

Hawkley Hall High School Careers Newsletter



Welcome

Welcome to all parents and past and present students that are receiving this newsletter! A newsletter will be prepared every term (December, April and July) sharing what has been going on within Hawkley, successes of our students and school leavers and opportunities for our young people. We hope that you enjoy reading and find the information useful!

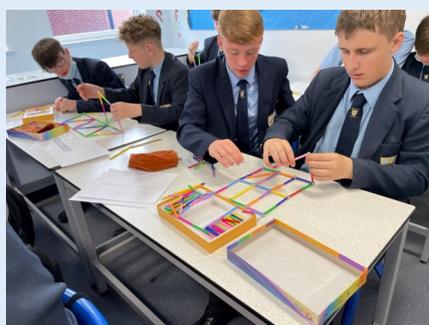
Y10 & Y11 Careers Email

The school has set up a dedicated email address for careers information to be distributed. Careers information includes college and university events and information, virtual work experience opportunities and talks after school for external agencies, such as the RAF and Army. Parents of Year 10 and Year 11 students can opt in to receive these emails, by completing this form: [click here](#). Year 11 students can also access these emails, by going onto <https://outlook.office.com/> and using their school email address (the one they use for Teams) - joe.bloggs@student.hhhs.net and use the same password as they use for the school computers and Teams.



Wigan & Leigh Workshops

Current Y10 students have just experienced a virtual college taster day, where they spent the morning experiencing life as a sixth form college student. Wigan & Leigh College delivered master classes virtually, that were streamed into classrooms around the school. The students had an opportunity to experience two chosen college subjects, from 16 on offer. These subjects included health & beauty, construction, law, and politics. The day was a huge success with the students and as always, Hawkley Hall High School received fantastic feedback on how the students conducted themselves commenting on their positive attitude to learning, enthusiasm, manners, behaviour, engagement and their willingness to embrace all new subjects, skills and challenges set before them.



The Hawkley Way

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Careers Day

In July, all students were taken off timetable for one day to have sessions with a careers focus. Our students had a wide range of careers education, information and guidance on this day.

Representatives from HSBC virtually delivered a session on banking and household budgeting to Year 7 and 8 students.

An organisation called “GM Higher” virtually delivered sessions ranging from the pay index, where students can see what pay to expect to gain, and how to translate this to their lifestyle, and sessions on their options after leaving school, and college.

Our Year 7, 8 & 9 students had “world of work” session, where they interacted with various speakers face to face, and had the opportunity to ask questions. These people included: Greater Manchester Police, University of Salford, Rochdale Hornets, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust, Army, NHS (Cardiology), UK Space Agency, CWU and St John Ambulance.

Careers Day—Alumni: Wendy Deverell, UK Space Agency

“In school I loved music and was part of the school choir, in singing together and in harmony I learnt the importance of listening to those around you and that although not everyone is the same when you have a common goal and work together you are so much stronger. This has been an important transferable life skill that has been relevant throughout college, university and my career. “

“I started working at 13, delivering double cream and bacon door to door. I did my first work experience in Pooles pie shop in Wallgate, and then went on to get Saturday jobs firstly in a bookshop and then as a Christmas temp at Argos. Whilst studying at college I did work placements in Marus Bridge Primary School, Worsley Mesnes Primary School and Wigan Housing Department. I then went to university and secured a permanent Saturday job with Argos to support myself through university. As part of my degree I also completed a Management Programme with Argos that developed my leadership skills. When I left university I went to work for Department for Work and Pensions where I held various roles. Each role I have held has given me invaluable experience and skills that have been built upon, even my first job taught me resilience. “

“I now work as Human Resources manager for UK Space Agency, my day to day duties involve overseeing and managing the end to end recruitment for job vacancies within the UK Space Agency. I deal with a range of HR queries from internal and external stakeholders, and manage changes to staff contracts. I have line management responsibilities for administration staff. I also work with colleagues who provide outreach to schools and events that promote the work of the UK Space Agency and careers within the space industry. “

“There are always opportunities to progress, whether that be in the role you are currently in and developing and shaping your contribution to the role, or in gaining a promotion and moving up the career ladder. Sometimes progression comes through work and sometimes through life circumstances, but I aim to remain adaptable and seize every opportunity.”



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Careers Day—Paul Chadwick & Andrew Austin, CWU

“We came into Hawkley Hall High School to educate students about trade unions. A trade union is an organisation that represents people at work. “Representing” could mean someone from the union meeting with management on your behalf or taking up a problem with your employer for you. A trade union aims to protect their members. This included making sure that workplaces are safe and that people’s health is not being put at risk through their jobs. It also means legal protection—trade unions usually employ lawyers.”

“Trade unions aim to improve their members’ pay and conditions. If a single member of staff approaches management because they feel they should be paid more, they are much less likely to be successful than if every member of staff speaks as one through their union. Trade unions collectively negotiate better pay and conditions on behalf of their members, and, statistically, union members earn more than non-union members.”

