



World of Work at the Castle School



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A GREAT START TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

The start of the new academic year is always a busy time. For World of Work, it is a time to focus on re-connecting with employers, while getting to know our latest cohort of students, and to source new opportunities in order to match people with jobs we think they will really enjoy. This year has got off to a flying start and we are delighted to have so many previous employers on board, as well as some new organisations who we have never worked with before. These opportunities mean so much to our students; it is their chance to find out for real what being in the workplace is like, to grow their skills, build their confidence, meet new people and ultimately start getting ready for life beyond school.

Thank you to everyone who is involved in our programme.

What you do makes a real difference and we are very grateful for your support.



PROMOTRADE

We are delighted to have started a brand new placement at PromoTrade this term. We have worked with PromoTrade a number of times over recent years, but this is the first regular placement we have set up, and we have two students benefitting from this! The boys made an excellent start on their first visit, packing goods in the workshop. They boxed up custom made fans and then packed them for shipping. On their second visit, they made merchandise packs; first folding the boxes into shape, then carefully folding and fitting tote bags inside, ready for more items to be added later. The students showed some great team working skills and really focused on the tasks.

HALF TERM

The Castle School will be closed for half term from
Friday 23 October to Monday 2 November

There will be no work experience between these dates



COLLARD ENVIRONMENTAL

Workplace visits are a fantastic way to introduce students to a new environment, to give them a taste for the work and to find out about roles and careers in the area. This term, we are very fortunate to have visited Collard Environmental to find out about Waste Management. The team planned a great visit for us and we were introduced to all the ways that Collard promote sustainability and the different ways that waste is processed and re-used. There are many roles in the business, from waste picking to specialist machinery operators, truck drivers, operations managers and health and safety executives. It was also amazing to see the processing plant and see this huge operation in progress.



COLLARD
DEMOLISH | DISPOSE | RECYCLE



D&C

LONG
TERM
PARTNER

DONNINGTON & CO

We have a wonderful relationship with Donnington & Co, who have supported many of our students in placements over the years - some of these leading to paid employment. This term, a year 14 student has started new work experience in the Donnington kitchens. His ambition is to be a chef, so this is a fantastic opportunity for him. He hit the ground running on his first day, getting straight into food preparation; chopping different cheeses and vegetables. He worked alongside the whole team and is taking on lots of tips and advice on building a career in a commercial kitchen.

NEWBURY RACECOURSE

The Racecourse offer fantastic opportunities for our students to experience working with the stewards on race days. This term two students spent an afternoon working at the entry gates, scanning tickets and welcoming guests. In addition, they invited one of our horse-mad students to visit the stables after the race weekend, and assist with mucking out. She had a wonderful morning in glorious sunshine, helping Pippa the Yard Manager and learning how to perform a thorough clean and ensure the stables were at a standard suitable for the racehorses and trainers for the next time.



LONG
TERM
PARTNER

NEWBURY
RACECOURSE



INTERNAL



POST-16

Where appropriate, we offer internal work experience, to help students develop work skills within the school environment. One of our year 13 students has taken over the role of "Post-16 Assistant", taking responsibility for a number of tasks around the site. He wears a staff uniform and has a checklist, first ensuring the soap and towel dispensers are all full. He also assists with delivering post, creating lunch vouchers and other adhoc tasks. He is very conscientious and is aiming towards working independently.



DESTINATIONS EXPO

In October, the Education Business Partnership hold an annual careers fair - Destinations Expo - at Newbury College, which is a chance of our students to find out about a variety of different organisations. All Post-16 classes went over to explore the event and everyone really enjoyed talking to the representatives on different stands and learning first-hand about their roles and requirements. The hands-on elements were particularly interesting, and students enjoyed trying out road painting, radiation testing and football simulations. This is a great way to bring career choices to life for young people.



SANDHAM MEMORIAL CHAPEL

We have been working with the National Trust at Sandham for several years, either for regular work experience in the gardens or for one off visits. The team make our students very welcome and it is a lovely place to spend time and learn gardening and teamworking skills. This term we took three students to look around the site and meet the regular staff and the volunteers. While on site, the students helped with some gardening tasks, raking up leaves. The site will soon close down for the winter, but we hope to be back in the spring for some more regular visits!



CONTINUING PLACEMENTS

We are particularly grateful to the employers who work with us on a long-term basis, offering extended placements which enable students to really get to know the workplace and to develop their confidence. This term we have three students working with gardening team at Wasing Estate - two of them are continuing from the previous school year and a third is joining them. We have another student returning to the CRUK shop at the retail park and another going back for his third stint with the Shared Lives team at West Berkshire Council, which remains the highlight of his week. We have also returned to Thatcham Court Care home with a group of students and we have a year 14 student who has just started a new placement with regular partner, Greenham Control Tower.



CONTINUING PLACEMENTS



WASING

1759



NEWBURY MARKET 3 DECEMBER

Please save the date:

On Thursday 3 December, students from the Castle School Post-16 will be running a Christmas stall at the weekly market.

Come and buy presents, decorations, cards and treats, created by Castle School students.

We will be in the Market Place from 9am to 2pm - we would love to see you there!



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTS WORLD OF WORK IN A MULTITUDE OF DIFFERENT WAYS. WITHOUT YOU, NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE



TO SEE FIRST-HAND THE IMPACT OF WORK EXPERIENCE ON YOUNG PEOPLES' LIVES PLEASE WATCH OUR STUDENT VIDEOS



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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