



NSC News

Issue 3

February 2021

Careers at Nether Stowe – what have we done?

What a tricky half term this has been for us all. With the government announcement that we were going into a national lockdown and the closure of schools, we have - once again - had to adapt to remote and online learning for our students. Careers help and support has been no different.

Whole school

In place of the weekly career sessions, we would usually be running during tutor time in school, each year group has been receiving weekly careers information emails tailored to their year group. This information consists of online webinars and talks, virtual work experience opportunities and job opportunities available. Students have also had the option to undertake a short tutor-like session around jobs and employability skills, with a quiz to complete for which they have been awarded additional credits. It has been great to see students taking on this additional challenge. Years 10-13, have also had the chance to undertake a free course being run by Eton College online linked to developing a career based skill which they can add to their CV on completion. This information has also been shared weekly with parents via email, with the added information of online parent sessions to help you support your child's career development.

Year 9 PSHE day

For our Careers PSHE Day for year 9 students, which was delivered remotely, pupils undertook lessons in the following areas; where can I get careers guidance and support? What are key decision points? Why are first impressions important and what is enterprise in business?

It was fantastic to see some brilliant student responses for the different sessions through their completed quizzes. The final session of the day was a 'guess-who' employer encounter session, we had originally planned for an in-school activity where students would have chance to 'interview' different employees to guess their job roles and the company they worked for. Alternatively, students were shown video clips of interviews with different employees and they had to work out from the information shared the job title and company. As the lesson progressed students were given more and more information to help them with their guesses, whilst learning more about different what different job roles entailed; the pathways into them; and the everyday employability skills they would need for them.

We had employers from a large range of companies who gave up their time to be interviewed for the session, including:



Students had the chance to pose questions directly to individuals and we have done follow up interviews with student questions, which will be shared with them this week. I would encourage you to talk to your child if they took part in this to discuss what they found-out from the day, and continue those all-important careers conversations with them.

Year 9 GCSE options

It is that time of year where our Year 9 pupils have to make their choices for the GCSE options they wish to take. All students will undertake GCSEs in English, Maths and Science as required for all post-16 routes, including apprenticeships. But now they have the choice over the other subjects they choose, as they begin to take over directing their future career pathway.

On the school website there are information videos from Deputy Headteacher, Mr Shaw, who will explain how students choose their options, as well as Mike Gilbert our independent careers advisor who goes into detail about the options students have; the careers that can link to subjects; and where different GCSEs can take you. We would advise you watch these with your child to ensure that everyone is fully informed on the process.

Each subject area, including the compulsory core subjects, have produced an information video which explains what studying a GCSE in that subject will entail. After watching these and discussing the options with your child they will need to complete the online form expressing their GCSE option choices. If you or your child has any subject specific questions you can email the Head of Department, for general questions about choosing options then please email Mr A Shaw on ashaw@netherstowe.com

Link to option information on the school website: [Year 9 Options - September 2021 -](#)

Upcoming PSHE Career days 2020

- Year 10 – Wednesday 17th March 2021
- Year 8 – Friday 25th June 2021
- Year 7 – Tuesday 13th July 2021

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#NAW National Apprenticeship Week

This week is National Apprenticeship Week, which we are supporting to help raise awareness of apprenticeships and educate our students on them. All students have been sent an overview of the online events taking place and will also receive daily emails with information and tasks for them to do in order to build their knowledge in this area. More information can be found here: [National Apprenticeship Week 2021 — Your Apprenticeship Starts Here](#)

Years 11 and 13 career interviews

Although our usual face to face guidance interviews cannot take place in lockdown, we have made adjustments for them to continue over the phone. Mike Gilbert from Entrust will still be undertaking these with our Year 11 and 13 students to help support them with Post-16 and Post-18 plans. These are being arranged in advance and Miss Rose will be contacting you to arrange the date and time for this. After speaking to students who have had these, they have commented on how useful they have been.

Year 11 Post-16 options

For those with children in Year 11 support has been emailed out regarding helping your child make their decisions regarding post-16 plans. It is important that students have plans in place for September 2021 which ideally will be done by February half term. Information has been emailed with links to all local 6th forms (including Nether Stowe which can be done online here: [Sixth Form - Nether Stowe School](#)) and colleges, and information on how to find an apprenticeship. Students can make more than one application for post-16 plans if they are currently unsure on exactly the route they wish to take, the course they want to do, or about exam results. For any support on helping your child make post-16 plans please contact Miss A Rose.