“Both Andrew and myself are members of the Communication Workers Union (CWU). The CWU is the biggest communication union in the UK, representing workers in companies such as Royal Mail, UK Mail, BT, Telefonica, Santander, O2, EE and Virgin Media. A total of nearly 200,000 members.”

“If there is a union at your place of work, you can ask a trade union representative, commonly known as a rep, about joining. Most unionised workplaces will have a noticeboard with all required details. The rep will see if you are eligible to join, and should provide you with a membership form or details of how to join.”



Careers Day—Xello

All students in the school are now signed up to a system called “Xello”. This is a website that answer a number of questions, and the website will suggest career pathways for the student. This provides a wealth of information, such as job description, salary and the pathway they might take in order to be successful. Students can then browse this information, and even apply to college through this platform.

To access this platform, go to <https://hhhs.net/student-area/> and click on the “Sign in here” for Xello, and using their school email address (the one they use for Teams) - joe.bloggs@student.hhhs.net and use the same password as they use for the school computers and Teams.

xello
Powered by **CASCAID**

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Alumni Case Study—Haya Aref

“I left Hawkley Hall in 2017 and since then I have finished college in 2019 with a Distinction* Distinction* Distinction in Level 3 BTEC Photography. I am now an aspiring photographer.”

“I have shot multiple music gigs over the past 4 years for different artists such as like Jake Quickenden and X Factor contestant, Olivia Garcia and tribute bands for artists like Little Mix, Adele, Michael Jackson, Blondie and Noel Gallagher. After reaching out to their publicist in 2020, I managed to get my first major music photography gig where I had the pleasure to shoot a duo called Max & Harvey, artists on Celebrity X- Factor. This was a gig in Manchester Academy where I got a photo pass with access to the front of the venue to capture the boys and their opening act Jenna Raine along with their incredible, energetic, huge, photogenic crowd who was up for multiple crowd and individual shots of their friendship groups. I was lucky enough to be shooting the show date that the boys were shooting a tv show with BBC/CBBC called ‘FOMO’ where I got to be in it photographing the boys smash it on stage. After spending hours editing and choosing the best pictures from 1000 photos that night and posting them on my photography website and Instagram page, the fans of the boys showed me so much love on Instagram and was even using my photos as their profile pictures. I feel really grateful to have had the opportunity to send the chosen pictures to the bands publicist, Steve, therefore allowing the 2 artists to post my pictures on their social media pages and tagging me.”



“As well as doing photography in Manchester Academy, I am an official volunteer photographer at my local venue in Wigan called The Old Courts where they can call me to photoshoot any music gigs they want and I send the pictures over for their website or social media and I can email them if I am interested in shooting a gig myself for my portfolio website. I have a photo pass where I am allowed access behind the scenes and can get to photograph everything that goes on to put on a show as well as photographing the band’s sound checking. I was lucky enough to photograph for Wigan Council in 2018 for the Christmas lights show in Wigan with a few of my friends from college. Shooting this and the Manchester gig really gave me an insight of what doing this as a career would be like and my love for photography grew even more as I really love the crazy atmosphere and the adrenaline you get when photographing a show. As well as this I got the pleasure to photograph for the Wigan Film Festival Semi-Final which was my first paid work in the field. I do photography for my little sister, Jomana, as well as she is a social influencer on Instagram which helps expand my skills in photography. I have to thank the incredible support from my family and friends and my GCSE photography teacher Mr Whitehead who was the reason I enjoyed coming to my photography lessons, I knew if I needed any help I could ask him and he would never hesitate to help me. He taught me a lot of the knowledge I know today and for that, I will forever be grateful. He was the foundation to my photography because through Mr Whitehead, I got to know about music photography. “



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Case Study—Sgt Michael Hill, RAF

“School for me was a long time ago. I attended St Thomas More HS in Wigan and left in 1980. During my time at school I had always had an interest in the Armed Forces. After a short time doing an apprenticeship in engineering, I decided that a career in the military was what I wanted to do. I joined the Army initially at the beginning of 1982 before re-mustering to the RAF in 1987. As a youngster I trained and competed in Judo and this was my main interest until I joined the forces. On joining the forces, I continued to train in Judo and competed in military competitions in Germany where I was based. However, the opportunity to try other activities were extensive. I started boxing and playing rugby as time was given during work hours to train and compete. I also had the opportunity to go skiing in Bavaria and Cyprus. Outdoor education was a big part of my early career having the opportunity to try everything from sailing to climbing. A big influence for me were my PE teachers at school. One of them had served in the Army and the other in the RAF, both talked a lot about their experiences and for me it sounded like what I wanted to do. For young people now thinking about joining the armed forces, school is very important. A good standard of English Language and Maths is essential in most military occupations and if you are interested in a technical branch then Science is also required. “

“I had an apprenticeship in engineering, because I thought that is what I wanted to do, however, I didn't enjoy it very much. During my selection process I spoke with someone from the Defence Medical Services and the role of Combat Medical Technician sounded very interesting. I became an Army medic until 1987 when I joined the RAF as a Medic. At the time I had no idea if I would like it or not. Fortunately for me I did and I'm still here 40 years later. My advice for anyone considering joining the forces in any branch, would be to try and get some work experience in the job role that you are interested in before you apply. That way you will have a good idea if it is something you want to do for a career.”

