next year. They have received a wealth of careers information and guidance this term.

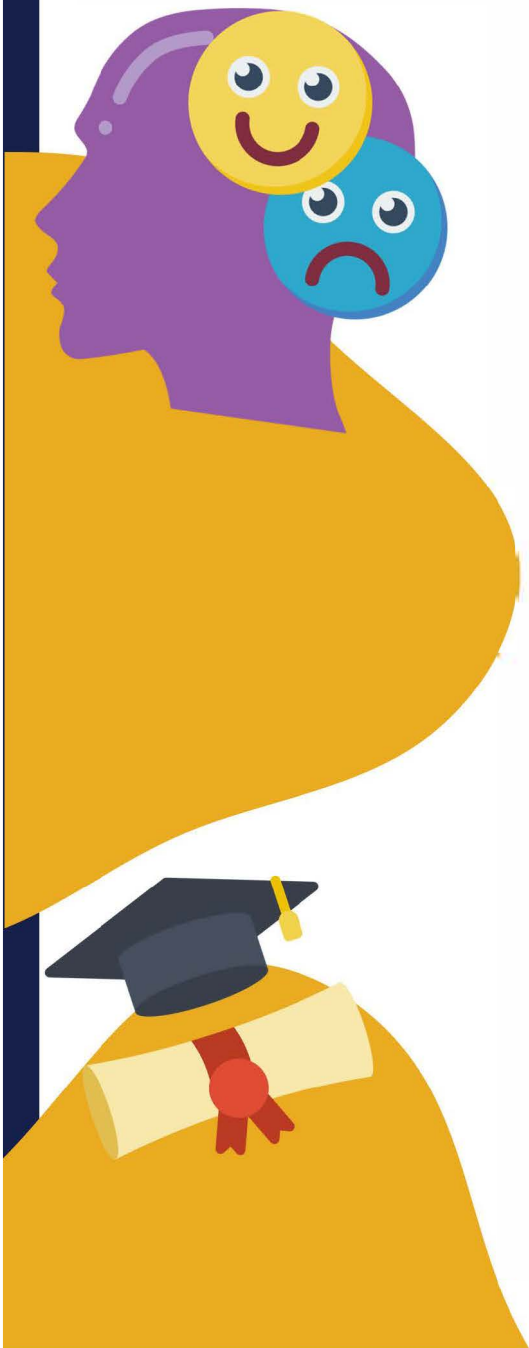
- All of our Year 11s have received meetings with our independent careers adviser and many have also had the opportunity for multiple follow up appointments. This has helped students ensure they are best informed to make the right decisions for their career pathway after Year 11.



- CareersEd sessions on Monday Period 6 with Ms Foskett has enabled students to learn about the different opportunities available to them at colleges and sixth forms. During the spring term all Year 11 Students had focused time and support in completing their applications; as well as interview preparation, practice and feedback. William in Year 11 commented “having the time to prepare for my sixth form interview and think about the questions I wanted to ask them meant I was better prepared and more confident for my actual interview.”
- Our new webpage ‘Year 11 Next Steps’ helps them to take the next step in their career journey; Northwood School Sixth Form, our four local colleges and the courses on offer; videos/ other information to help them make the best decision.

## Top tip for Year 11 (and parents/carers)

- [www.northwood-school.org.uk/Year-11-The-Next-Steps](http://www.northwood-school.org.uk/Year-11-The-Next-Steps)
- [Post 16 Pathways](#)



# YEAR 12

- **CTM Pathway:** to help Y12 reflect on their future options, all students signed up to CTM Pathway, a platform which provides a one-stop shop for all career resources and work experience opportunities.
- **Careers Fair:** all Y12 attended the careers fair so that they could explore all different career pathways and post-18 options including university and apprenticeships.
- **NatWest Bank financial literacy:** students were given two PSCHE sessions on financial literacy hosted by an employee from NatWest Bank. The sessions covered a lot of material including: financial products, managing/budgeting your money, national insurance, payslips, income tax and more.
- **Alumni:** five former pupils came in to assist Y12 students during PSCHE by talking about how they made their post-18 choices and life beyond Northwood school. It was lovely to welcome back:



**Emily B** who is currently doing a degree apprenticeship in Digital Marketing with Unilever.

**Goncalo S** who is studying International Management at Warwick University.

**Sahara R** who is studying English at Oxford.

**Fran B** who is currently working as a teaching assistant here at Northwood School while on a gap year but is due to study Medicine from September 2022.

