

JULY 2025

# PATHWAYS AND EMPLOYABILITY NEWSLETTER

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**WELCOME TO THE FINAL EDITION OF THE PATHWAYS AND EMPLOYABILITY NEWSLETTER FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR!**

**IT IS AMAZING TO REFLECT ON ALL THE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE THIS YEAR AND THE PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STUDENTS DURING THIS TIME! STUDENTS IN ALL YEAR GROUPS HAVE CONTINUED TO DEVELOP THEIR TRANSFERABLE EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS THROUGH THE USE OF THE 5C'S AND TO CELEBRATE OUR STUDENT'S FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENTS, WE ARE DELIGHTED TO SHARE A RECAP OF THE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES THAT EACH YEAR GROUP HAVE ENGAGED IN THIS YEAR!**

## Careers in the Curriculum

All Year groups have experienced Careers in the Curriculum through their classroom-based learning and a wonderful example of this can be found within our Music curriculum which saw a group of students from Years 7, 8, and 9 provided with the exciting opportunity to attend an RAF Music event in central Milton Keynes.

The interactive session focused on performance skills while also exposing students to a variety of music-related opportunities beyond the classroom. Students learned about potential career paths within the RAF that incorporate music, inspiring them to see how their passion can translate into unique professional avenues.

## Year 7

- Our youngest students are now registered on the Unifrog platform and have begun to research the academic qualifications and transferable employability skills needed to achieve their future aspirations.
- Year 7 students also attended a Speed Networking event during which they met with a range of volunteers from the local business community to build their confidence and discover information regarding businesses that operate within Milton Keynes.
- Students have also been meeting with their Form Tutors for 1:1 Pathway meetings to reflect on their first year at The Hazeley Academy, the development of their 5C's skills and discuss their aspirations for the future.



## Year 8

Students in Year 8 completed their GCSE options process this year, representing their first opportunity to take ownership over their education and training pathway.



- Students received information during their GCSE options subjects relating to how their GCSE option subjects link to future opportunities.
- All Year 8 students were able to complete a series of Unifrog activities to help support their research and decision making.
- Form Tutors also provided support for students through 1:1 Form Tutor pathway meetings, allowing students an opportunity to discuss and reflect upon their GCSE option decisions before the final deadline.
- Later in the academic year, Year 8 students also attended a Speed Networking event, allowing them to develop their 5C's within a professional environment and discover information about career opportunities in Milton Keynes through conversations with local business volunteers.



## Year 9

It has been a busy year for our Year 9 students who have been provided with the following opportunities:

- A group of Year 9 students attended an employability event hosted by Santander at their Unity place offices.
- All Year 9 students attended a Speed Networking event, allowing them to meet with professionals from the local business community.
- A group of Year 9 students attended the Niftylift Women in Engineering event during which they were able to undertake a range of engineering challenges and activities.
- Unifrog was also prominent in Year 9 and students undertook a range of form time activities to help them research their career ambitions and raise their aspirations.
- Continuing on from previous years, students also met with their Form Tutors for 1:1 pathway meetings to reflect on their personal development and how curriculum subjects they enjoy link to the world of work and future opportunities.



## Year 10

During Year 10 our students undertake their work experience placements, and we were unbelievably proud that over 230 students attended a placement during the week! Feedback from employers who provided placements was extremely positive and it is always wonderful to hear that our students are ready to enter the world of work with an understanding of the employability skills that are required to be successful! Students who remained in school were able to undertake a range of careers and employability activities ensuring that the week provided support for the whole year group.

Other activities this year include:

- A further Speed Networking event to help prepare to begin work experience placements.
- Further opportunities to explore Unifrog and update students details of how they are using their transferable employability skills (5C's).
- All students were provided with an opportunity to meet with their Form Tutor's for 1:1 Form Tutor pathway meetings to reflect on their Work Experience placements.
- Students who remained in school during work experience week completed a series of careers focused activities, began to research their post-16 education and training and attended the 5 Dimensions Trust Careers Festival at Shenley Brook End School, where they met with a range of education and training providers and local businesses.
- All Year 10 students were able to create a CV, using the Unifrog platform.

