

World of Work at the Castle School

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THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to everyone who is involved in our World of Work programme. These experiences play a vital role in our students' personal growth and development, and in opening up their aspirations and opportunities when they leave school.

This has been another eventful term, with a very full programme of work experience running throughout each week, and we have started new placements at Hobbycraft, West Berkshire Food Bank and Welford Park snowdrops. One of our students also recently had the opportunity to visit Falkland Veterinary Practice, to gain some insights into the kinds of roles available in the animal care sector.



WEST BERKSHIRE FOOD BANK

Emily and Louise have recently started work experience at the food bank. They work directly with members of the volunteer team, and follow visual lists to select products, pack up food boxes and seal and label everything ready for dispatch. This is fantastic experience for the students, and they are really enjoying the opportunity to work independently to complete a really important task, and they both take visible pride in their work. We really appreciate the time and effort that Anne and Katie, the Food bank volunteers, put in to making this such a meaningful placement, and Emily and Louise love going along each week.

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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HOBBYCRAFT

Amy loves arts and crafts and it has been her ambition to do some work experience in Hobbycraft. We are delighted that this has been made possible for her, and she started her work placement just after Christmas. Amy works with different members of the Hobbycraft team, assisting with a variety of tasks across the store. She helps to set up displays, apply pricing tickets, arrange products on the shelves and works to keep the store clean and tidy. As Amy becomes more confident, we hope she will be able to shadow staff to develop her customer service skills. It is great to see Amy in this environment, and shows how our students flourish when they are doing something that really interests them.



WASING ESTATES

We are really enjoying working with Wasing Estates in this school year. It is great experience for the students, who are made very welcome each week, and they enjoy the camaraderie of working alongside the gardening team. This term, our student Kurt has joined class-mate, Harvey, for his first work placement, and it has been a great introduction to work experience for him. The work is very varied, and the Wasing site is huge, so work takes place in different locations including the formal wedding gardens, the woodlands and around the different properties. Tasks include planting, weeding, leaf-blowing and pruning and the students are learning lots of different skills and using lots of different tools.

FALKLAND VETERINARY CLINIC

We try very hard to tailor our students' workplace experiences to their particular interests and aspirations. Skylar loves animals and would like to work with them in the future in some capacity. In order to find out more about what animal-related jobs are really like, we arranged for Skylar to have a visit to Falkland Vets. Skylar spent a really informative morning at the surgery, where she was shown around by one of the veterinary nurses, and had the opportunity to learn about different roles and tasks undertaken. She visited different wards, treatment areas and the lab, and saw some of the animals currently attending the clinic. Skylar really enjoyed her visit, and would love to find out more about this kind of work.



HALF TERM BREAK

The Castle School will be closed for half term between Friday 14 February and Monday 24 February 2025.

There will be no work experience during the break.

WELFORD PARK SNOWDROPS

This time of year is snowdrop season, and for World of Work, this means going to Welford Park, to help out in the Snowdrop Tea Rooms. Welford Park is home of the Great British Bake Off, and is also known for its lovely snowdrop-filled woods and gardens. In February the grounds are open to the public, to raise money for charity. The busy tea room is a great place for our students to do some work experience in a café setting. This year it is Skylar and Jay-Lee's turn. They assist the Welford team with clearing and wiping down the tables, collecting used trays and crockery and separating the rubbish. They both enjoyed their first session, and also had a chance to explore the snowdrops once the work was done.



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE WORLD OF WORK PROGRAMME.

NONE OF THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU



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