

## Work experience

A meaningful work placement can provide valuable experience of the work environment and help students decide on future careers or study options and demonstrate their potential to future employers or universities.

Department for Education on work experience for 16 – 19 year olds

‘Work experience often plays an important, at times essential, role in determining admission to university courses’

Mr Poulsom

Another aspect of preparing for the future is making the best use of opportunities for work experience. We offer all students in years 10 and 12 the chance to undertake a week of work experience because we know that students benefit from a change of environment and the challenges and opportunities that go along with this – a chance to identify how the workplace differs from the school environment, to meet new people, to try new activities and tasks and, perhaps most importantly, it helps to remind students that they need to think about their future plans. Work experience focuses their minds on the fact that at some point in the future they will need to leave the comfortable familiarity of the education environment and enter the world of work. Year 11 is a crucial year for students as they have to make decisions on post-16 education plans and the importance of securing good GCSE examination outcomes cannot be underestimated. The timing of work experience at the end of year 10 is therefore particularly useful as it can motivate students to work hard and support their decision-making on A level subjects.

Work experience is also highly valued by universities and colleges. Research on admissions to Russell Group universities concluded that ‘work experience often plays an important, at times essential, role in determining admission to university courses’

and it was commonly cited as an essential or desirable requirement of applicants. For example, in Dentistry, Medicine or Veterinary Science, work experience is typically required but in many other courses, especially those linked to professional vocational careers, it can be a factor in strengthening an application.

We ask you to support and help your child to find a work experience placement. I would encourage you to sit down with your child and discuss possible placements and think about how work experience can support aspiration. Aim for a placement that adds challenge and which will take a student beyond their comfort zone so that they can really develop skills and can look back and see how that week in July contributed to their progress and development beyond year 10. We do expect the student to make the calls to the companies as this is all part of the learning process. This is not always an easy process, however, and some students will have to try many different places before receiving a positive response, so they will need your support in making sure they keep going.

Year 10 Work Experience Application  
2018/19

Bennett Memorial  
15-19 July 2019

**Required**

Student surname \*

Your answer

Student first name \*

Your answer

Tutor group \*

- 10A
- 10C
- 10F
- 10G
- 10J
- 10L
- 10M
- 10R

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdhKW872-evrUCZ8t5AitG0\\_jrBjI97IIK4D6GOegn8Z5C61Q/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=0](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdhKW872-evrUCZ8t5AitG0_jrBjI97IIK4D6GOegn8Z5C61Q/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=0)

Once you have a placement arranged, we need you to let us know by the 17<sup>th</sup> January. There is a link to an electronic form on the school website under parents' information. You will need to complete every box and then click to submit the form electronically. If there are any changes to the placement, you can resubmit by completing a second form.

Please do bear in mind that we are no longer carrying out health and safety checks for every placement and we, therefore, ask that you carry these out with the company. There is a straightforward form available on the website that we ask you to have completed by the employer. Once you have the form back and are satisfied with the placement, you can tick the final box on our electronic form and submit the information to us.

Ideally, students will secure a placement in a field that matches their career aspirations. However, any work experience, irrespective of the occupation, will provide students with an invaluable opportunity to acquire transferable personal skills that will benefit them in the future.

Any student without a placement by the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019 will be expected to attend

school for that week. If your child is on a school trip during activities week, we strongly encourage you to find a work experience placement in the school holidays.

The deadline is because we need to make arrangements for the students expected in school. You are also more likely to get a good quality placement if you make arrangements early.