

December 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians

As we come to the end of a very busy and exciting term, I wanted to share an overview of the careers education and opportunities that have taken place across the school. Our focus this year has been to ensure that *all* year groups have meaningful exposure to careers learning, better preparing students for informed decision-making as they move through the school.

Sixth Form (Years 12–13)

Fortnightly Careers Sessions (Year 12)

This term, Year 12 took part in a series of careers lessons exploring: University life and how it connects to career development/ sustainable careers/ careers within the Civil Service/ pathways in the gaming industry and behind the scenes in the retail industry, focusing on resilience—what it is, why it matters, and how students can begin developing it now.

Law Networking Event (Years 11–13 – Optional)

Students had the chance to meet nine lawyers working in diverse fields including sport, entertainment, AI, property, litigation, corporate, commercial, employment, and financial services. The event began with a legal scenario icebreaker before students moved freely between professionals, gaining valuable insight into a wide range of legal careers.

Monthly Careers Opportunities (Years 10–13)

Students continue to receive curated monthly opportunities, including in-person work experience, virtual insight days, webinars, workshops, and application reminders.

Year 10

Year 10 took part in a sustainability-focused careers talk, hearing two contrasting perspectives: Sustainability within Banking and Finance (Santander) and Sustainability in the Creative Industries (HBO).

Years 7–9

Students enjoyed a dedicated Careers Week, starting with an exploration of the many roles required to run major events—from football finals to theme park openings and house-building projects. Later in the week, they learned about labour market information, what it is, and how understanding trends can support future career decisions.

Sky Up Academy Trip (Years 8 & 9 – Application/Optional)

Students who successfully applied had a fantastic behind-the-scenes experience at Sky Studios. They learned about film production, experienced directing, editing, acting, and costume design, and created their own movie pitch. Highlights included seeing real props from *Wicked* and sitting in the original *Jurassic Park* jeep. They also received their own career role cards to take home.

FutureChef Competition (Years 9–11 – Application/Optional)

In October, four students took part in our first ever FutureChef School Heat, showcasing impressive culinary talent with dishes ranging from Beef Wellington to Mango Chilli Chicken. Two students progressed to the local heat in November, competing against 16 other students. Although they did not progress to the next stage, both have continued to develop their skills,

including supporting the preparation of our annual Governors' Lunch and they will be taking part in another cooking opportunity in March.

Individual Careers Guidance (All Years)

All students are welcome to book a one-to-one meeting to discuss career pathways, GCSE or A Level choices, UCAS decisions or future plans. This term alone, I have met with over 50 students for personalised guidance.

Parent Communications

Each month, I include in the weekly school newsletter, a "Career of the Month" and "Subject of the Month" pdf for all year groups and a summary of updated careers opportunities that were sent to students. I encourage you to discuss these with your children to help them make the most of what is available.

April 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians

I wanted to take this opportunity to share an overview of the wide range of careers activity that has taken place across the school this term. It has been a busy and incredibly enriching period, with students from all year groups engaging in experiences designed to broaden their awareness of future pathways and develop key employability skills.

Sixth Form

Our Year 13 students took part in a student finance session led by the University of Hertfordshire, providing important guidance relevant to all students considering university.

Year 12 students have had a particularly full programme this term, including:

- A careers session with parent Ben Starr, sharing his journey and practical advice on interviews, public speaking and leadership.
- An aspirational workshop with Lloyds Banking Group on future goals, career pathways and financial planning.
- National Apprenticeship Week talks from JLL and professionals from Holroyd Howe, exploring degree apprenticeships as an alternative to university.
- A Business Society assembly from Ashleigh Hawkins (Qualcomm), offering insight into careers in business and technology, as well as the wider economic landscape.
- An inspiring talk from Blondies Kitchen on building a business, including both the challenges and successes.

Year 12 and 13 A Level Psychology students also attended a specialist careers talk exploring pathways into clinical psychology and related fields.

We also hosted our annual Brewers' Lecture, introducing students to careers within the brewing and hospitality industries.

This week selected students attended a sustainability careers conference at Rothamsted Research, offering hands-on experience and insight into environmental science careers.

Also around 35 students in years 11-13 interested in the property industry attended our Property Networking Breakfast, hearing from Auction House London, Deloitte, Griggs, Loporto Browne Residential, M&G Investments, TSL Projects, and Turner and Townsend. The speakers highlighted the wide range of careers available across the sector — from

estate agency sales and negotiation to sustainability, infrastructure, natural resources, valuation, and billion-pound investments — giving students a clear sense of just how varied and exciting property can be. A key takeaway was the importance of being likeable, staying curious, and thinking about what truly interests them, as there is no single route into the industry.

Year 11

Year 11 students attended a careers talk from OA Julian Weinberg, who shared his journey into international conflict mediation and offered insight into careers in diplomacy and international relations. This was supported by tutor-time activities exploring career pathways linked to students' interests and strengths.

Year 10

Year 10 students took part in an engaging session on AI in the workplace, led by entrepreneur Manish Karani. Students explored how technology is shaping the future of work, the importance of transferable skills, and gained insight into their own strengths through a psychometric assessment.

Years 9–12

Students had the opportunity to hear from Paul and Carol Sennett. Paul, a former Managing Director at Deutsche Bank, delivered sessions linking his career to Maths and Business, while Carol, a former BBC Executive Producer, met with students individually to offer personalised advice on careers in media and beyond.

