

# CAREERS NEWS

Welcome to the second issue of the careers newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to showcase the fantastic work that happens in school to embed careers across the curriculum, as well as sharing useful information and best practice to enable everyone to become a **Teacher of Careers**.

## Wednesday Careers guest speakers:

So far, we have welcomed in two very different guest speakers for the new Wednesday career sessions. On the 6th March, **81 students** from year 8, 9 and 10 attended a talk with Danielle Everitt from the **Final Checks Academy**. Danielle spoke about the specialist media hair and make-up academy, how it came to being, and the steps she took to become a successful business woman. She was also able to share some of the exciting projects she has worked on in a professional capacity in the past, including Pirates of the Caribbean and Harry Potter.

On the 20th March, **35 students** attended a workshop with Cheyenne Bennettt who is a former FBA student, now working for **KPMG**. The focus of this session was looking at how Artificial Intelligence will shape the future workplace, and what KPMG looks for in it's new apprentices.

The next Wednesday careers session will be taking place on the **17th April**, and will be focusing on **careers in health and social care**. Details on how to sign up will be circulated to relevant staff to promote with students, as well as directly with students via Show My Homework.



## Updates on:

- Careers awareness events
- The Gatsby Benchmarks
- Provider Access Legislation
- Year 11 post 16 applications
- Careers in the curriculum
- Staff career journeys

## Careers Awareness Events:

**National Careers Week** takes place in March each year. National Careers Week aims to promote careers education within schools, and allow students an opportunity to explore different pathways, think about their skills and relate their curriculum learning to different careers.

All students took part in a careers focussed assembly, form time activities, and had two opportunities to sign up to attend the new Wednesday careers sessions.

## Year 11 Post 16 applications

Reference requests for Year 11 students are now winding down. As of Monday 25th March, there have been **708 applications** so far to other institutions, covering a wide geographical area across London and Essex. Aside from internal applications to the FBA sixth form, the most popular institutions this year have been **Coopers, Campion** and **Sacred Heart** sixth forms, as well as **New City Colleges** (including the Sixth Form campus, Rainham Construction Campus, Ardleigh Green, Epping and Redbridge). There are currently **7 students** who have not yet provided me with any evidence for applications, who I will be continuing to work with.

# BE A PAL

## Provider Access Legislation - why is it important?

Provider Access Legislation is important because students need to be aware of the full range of educational options for their next steps. This is so students can make **informed decisions**, taking into consideration their **preferred learning styles and interests**.

Today there are many different technical and apprenticeship options for students, many of which now have a **greater focus on work experience** and getting students into the workplace as part of the course. It is important that students are aware of these new options as for some of them, the more traditional route of A-levels/University will not be the right fit. As the offers can change rapidly, it is most useful for students to hear directly from the providers so that they get the most up to date information.

Allowing providers the opportunity to **engage** with students is also important for them, as these students will be their **future workforce**.

# THE GATSBY BENCHMARKS

## Benchmark 1 - A stable careers programme

Gatsby Benchmark 1 is all about the embedded **careers programme**. It should be widely known by students, parents/carers and staff - the FBA careers programme can be found easily on the careers section of the school website (<https://fbaok.co.uk/curriculum/careers-programme/>).

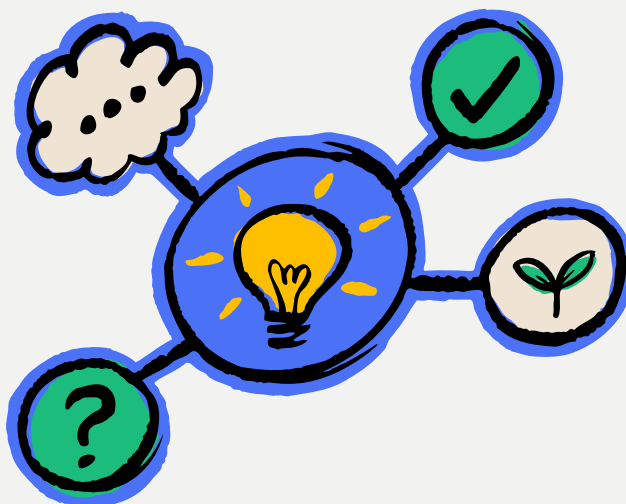
It should allow providers of **technical education** and **apprenticeships** the opportunity to come into school and access students (as per the Provider Access Legislation).

The FBA programme is informed by student feedback on events, as well as guidance from organisations such as the **Careers and Enterprise Company** and the **Career Development Institute**. Work experience opportunities, the annual careers fair, Personal Development Days, 16 + day and 18+ week are just some of the highlights from the current programme. It is also important to remember that there are **ad-hoc activities** that also take place throughout the academic year; some staff may remember the BBC 'Share Your Story' events which took place in academic year 2021-22 and 2022 - 23.

## Can you help us meet PAL and the Gatsby Benchmarks?

If you are running any trips, visits or if you are having any guest speakers in to support your lessons, please email brief details to [rwoods@fbaok.co.uk](mailto:rwoods@fbaok.co.uk). If you would like to discuss ideas for trips, visits and encounters, please make contact via email or drop into the careers office in Wellbeing.

If you are running any subject specific trips in the future, it is easy to count these as an encounter if there is an opportunity for students to engage with an employer or employee by asking questions or hearing about their working day, working environment or career journey.

