

The Castle School World of Work Newsletter



Term: Summer Term 2021

Edition Number: 24

It seems incredible that we are drawing to the end of another academic year... and what a strange year it has been. Despite the uncertainty and restrictions of the past months, for the World of Work programme there have still been many highs, and although the challenges of the past year have meant that we have had to do things differently, there have still been some great outcomes. For our WOW+ (supported internship) programme, students have been much more classroom-based than we envisaged, but this has led to some great learning opportunities, and desk-based qualifications, and a couple of students have progressed quickly from work experience to paid employment.

We have found new ways to "bring in" external guests to our classroom, using Zoom or similar technology, and this has also led to opportunities for students to showcase their activities to other classes further down the school. By linking into World of Work lessons electronically, students have been able to share what they are doing "on location", and answer questions about their jobs and workplaces. It has been great for younger students to see what they can aspire to, and a fantastic platform for the older students to showcase their skills.

We are also very pleased that, during this final term of the year, all five of our WOW+ students have been able to participate in external work / work-experience on a regular basis.

Contratulations to the four WOW+ students who will be leaving us this term. Despite the difficulties of the past year, two of the students are leaving with regular, paid employment, at IJ Fencing in Compton and Tesco Metro in Newbury. The other two students will be continuing their education at Newbury College, with the option to continue with some of the work placements they have started here. We wish all the students leaving us every success in their future ventures.





We would like to congratulate Laura, on gaining paid employment at the Premier Inn, Newbury South. Laura is a Castle School Post-16 student who moved onto our WOW+ programme this term. She was interested in cleaning work so we found her some work experience at the hotel, helping clear tables and clean up during the breakfast shift, and set up the communal areas ready for later in the day. She quickly impressed the team with her willingness to learn and her thorough approach to her tasks, and was offered part time work, covering the breakfast shift at weekends. Well done to Laura – she has worked really hard and this is well deserved.

We would like to say a big thank you to the team at Argos, in the Sainsbury's Superstore, who have opened up a new work experience opportunity for our student Dylan, this term. The team have been incredibly supportive, training Dylan on the Warehouse cataloguing system, and showing him how to use their voice-activated devices to store and find specific items. This placement has been very important for Dylan as it has exposed him to a type of work that he had not considered before. It has also given him the opportunity to learn a variety of new skills, including learning the phonetic alphabet.... Alpha, Bravo.....



Thank you so much, to all the organisations who support "World of Work"

Please note that the Castle School will break up for the summer on Tuesday 20 July, returning on Friday 3 September. We would like to wish everyone a pleasant summer and hope to work with many of you again in the new term.

World of Work Partners / Participants 2020-2021



We are continually looking for new organisations to participate in our World of Work Programme through educational visits or Zoom meetings, guest speakers and further work experience opportunities.

We would love to hear from you, whether you have worked with us in the past or would like to get involved with World of Work for the first time. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more or if you have any questions:

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