



CAREERS NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2023
EDITION #2



Welcome to the termly 'SJC Careers Newsletter'

The Careers team at St. Joseph's College has had another successful term; seeing the introduction of our Best Next Steps Fair, expanding our Business Breakfast offering, Hosting Year 9 Industry Day, participating in the Staffordshire University Young Journalism Competition, and lots more exciting developments. We have created an internal Careers Club for students to sign up to, and now host a Careers drop-in session for students to prepare for their appointment with our independent Careers Advisor, as well as those in need of support and guidance. This is held in the library every Thursday lunchtime from 12.30pm. We are currently preparing for Year 10 Work Experience Week, and Best Next Steps Fair for KS5, which are two exciting dates in our expanding Careers Calendar.

It is a strong aim of ours to constantly adapt and evolve our Careers Programme to suit the needs of our students. It is therefore imperative that we gain valuable feedback from parents and guardians where possible, to ensure that your voice is heard, and steps are taken to react accordingly.

That is why we are asking you to take part in the attached parent survey (click on the link below), which is being run by the Careers and Enterprise Company as part of the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Careers hub. It is mainly multiple choice and should take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Once all results are collated, we will work with the Careers Hub to identify and put together a plan to address the identified areas of need. It needs to be completed by this coming weekend (24/04/23) if you have not yet completed it.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/st-josephs-college-parents>

Business Breakfasts at SJC

The success of our Business Breakfasts has continued this term, with students hearing from a variety of sectors including; accounting, medicine, journalism, sports science, quantity surveying and data analytics.

Speakers from RSM, NHS Trust, Staffordshire Live, Bee Active, Faithful and Gould, and BT/ EE, have visited students and spoken in depth about their career journeys, how they trained and qualified, their typical working day, the industry landscape, and their career hopes for the future. During the Faithful and Gould discussion, we not only heard from a senior surveyor, but also from a student who had embarked on a degree apprenticeship with the firm, and also one of their main contractors who highlighted the increased demand for quantity surveyors in the UK. Students got to hear first-hand experience of the application and interview process, what a degree apprenticeship entails, and some insightful interview preparation techniques for the competitive and demanding process.

Business Breakfasts are held throughout the school calendar on Thursday mornings from 8:15am - 9:00am in the Drama Studio. Students who attend are treated to a complimentary hot drink and toast before the talk commences.

Thursday	Business Breakfasts scheduled for this half term
27-Apr	Staffordshire Police - Degree Apprenticeship Programme
04-May	Keele University - Sustainable/ Green Careers Sector
18-May	Metropolitan Police - Forensics, Criminology, Cyber

Students should message Mrs Cumbo or Mrs Tomkins on Teams to reserve their place for an upcoming Business Breakfast. Please note that some talks are targeted at specific year groups.

If parents/ guardians are able to offer time as a speaker at one of our Business Breakfasts, please do get in touch!

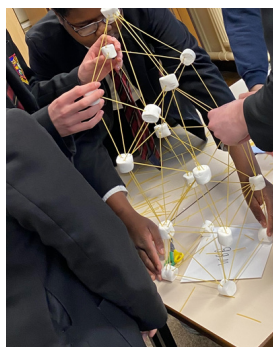
Year 9 Industry Day

Industry Day is a very important date in our calendar, which provides our Year 9 cohort with the opportunity to attend a series of industry-based workshops throughout the school day.

We invited visitors from a variety of sectors to try and target the interests of each student, ensuring that there was something for everybody participating. The attendees included the NHS, KMF, Plink Fizz, the British Army, Navy, RAF and Newcastle College, which targeted the following sectors; Business and Finance, Nursing, Paramedic Science, Engineering, the Creative Industries and the Armed Forces.

Our students worked collaboratively on assigned tasks and projects with the visitors, finding out key information to develop their knowledge on growth sectors and to provide opportunities for them to practice and development skills essential for the world of work. This included; team building exercises, quizzes, an engineering and construction challenge, resuscitation training, and lots more exciting activities that kept them engaged throughout the day.

The students feedback was incredibly positive, and the guests spoke very highly of their behaviour and participation. Overall, the event was a huge success!



Best Next Steps Fair 2023 - KS4

As part of this years Careers initiative, we are proud to have hosted our first ever 'Best Next Steps Fair', welcoming over thirty businesses and public sector organisations to the school. The event was filled with excitement, and there was a real buzz in the air as students eagerly went around the hall, learning about the different sectors that could potentially be their own best next step. Each organisation set up a stand with banners, promotional material, quizzes and information to keep students engaged throughout the afternoon.

Students were given bingo-style question cards as part of an Information Treasure Hunt. The aim was to prompt students to ask questions and build a wealth of knowledge about different sectors whilst learning about employment and education opportunities for the future.

Some of the guests included; Keele University, Staffordshire Police, RSM, Heywoods Property, KMF, Bentley and many more diverse and exciting organisations. Bentley were going to bring a new concept car, however due to the snow, they instead bought their 4x4 Bentayga; a slightly more practical choice given the icy conditions. Students got to sit inside and have a look at the different design features which was a real privilege.

We have had some wonderful feedback from both students and the attendees, who were blown away with our students engagement and willingness to ask questions and participate in lengthy discussions about their potential career pathways.



Due to its success, we will now be hosting this event on an annual basis, so if you are interested in participating, please get in touch with a member of the Careers Team. We are always incredibly grateful for the help and support we receive from members of our school community.