“I am now working in recruitment and outreach. My job is to pass on my experiences and try to enthuse people to consider the RAF as a possible career option. However, during my career I have had the opportunity to work all over the world. I have been a Combat Medic providing immediate and emergency care to troops in the field. As an RAF Medic I have been part of the RAF Aeromedical Evacuation teams and Tactical Medical Wing working in the back of fixed wing aircraft and as a MERT team member (Medical Emergency Response Team) working in the back of support helicopters. I also worked at No1 Parachute Training School for 8 years providing medical support on training parachute operations in the UK and overseas. Some of the other job opportunities I have undertaken is: Tri-Service Instructor at the Defence Medical Services Training Centre, Analyst at the Ministry of Defence, Pressure Chamber Operator and various detachments with the NHS Ambulance Service. These are just a few of the different jobs I have had over the years. Life rarely gets boring as there is always another job you can be posted into.”

“I have had a great career and done lots of things I would not have had the opportunity to do in a civilian job. I am now in my final two years and due to retire. However, for young people starting out in a service career there are lots of opportunities to progress and have a fulfilling career. Hopefully I will get the chance soon to come in and speak to you all. “



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Student Opportunities

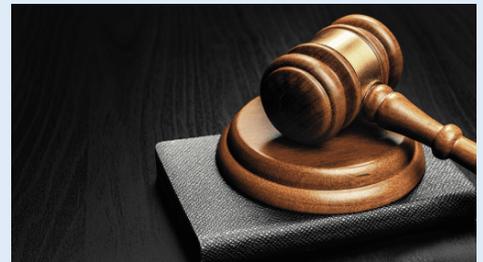
Throughout the year, we have had many successes with **virtual work experience**. These get sent directly to the students via their email, spoke about on the first page of this edition. Here are some examples of the work experience students have done.

Legal Insight day—Lewis Goodier, Y11

“I heard about this Virtual Work Experience Day through school and I applied to attend it. I had to write a paragraph about what I thought the impact was of COVID on the legal sector and then my application had to be approved by Miss Beckett.”

“The skills and knowledge the day gave me were:

- Communication
- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Understanding more about the legal sector
- Interpersonal skills & Professional etiquette”



“It was all really useful because I now have a better understanding of the different career options in the legal profession. I learned how the law and the role of lawyers is changing due to technology.”

“I took part in a workshop and a discussion about a legal task focused on technology. There were University and A level students in my group we had to feedback what we'd discussed as a team to the others online. There were about 80 students taking part across the UK on the day and it felt great to be leading a team of people who were older than me.”

“I'd recommend doing work experience even if it has to be virtual because it's a good chance to help you to decide which career you'd like”

Careers in Cyber, Army—Otis Urmston, Y10

“I used the Speakers for Schools website to find this work experience. The application process was simple but very lengthy. I was asked questions and I took a lot of pride in my responses. It took me a couple of hours, but it will be worth it for experience for my CV that I will need to produce next year.”

“I chose to do this work experience because it holds my interest of Computer Science and Computing, and the Army is a very respected organisation, which will look fantastic for experience. I learnt how to use hexadecimal code in Computing to find out what encrypted codes said. This was a full day insight day. I used my logical thinking skills.”

“It was very useful and taught me more about Computing and what life in the Army is actually like. I can now make a decision on whether that is the industry for me.”



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Student Opportunities

Through working from home, the world has opened up through technology. Take advantage of this through virtual work experiences:

[‘The Great Stink’, incredible engineering and a celebration of our heritage](#)—Taking place 15/10/21, closing date 15/09/21



[Royal Air Force Careers Insight - Access All Areas - 10am-3pm](#)—Taking place 23/08/21, closing date 26/07/21



[Devan`s House - design, plan and create an accessible home](#)—Taking place the week commencing 09/08/21, closing date 19/07/21



[Construction Collaborative Virtual Work Experience - Amey, Balfour Beatty, Wates & Willmott Dixon](#)—Taking place the week commencing 09/08/21, closing date 30/07/21

Balfour Beatty



Wates

[Marsh McLennan Summer Work Experience](#)—Taking place the week commencing 02/08/21, closing date 23/07/21

 MarshMcLennan

[Archaeology Insight Day](#)—Taking place 02/08/21, closing date 26/07/21



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