



Heworth Grange School

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Tuesday 2nd May 2023

Year 10 Work Experience

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to advise you of the bespoke work experience offer we have for your child. Work Experience is an important part of the Year 10 Curriculum and is an excellent opportunity for students to gain an understanding of the skills and qualities required by employers. Students are introduced to the 'world of work', and it also helps them with making decisions about their future career and next steps.

Every student should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities and expand their networks.

- By the age of 16, every pupil should have had at least one experience of a workplace, additional to any part-time jobs they may have.

Why work experience matters:

- Experiences of the workplace can create social capital for young people with more limited networks.
- Experiences of the workplace give students the opportunity to develop essential skills.
- 8.2 per cent of people aged 16-64 in the UK today (3.4 million people in total) have never had a paid job (besides casual and holiday work). ***Never ever report 2020, Resolution Foundation***

This year we are offering a range of opportunities to allow first-hand experience of the workplace that is inclusive of all. This year **we are not following** the traditional 5-day model of work experience, instead offering a bespoke tailored programme to suit the needs of all individuals. Students will be offered some of the following work experience opportunities, in other cases students will be selected to take part in the activity, and in some instances, we will ask for volunteers to take part. The students will be informed nearer to the time.

Participation in all work experience opportunities is dependent on the behaviour, attendance, and attitude of Heworth Grange students and the school reserves the right not to offer the opportunity to students who have not met these expectations. The options are as follows:

- **Northumbrian Water** – Newcastle Racecourse - Two Day work placement – 11-12th July 2023 – 50 Pupils
- **Liebherr 20th June and NEXUS 11TH & 24TH May** - Students following the BTEC Engineering programme will have site visits.
- **Two-day Work Experience project in school** – A local employer will set a challenge! 7th-8th July 2023.
- **Work Shadowing** – Parents/Carers or family members – Two Day work placement 3rd -4th July 2023. **What is Work Shadowing?** - It is an opportunity for students to go to work with a parent/guardian, relation or family friend for two days and get a real-life insight into the world of work. how technology is applied.
- **Remondis** – Two students have already completed this work experience placement.
- **SpringPod** - Virtual work experience – ongoing throughout the year during school holidays and 37 year 10 students have already taken up this opportunity.
- **Army Residential** - 3 Day Residential Course (North) – 3rd – 5th July 23 – 12 Pupils
- **Personal Placement** – if your child is unable to work with you or a family member, they may look for a placement with a company or business that interests them. **Two days during the week commencing 3rd July 2023.**

Headteacher: Mrs A Denholm • High Lanes, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE10 0PT • Tel: 0191 421 2244 • www.heworthgrange.org



Places on the work experience programmes are limited and students may not get their first choice.

Where parents and carers request that their child goes on a work shadowing experience, the school will apply the same criteria with regards to the behaviour, attitude, and attendance of students before agreeing to this. The placement will also be vetted carefully to ensure that it is a suitable work shadowing opportunity as well as meeting the statutory requirements with regards to workplace safety.

Applications will follow on a Microsoft form, please complete the link once received or indicate if you are unable to source a placement. Please indicate which Work Experience option you would prefer using the form. This will allow me to ensure pupils get their first choice. If you are sourcing a work shadowing or personal placement experience, then you do need to know the insurance details for public and employability insurance.

Link to work experience survey - <https://forms.office.com/e/jqUv2Zf7hC>

To support students with their post 16 choices and future career opportunities, it would be most beneficial if they were able to source a placement linked to their area of interest. Applications to all other opportunities will follow shortly.

The opportunity to participate in a high-quality work experience is an incredibly valuable part of preparation for year 11 and providing young people with:

- increased self-understanding, maturity, independence, and self-confidence.
- increased motivation to continue study and/or undertake further training.
- an understanding of the work environment and what employers expect of their workers.
- a better understanding of how the school curriculum can help prepare young people for work.

All work experience opportunities will have:

- Learning outcomes that are defined, based on the age, and needs of students.
- Student meets a range of people from the workplace.
- There should be an extensive two-way interaction between the student and employees. Students must perform a task or produce a piece of work relevant to that workplace and receive feedback on it from the employer.

I look forward to supporting you and your child with work experience, which I am sure you will agree will be a rewarding and valuable experience for them.

In the meantime, should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me at claire.bell@consilium-at.com

Yours sincerely,

Claire Bell
Careers Education Lead
claire.bell@consilium-at.com