We hosted our annual School Business Challenge, where students worked in teams to develop innovative confectionery brands and present their ideas to external industry judges. The creativity and entrepreneurial thinking on display were outstanding.

Years 8–9

Selected students enjoyed a visit to Sky Studios, where they explored careers in the media and film industry through hands-on activities, including creating their own short productions.

Years 7-13

Students also had the opportunity to hear from a Alexis Goldfarb Executive Director - Head of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Wellbeing at Nomura, who spoke about careers in business, diversity and workplace culture, as well as the skills valued by global organisations.

Alongside these events, we marked National Careers Week and National Apprenticeship Week, held one-to-one guidance meetings with students, and supported a number of work experience placements.

June 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we reach the end of the academic year, I am pleased to share our final careers update for Term 3. It has been a busy and inspiring term, with students engaging in a wide range of activities designed to broaden their horizons and build confidence in their future pathways.

Term 3 Highlights

Year 12 Careers Masterclass – 24 April

Students met Max Jones from Zeroo Degrees for a session on future pathways, employability skills and preparing for life after school.

Sports Spotlight Careers Event – 27 April

Over 130 students in years 10-12 explored careers across the sports industry, hearing from professionals in sport, media, law, finance, psychology, nutrition, creative industries and more. The event highlighted the huge variety of roles beyond on-pitch careers.

GRIGGS Homes Workplace Visit – 28 April

Select students in year 12 gained first-hand insight into the workplace through office tours and speed networking, supporting Gatsby Benchmark 6.

Women in Industry Talk – 29 April

Alison Ibrahim from McMullen & Sons delivered an inspiring session to female students in years 9-13 on navigating male-dominated industries and building confidence in career planning.

LinkedIn Workshop – 30 April

Year 13 students developed their professional online presence and learned how to use LinkedIn effectively ahead of next steps.

Interview Skills Session – 8 May

Dionne Corradine led an interactive workshop on interview techniques, assessment activities and communicating personal strengths for year 12 students.

IGD Insight Day – 12 May

Select year 10 students explored the breadth of careers within the food industry, from sustainability and logistics to marketing and product development.

Digital Careers Talks – 15 May

Students heard from Tim Woodley at Hello Games and Oliver Marler from McLaren Applied about careers in gaming, engineering, product design and technology.

Mock Interview Evening – 18 May

Year 12 students took part in mock interviews and two different CV workshops led by Sedge Beswick and Benjy Sanford. Interviewers praised their preparation, professionalism and thoughtful questions.

Investment Banking Talk – 22 May

OA Matthew Harris shared insights with year 12 students into entering the finance industry, resilience, and making the most of university life.

NHS Medical Workshop – 9 June

Students in years 10 and 12 (studying science A Levels) experienced hands-on clinical activities and learned about the 350+ career paths within the NHS.

Footballer lunch and learn – 22 June

Sports Scholars will attend a Lunch and Learn with Will Lankshear (Tottenham Hotspur) to hear about his journey through elite football.

Summer Opportunities for Students

- **Accessible Careers Guides** – 50 new SEND-friendly guides from Unifrog [Accessible guides : knowhows library](#)
- **Commercial Awareness Digital Course** – free 60-minute online course with certificate [Commercial Awareness Digital Course – Workshop for Students](#)
- **Work Experience Search Tool** – apprenticeships, placements and work experience [Work Experience Opportunities | Apprenticeships](#) and [Placements | Young Apprentice Network](#)
- **Quantum in Pictures Masterclass** – University of Hertfordshire, 20–24 July [Quantum in Pictures: Year 12–13 Masterclass \(University of Hertfordshire\)](#)
- **Applying to Medicine Masterclass** – RMBF online event, 26 July [Applying to Medicine Masterclass - Royal Medical Benevolent Fund](#)
- **Savills:** A four-day virtual programme running **27–30 July 2026**, offering an introduction to the real estate industry and life as a Savills apprentice. Open to students aged 16+ who have completed GCSEs and are in Year 12, Year 13, or beyond. Applications close 29 June. [Virtual+Apprentice+Insight+Programme+advert+--+July+2026.pdf](#)
- **Roundhouse performing arts youth programme** - Wherever you are in your creative journey, they've got all-year-round workshops and courses in music, media, performing arts and professional development. [Young Creatives \(11–30\) | Roundhouse](#)

Parent participation

Next year's careers programme is already taking shape, and we would be delighted to involve more parents in helping us inspire our students.

We are particularly keen to hear from those working in AI, data, automation or machine learning. If your role touches any of these areas, your insight would be incredibly valuable to our students.

We are also looking to connect with inspirational women from all industries to support our International Women's Day events and help champion female leadership.

While students have shown strong interest in STEM, performing arts, and creative industries, we warmly welcome speakers from any profession. Every career story has the potential to spark curiosity and broaden horizons.

If you are able to support next year's programme, please complete the form below:

Careers Sessions 2026-2027 – Fill in form

If you have any questions or ideas for next year's programme, I would be delighted to hear from you. Thank you for your support throughout the year — it has been incredibly rewarding to see students benefit from these opportunities, and I'm excited to build on this momentum next year.

Amanda Gale

Careers Coordinator