Careers in the Curriculum

English Focus

"One book, one pen, one Child, and one Teacher can change the world"
- Malala Yousafzai

The focus on careers in the curriculum this year has been a fantastic opportunity to explore what makes our subject so valuable to students and future employers, with the transferable skills students gain from English frequently listed as among the most desirable by employers.

These skills include problem-solving, communication, teamwork, logic and creativity, and we are enjoying the challenge of showing students how these skills are applicable to a vast range of industries, from engineering to healthcare, business, finance, IT, media and law.

We've also explored the value of the arts for art's sake; giving students opportunities to explore the arts and humanities as a way of enriching themselves and the communities around them, as well as the economy, inspired by the British Academy's SHAPE careers initiative (Social Sciences, Humanities and the Arts for People and the Economy). It has been really important for us to be able to show that arts and humanities graduates are highly employable in a range of growing and well-rewarded sectors, resilient to upheaval and change.

Through lessons we have explored a wide array of careers so far, including journalism, law, narrative design for computer games, lexicography, publishing, editor, and poet.

Careers in the curriculum has also given the department the opportunity to share and discuss their own careers profiles with students.

We now know that in addition to being dedicated to and passionate about education, the English department have also worked in IT project management, accounting, recruitment and HR, bakeries, shoe shops, cheese factories, been professional actors, run a drama company, done Camp America and lived abroad!



Lucy Mconaughy

Teacher of English

*BA (Hons) Anglo-Saxon, Norse and Celtic, Trinity College, Cambridge
Masters of Business Administration, Open University*

Studying Medieval Welsh might not seem like an obvious career progression into finance, but the combination of history, literature and languages in my degree equipped me with skills in analysis, communication and evaluation that enabled me to build a successful career in the city before making a career change to teaching, which, whilst perhaps being slightly less well-compensated financially, is richly rewarding and stimulating.

The experiences of our department outside education also enables us to be able to have valuable conversations with students about their own career pathways for the future.

ENGLISH CAREERS ENRICHMENT IN SCHOOL SO FAR THIS YEAR:

Poetry Recital Event/ Mark Grist Performance Poetry Workshop

Poetry careers, public speaking and oracy for Years 7-13.

Manchester Actors Company – Romeo and Juliet; A Christmas Carol; Macbeth

Drama and theatre careers for Y8, 10 & 11.

Staffordshire University Future Journalism Awards

An initial workshop for Y7-12. Main competition to follow, where Y9 student Hanna Biju won her age category for an authoritative journalistic piece on feminism.

BBC Careers talk – Helen Cooper

Media and television career pathways for Y12 & 13.



Next Steps Focus T Levels

T Levels are recently introduced two-year courses equivalent to three A levels. They launched in September 2020 to students in England. This means that after their GCSEs, students have the option to study either T levels, A levels, a Level 3 Apprenticeship or another equivalent qualification. T Levels are based on the same standards as apprenticeships, designed by employers, and will offer around 1,800 hours of study over two years. This will include a 45-day work placement, so T Levels may be more suited to students who know what occupation or industry they want to move into. More information is available both on Unifrog schools website.

T Levels include compulsory elements:

- A technical qualification which includes core skills, theory, and concepts for the industry area.
- Specialist occupational skills and knowledge of the career.
- An industry placement with an employer.
- A minimum standard in maths and English, if students haven't already achieved this.

T Level Subject Options

AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AND ANIMAL CARE

Agriculture, Land Management and Production

BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATION

Management and Administration

CONSTRUCTION

Building Services Engineering for Construction, Design, Surveying and Planning for Construction, Onsite Construction

DIGITAL

Digital Business Services, Digital Production, Design and Development, Digital Support Services

ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING

Design and Development for Engineering and Manufacturing, Maintenance, Installation and Repair for Engineering and Manufacturing, Engineering, Manufacturing, Processing and Control

EDUCATION AND EARLY YEARS

Education and Early Years

HEALTH AND SCIENCE

Health, Healthcare Science, Science

LEGAL, FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

Accounting, Finance, Legal Services

SEPTEMBER 2024 ONWARDS

*Animal Care and Management
Catering (start date to be confirmed)
Craft and Design
Hairdressing, Barbering and Beauty Therapy
Media, Broadcast and Production*



Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Careers Hub
***“ Helping every young person find their
best next step ”***



 Careers - upcoming highlights for this term		
Career Development Activity	When	Year Group
Details		Format / Who
Business Breakfasts targeted at specific year groups	Ongoing most Thursday mornings from 8.30am	Y7 - Y13 where applicable
Work Experience Week	22/05/23-26/05/23	Y10
Y8 Careers Day - Finance Focus	06/23	Y8
Best Next Steps for Higher Education Fair	12/06/23	Y12 only
Y10 Careers Day - University Focus	07/23	Y10

Careers Team

SLT Careers Lead -

Mrs S Gilding
(sgilding@stjosephsmail.com)

Personal Development Lead -

Mrs S Cumbo
(scumbo@stjosephsmail.com)

Careers Coordinator -

Mrs F Tomkins
(ftomkins@stjosephsmail.com)

Careers Link Governor -

Mr S Flather

We thank you for your continued support towards our Careers Programme, and if you have any questions, or would like to contribute in some way, we would love to hear from you!



Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Careers Hub

“When students are clear on their future, their present will take care of itself”