## Year 11

We are always amazed with the focus that our students bring to Year 11 and their pathway planning, during a year in which they are submitting applications for their post-16 education and training. Building on the support that students have received in previous years to prepare, students in Year 11 were provided with the following opportunities:

- Attended a Pathway Planning assembly.
- A final Speed Networking event.
- Were able to meet with Mrs Harris for meetings to discuss their plans and ambitions.
- With the support of parents, students attended a variety of college and Sixth Form open evening events.
- Students who stated that an apprenticeship was their first-choice destination attended additional sessions within school, delivered by Mrs Harris, to help prepare them to make successful applications and attend interviews.
- Unifrog was also available to students within school during form time sessions, to help students research education and training providers.
- We welcomed MK College and the Big Yellow Bus to the academy to provide further support for students.
- Year 11 students were supported by their Form Tutors and were also able to have individual meetings to discuss their plans.



## Year 11 - Continued

- Mrs Harris partnered with Mrs Miller the academy's Therapeutic Lead to provide additional support to students at this important moment in their education and training journeys.
- Our SEND students and parents/carers were invited to attend our Trust SEND destinations evening during which we welcome the SENDCO from MK College, representatives from Moulton College and the Stephenson Academy Sixth Form centre. The Directors of Sixth Form from Shenley Brook End and The Hazeley Academy also provided information regarding how students with SEND are supported within our Sixth Form environments.
- Pathways support will be available on GCSE results day, and we wish all Year 11 students the very best of luck as they progress to the next stage of their education and training journey.

## Year 12

- The start of this academic year saw a group of students attend the Law Festival at the University of Buckingham where they were able to attend presentations delivered by local legal practices and meet with professionals informally to network and explore career pathways within this sector.
- This year our Year 12 students were provided with an opportunity to undertake a work experience placement, and it was fantastic to see large numbers embrace this opportunity!
- All Year 12 parents and carers were invited to attend the Year 12 destinations evening, during which we were delighted to welcome former Sixth Form students back to the academy to share their own experiences of successfully gaining an apprenticeship as their next step after Year 13.
- Year 12 students were able to attend an employability focused Drop Down Day, during which they met with a range of employers to undertake mock interviews, focused on updating their CVs and attended a session regarding LinkedIn and how this platform can be used to help support professionals within the world of work. A Personal Statement writing workshop was also held along with a presentation from Coventry University regarding student finance.
- Students attended the UCAS Fair at the University of Bedfordshire, which is a huge annual event and sees a large number of universities and apprenticeship providers exhibiting, providing our students with a further opportunity to research their post-18 education and training pathway.
- Unifrog remains important for our Sixth Form students with all using students using the platform to research career pathways and discover university courses and apprenticeship opportunities.



## Year 12 - Continued



- Form Tutors continued to play a vital role in supporting students and all Year 12 students were able to meet with their Form Tutors to discuss their plans and ambitions.
- Students were also able to meet with Mrs Harris for 1:1 Pathway meetings which took place throughout the year.



## Year 13

- Year 13 students have received support this year to submit their UCAS application forms, apply for apprenticeships, through the Apprenticeship Support Group and explore gap year opportunities.
- We were also delighted to welcome Grant Thornton to the academy to provide information regarding their apprenticeship opportunities.
- Year 13 students have also received support this year in the following ways:
  - 1:1 Form Tutor Pathways meetings.
  - 1:1 meetings with Mrs Harris to discuss plans and next steps.
  - Access to Unifrog to continue to research all education and training options.
  - Pathway planning support will be available on A Level results day.



## THANK YOU

It would not be possible to offer such a comprehensive Pathways and Employability programme, without the help and support of our fantastic business volunteers, the outreach teams from local and regional colleges and universities and the amazing support we receive from our parent community. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been involved in working with us this year, your contribution is invaluable and really helps to raise student's aspirations and develop their transferable employability skills as they continue to become the best versions of themselves. Please find below some examples of the variety of employers and education and training providers who have supported our students this year:

## CONTACT

Please contact Mrs Harris, Pathways and Employability Lead or Mr Attard, Assistant Principal, if you have any questions regarding the Pathways and Employability Programme on the email addresses below:



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