



Linking our school values: Bold • Ambitious • Collaborative • Kind

# Year 10 Assembly: Why Work Experience Matters

# Making It Real

- Who knows their future job?
- Who isn't sure yet?

Work experience helps you find answers.

# Building skills for the future - Employers & Colleges Care

- Employers are looking for skills and attributes in addition to academic qualifications, and part of our curriculum is designed to teach pupils these skills and help them identify for themselves areas which they need to develop.
- Work experience is an excellent opportunity to not only demonstrate these skills to a potential future employer, but also to identify areas that pupils need to work on prior to making their post 16 choices.
- Shows commitment
- Shows reliability
- Gives real-life examples for interviews



# Changes in employment sectors

Experts say that we are currently living through a fourth industrial revolution with a rapid change in the way in which we work, and the skills needed.

## FUTURE OF WORK 2020-2030



**In 2030, 3  
skillsets will dominate:**

- > **Technology skills**
- > **Social & emotional skills**
- > **Cognitive skills**

- Programming skills
- Mathematics
- Technology design
- Engineering and maintenance
- Scientific research
- Entrepreneurship
- Initiative taking
- Creativity
- Critical thinking
- Decision making
- Complex information processing

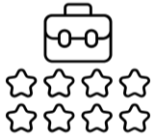


# What Work Experience Is

A short placement in a real workplace

- Experience of adult expectations
- A safe way to test what you enjoy

# What is work experience?



Work experience is important in your development during Year 10 as you have an opportunity to see the working world firsthand



Not only do you gain an understanding of the relationship between the employer and employee, but they also develop your social skills, confidence and independence



You will learn how places of work are organised, what work processes are and how employer expectations can differ to school



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Our King Edward VI Balaam Wood Values



bold



ambitious



collaborative



kind

# What Work Experience Is \*Not\*



## Free labour

- A waste of time
- Only for those who 'already know' their career

# Why do pupils do work experience?

- Develop **transferable skills** e.g. communication and teamwork
- Understand **how organisations work** or experience first hand a job they are interested in
- **Building confidence** in interacting with adults
- Confirming an **interest in a career** or (equally useful!) deciding it is not for them
- **A foot in the door** - if they impress the employer they may be asked back on a more formal arrangement such as an internship, or encouraged to apply when vacancies arise
- **Providing valuable content** for a UCAS personal statement, apprenticeship application or for part-time employment whilst studying



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# All work experience is valuable, no matter in what field it is

## Evidence of:

- **Positive attitude to work, being polite**
- **Flexibility and enthusiasm**
- **Initiative – ability to think for yourself in the workplace**
- **Reliability – turning up on time**
- **Communication skills – confident to talk to people, willing to ask for help and a good listener**
- **Team worker – gets on well with others**
- **Literacy, Numeracy & computer skills**



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# What Workplaces Expect

- Punctuality
- Reliability
- Use of initiative
- Respect
- Effort
- Willingness to learn
- Right attitude > knowing everything



# Self-Placement



It is your responsibility to secure your own work placement. You are of course welcome to ask family members and teachers for advice, but it is important that you take lead role in this



We do not secure placements for pupils as we feel that this enhances your learning about work and how to apply for a position of employment



A list of companies that have supported work experience in previous years can be found in the Year 10 MS Team. This will give you an idea of organisations to approach if you're not sure where to start

# Possible options...



It doesn't matter if a placement cannot be found in the exact field that pupils may want to enter into - all workplace experiences will help to develop key employability skills and a valuable experience of what it is like to go to work!

Primary schools

Nurseries

Retail Shops

Restaurants/cafes

Companies

Animal Shelters

Solicitors

Garages

Agricultural

Sports

Hairdressers

Trades

**The list is endless.....**

# So.... What's Next??



- You should now be actively searching for a placement.
- I will be sharing with you a form to be completed which will give us all the information we require to thoroughly check the placements which pupils are planning to attend.
- There will be a section of the form to be completed by pupils and also a sign off section which will need to be completed by parents/carers.
- This form should be completed as soon as a placement is found and at the latest by the deadline indicated on the form.
- Ideally we would like all pupils to have secured their work experience placement by **Monday 8th June 2026**



# Your Future Starts Now

- This is a week investing in YOU
  - Be Bold: Try something new
  - Be Ambitious: Aim high
  - Be Collaborative: Work with others
  - Be Kind: Represent yourself brilliantly



# WORK EXPERIENCE TIMELINE



**January 2026**

Work Experience Launch Assembly



**RESEARCH CONTINUED...**

Complete CV and Cover Letter



**8th June 2026**

Deadline for submitting completed Work Experience Forms to Miss Duckworth



**February - April**

Research possible placements – Complete a list of places you are interested



**April - June**

Continue to send Cover Letters & CV's to potential placements



**29th June 2026**

Work Experience begins