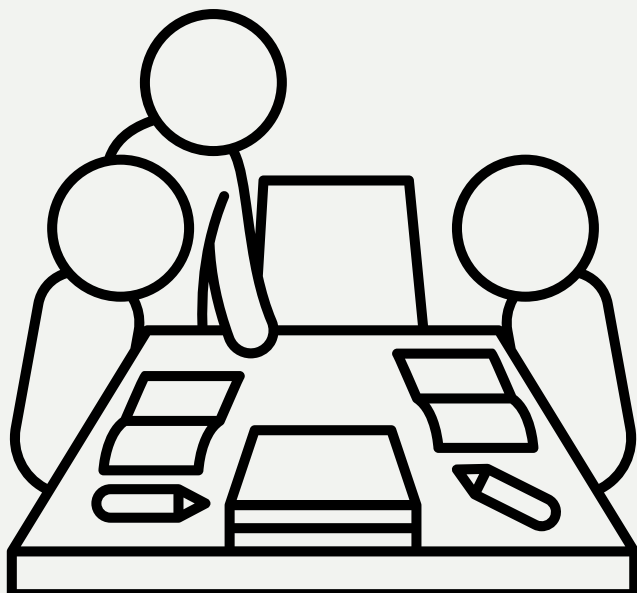


# TAKE YOUR DAUGHTER TO WORK DAY

On the **25th April**, Year 9 students will be taking part in the annual Take Your Daughter To Work Day. Usually around 60% of students are able to find a suitable placement for the week, and go to shadow parents/carers, other family members or even family friends for the day.

The purpose of Take Your Daughter To Work Day is to give students their **first insight of the working world**, and to get them thinking ahead to their full week of work experience in Year 10, as they can use this experience to decide if they would like to work in the same sort of environment or something in a different sector. Students who are unable to access a suitable placement for the day come into school as usual. I would like to encourage teaching staff to consider running more careers focussed lessons and activities for students in school on this day - please speak to me if you would like any potential resources or links to activities. All students will receive a workbook which they can complete during the day, which also has a space for 'employer' feedback so students can see how they did.

Over the years we have had students attend some fantastic workplaces for the day, and it is looking the same again this year.



# CAREERS IN THE CURRICULUM

What else has happened this half term?

- Students on the Excel Programme were visited by **Cambridge** students who gave a talk on the application process, and provided an honest question and answer session. Excel students in Year 12 also visited **Oxford University** as part of the Elephant Access group.
- The majority of Year 12 and some Year 13 students attended the **National Apprenticeship Show** at Sandown Racecourse, where they were able to speak to different apprenticeship providers and find out about the different offers
- All students in years 7 - 13 have attended a **careers focussed assembly**, looking at career journeys, skills for employment and future options
- **National Careers Week** saw students working on form time activities looking at the world of work and matching skills to different careers

Don't forget to get in touch if you have run any careers related events or activities, so they can be included in future newsletters.

## CAN YOU HELP?

Coming up, Year 10 and 12 will have work experience in the summer term. If you have any contacts with organisations who may be willing to take on a student or two, please get in touch. In addition, there is the annual careers fair, 16+ day and 18+ week for different employers, providers and alumni to get involved with! Please feel free to pass on my email address or pass on any suitable contact details directly to me in Wellbeing

# STAFF CAREER JOURNEYS

Thank you to everyone who got involved with sharing their staff career journeys this half term. Please feel free to keep these up for as long as possible, as they have been very beneficial at prompting careers conversations, especially in Wellbeing and in the Sixth Form Centre. Here are a few examples from Wellbeing. If you would like another copy to display, there are some spare copies in Wellbeing.

**FBA Staff career journeys**  
#becomingfutureready

Name: **Miss Woods**

|                                                  |                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| When I was younger I wanted to be a...           | My first job was...                                   |
| <b>Police officer</b>                            | <b>... at the London 2012 Olympic Games</b>           |
| After school I went to...                        | If I didn't work in education I would like to be a... |
| <b>Having sixth form college, then into work</b> | <b>Author</b>                                         |
| My top three employability skills are...         |                                                       |
| <b>Resilience, adaptability, communication</b>   |                                                       |

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**FBA Staff career journeys**  
#becomingfutureready

Name: **Mr. Lynagh**

|                                                |                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| When I was younger I wanted to be a...         | My first job was...                                   |
| <b>Chef</b>                                    | <b>a waiter in a hotel</b>                            |
| After school I went to...                      | If I didn't work in education I would like to be a... |
| <b>Queen's Uni Belfast</b>                     | <b>Zookeeper</b>                                      |
| My top three employability skills are...       |                                                       |
| <b>Teamwork, Adaptability &amp; Resilience</b> |                                                       |

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**FBA Staff career journeys**  
#becomingfutureready

Name: **Miss Oakley**

|                                                                                  |                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| When I was younger I wanted to be a...                                           | My first job was...                                   |
| <b>flight attendant &amp; then wanted to be a graphic designer/web designer.</b> | <b>Asda cafe worker.</b>                              |
| After school I went to...                                                        | If I didn't work in education I would like to be a... |
| <b>College and then university.</b>                                              | <b>Midwifery or a personal trainer.</b>               |
| My top three employability skills are...                                         |                                                       |
| <b>① communication skills</b><br><b>② hard working</b><br><b>③ Resilience.</b>   |                                                       |

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