

World of Work at the Castle School

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THANKS TO EVERYONE PROVIDING LONG-TERM PLACEMENTS

As always, we would like to say thank you to everyone who is involved in the World of Work programme, for the many different ways in which you support us. We are very fortunate that a large proportion of the organisations that we work with right now, are offering extended work placements. I.e. a number of students who began work experience in September are currently continuing to attend these today. This is incredibly valuable experience for our young people, enabling them to grow their confidence and skills, and really feel like part of the team and the organisation. We are also very happy to have started working with a couple of new organisations this term, and we have a number of further new placements lined up to start in the Spring... Watch this space!



FOREVER LOVED HORSE THERAPY

We are delighted to have started working with Forever Loved Horse Therapy for the first time this term. We approached Forever Loved on behalf of one of our students, who would really love to work with horses. This is not an area that we have previously worked in, but we always try to match students' interests with specific employers. Forever Loved is a horse rescue, also offering therapy sessions to children and adults that involve interacting with and walking the ponies. Our student is really enjoying the placement. She helps to mix the feeds, clean and fill water buckets, sweep the yard and a variety of general tasks, both around the site and working directly with the horses. This is the first regular placement for this particular student, and the team have made her really welcome. It is great to see her flourish in an area that really interests her.

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

The Castle School breaks up on Friday 13 February, returning Monday 23 February

VISIT FROM FORMER STUDENT

Recently, we were delighted to be visited by a former student, who came into a school World of Work session to talk about his job and the realities of being at work. Following a work placement at Argos, when he attended the Castle School, he was offered temporary work while he was still a student, which progressed to increased hours and then permanent employment and a Level 2 Retail Apprenticeship.

Four years later, he has completed his apprenticeship and still works at the store, often training others in the role. He talked to our students about how much he has learnt and how important it is to remain professional at all times, even with tricky customers. The students were really engaged in what he had to say and asked lots of questions.



MARSHALLS VOLKSWAGEN

One of our Year 12 students has a keen interest in the motor industry, and we wanted to give him some insight into this area. We contacted Marshall Volkswagen in Newbury, who agreed to give him a tour of the business. He was shown around all the different areas of the site, including the workshop, the offices, the parts department and the showroom. We spoke to a number of employees who talked about the jobs within the different areas, and shared some information about their own careers. We also learnt about different opportunities, including apprenticeships. Thanks to David Miles, Aftersales Manager, and Ian Mackrill, Parts Department Supervisor

WELFORD PARK SNOWDROPS

We love to return to Welford Park every year, to help out in the tea room marquee, while the grounds are open for the snowdrop season.

This year, two students are attending on Wednesday afternoons, and so far we have been lucky with the weather and there have been a lot of visitors. The students have been able to get really stuck in to the work and made a real difference during the busiest periods. They help to collect used trays and crockery from the tables, and then bring them to the back areas, where they clean trays, separate out the rubbish, and take the dirty dishes out to the kitchen / dishwasher. This is great experience, in a café setting, and the team always give us a lovely welcome.



GET INVOLVED

There are many different ways to be involved in the World of Work programme, and we are always delighted to hear from new organisations and to look at new ideas.

If you would like to find out more, please contact:

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Nicola Hall – Employer Engagement Officer – nhall@castle.w-berks.sch.uk Telephone: 07747 631392



SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT FAQs

Job Carving is the process of customising, modifying, or creating a specific job role to match the unique skills and capabilities of an individual, rather than fitting a person into a pre-defined, rigid job description. It involves rearranging tasks to create a new role, enabling employers to hire individuals with disabilities or specific, specialised needs. The work should be real, meaningful employment, which fulfils a necessary function within an organisation. While potentially not including all aspects typically found in the role, it enables other team members to focus on different work areas, by freeing them up from certain tasks.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO IS INVOLVED IN WORLD OF WORK WITHOUT YOU, NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE



TO SEE THE IMPACT OF WORK EXPERIENCE, PLEASE WATCH OUR STUDENT VIDEOS IN THE WORK EXPERIENCE SECTION

AT: www.thecastleschoolnewbury.org.uk