**Raven S** who is studying Product & Industrial Design at the University of Arts London.

*All our alumni were all really inspiring and we are so proud of them!*

- **UCL Medical Conference:** Northwood MedSoc students spent a weekend in March attending a 2 day Medical Conference at UCL. They heard from a range of medical experts as well as practice CPR training.
- Continual signposting to various careers resources, events and opportunities.

## **Alex M (Y12) - Google USA on Careers in Tech**

"We got to hear about the bonuses and perks offered to Google employees from different departments. We learnt tips about interviews: how to verbalise your thoughts in a way that the interviewer can understand your thought process and how to maximise when answering interview questions. They also covered CV tips and how to write and order your CV. They mentioned how academic degrees or subjects are not always required and the range of departments that you can work in (technical & non-technical roles)".

## **Dinis G (Y12) - Alumni Workshop by Marketing Director VMware**

"It was fascinating to hear from a former pupil of the school, Louise. We got to learn about marketing and how exciting it can be to travel around the world. I learnt about software products and Louise explained how she works as the middle person between the software team and buyer. She gave us hints and tips on the interview process. Overall it was a worthwhile insight into a role I would not have known about".





# YEAR 12



## **Reon B (Y12) - Talk the Talk - Jack Petchey Workshop**

"I found the day highly informative and developed many important skills such as public speaking and thinking on the spot".

## **Genny B (Y12) - MedSoc Workshop - Undergraduate Medic**

"I really enjoyed the workshop as it has made me feel a lot more confident on the next steps I must take in my career path towards becoming a successful doctor".

## **Ronald G (Y12) - Red Hat IT (open source software developers)**

"Paulo gave us an amazing talk on the Red Hat company and a great insight into the working IT world. He discussed different career opportunities and the skills required to enter these careers. We learnt a lot about cloud computing and how it will become the future of business".

## **Devonte L (Y12) - CTM Pathways session**

"During a PSICHE there was a session with CTM Pathways. This is a website where sixth form students can look for work experience and learn all about careers. Everyone was asked to register and we found this will be a useful tool to help us reflect on what steps we need to take for university or apprenticeships' .

## **Chelsea O (Y12) - NatWest Financial Literacy**

"During the first session we learnt about ways of managing our money now and in the future, including university. We learnt about the accessibility and convenience of banking apps and ensuring security measures on any digital devices. We also learnt the importance of researching which banks are most appropriate for you based on what they offer. In the second session we learnt about the impact of employment on income tax and what national insurance is used for in order to prepare us for the world of work".

## **Ali K (Y12) - Google Hash Code**

"Participating in the Google Hash Code challenge was both exciting and insightful. Myself, Ronnie and Ollie had the opportunity to attempt and solve a coding problem similar to those faced by professionals in the industry. We had to work together in order to utilise our programming skills and engineer a creative solution to the task at hand. This experience inspired us to better our technical abilities and pursue a career in technology. Our team placed 4621 out of 9031 in the world, an achievement we are all proud of".



# YEAR 13

Year 13 students are making decisions on their university applications whilst those who were interested in apprenticeships continued to be supported to apply for opportunities.

**Careers Days:** students had access to external experts on university, careers and apprenticeships.

**The University of Westminster:** came in to host a talk on student finance and accommodation.

## Rianna P (Y13) - An Insight into the Apprenticeship application process

“As I am serious about an apprenticeship vs university, after I leave school in June, I have applied to over 10 schemes, some of which I have been for interview, assessment centres and exam days. Each and every one of them have been very different. What I have learnt is the need to be adaptable, think on the spot and be yourself as the most important skills to display at every single stage of the apprenticeship interview process as each one can be unpredictable.”

## Abbas (Y13) - University of Westminster Student Finance

“It was very eye-opening to realise how much university costs not just in terms of fees and accommodation but also the cost of food, utilities and additional reading material. This will help me budget and be more careful with my spending. Overall it was very informative”.

Regular 6th Form signposting to:

- Career opportunities, virtual work experience, apprenticeships, lectures & events
- Apprenticeship vacancies in Hillingdon
- University Open & Taster Days, UCAS Discovery week and UCAS Hub events
- Lecture and events including a Geography lecture at Harrow School
- University and Apprenticeship Fairs
- University summer schools
- Summer work opportunities
- Work opportunities and volunteering
- List of organisations where students can undertake volunteering and community work
- Career Insight events into many different careers including Microsoft, Law, Accountancy.
- Females in STEM event with Siemens
- Access to apply to free Oxbridge Mentoring Scheme for Oxbridge aspirants
- Specialised Oxbridge events
- Free employability skills courses

# SPECIALISE