



Careers Newsletter



Issue 2

December 2023

Welcome to Issue 2 of our School Careers Newsletter

As we near the end of another exciting term, it's time to reflect on the incredible array of events, talks, and trips that have unfolded, enriching our students' experiences and opening doors to new opportunities.

In the past few weeks, our school has been abuzz with engaging career talks from Datactics, SERC, QUB IT Ambassadors and Workplus. The career talks have been nothing short of inspiring, offering invaluable insights into various professions, shedding light on different career trajectories, and igniting passions in our budding scholars. insightful workshops aimed at guiding our students toward their future pathways.

Additionally, our recent field trips to BT Workspace and YMCA have provided students with real-world exposure and hands-on experiences in diverse industries, fostering a deeper understanding of career possibilities. Our ICT workshops have been buzzing with innovation and creativity, providing students with hands-on experiences and insights into the dynamic world of technology. Simultaneously, our Young Enterprise workshops have nurtured entrepreneurial spirits, equipping our future leaders with invaluable skills and a vision for success.

Ms G Ferguson

WorkPlus: The World of Apprenticeships

Diving into the world of apprenticeships, Lucy Marshall from WorkPlus spoke to our Year 12 and Year 14 students about both Level 2/3 and Higher Level Apprenticeships. This has been an eye-opener for our students, offering a bridge between academia and the professional realm. The first hand accounts and practical advice have been instrumental in guiding our students toward rewarding career paths.

Applications open 15th January and further information can be found at: <https://www.workplus.app/>

Top Tip
"Networking is Key:
Build Relationships
Early and Often!"



What's Been Happening:

Date	Event
7th November	Amazon Web Services IT Programme Launch (Yr 9)
8th November	Datactics Workshop (Yr 14)
9th November	Year 13/14 visit to BT Workspace
14th November	Young Enterprise Workshop (Yr 11)
6th December	QUB IT Ambassador Training (Yr 14)
11th December	YMCA Trip (Yr 11)
12th December	WorkPlus Apprenticeship Talks (Yr 12&14)

Workshops Galore: Empowering Through ICT

Year 14 ICT students recently had the opportunity to attend a workshop hosted by Datactics, delving into the captivating world of data analytics. During this session, students were immersed in hands-on activities, learning about data processing, analysis techniques, and the real-world applications of data-driven decision-making. The workshop provided invaluable insights into the field of data science, igniting curiosity and inspiring our students to explore the limitless possibilities within this ever-evolving industry.

We're thrilled that our Year 9 students have secured a coveted spot in the Amazon Web Services (AWS) GetIT programme for 2023-2024! This fully-funded initiative is a fantastic opportunity aimed at inspiring 12- to 14-year-old students to explore careers in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). Through this initiative, students will explore the cloud, discovered diverse tech careers, and learned how cloud-based technology is harnessed to tackle real-life challenges.

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CONTACT US

'You're Hired' Programme Ignites Career Readiness In Year 11 Students

Amy and Ryan, representatives from Young Enterprise, joined forces with associates from Arthur Cox legal services to introduce our Year 11 students to the dynamic world of employability through the 'You're Hired' programme.

The session was aimed at equipping our students with the essential skills and insights sought-after by prospective employers. Amy and Ryan's engaging presentation highlighted the core attributes and competencies required in today's job market, offering invaluable guidance on job applications and producing a standout CV.

The enthusiasm and eagerness of our Year 11 students were evident throughout the session, as they actively participated. Furthermore, the provision of comprehensive booklets has offered a useful resource to support their Wider Key Skills controlled assessment.

The 'You're Hired' programme has undeniably opened doors for our students, it taught them important skills they need to get a job in a competitive world. The impact of this session will help them not just in school but also when they start working.



Year 13 and 14 Students Seize Opportunity at BT Group's 'Get Work

A group of Year 13 and 14 students recently participated in an opportunity offered by BT Group. The initiative, named 'Get Work Ready,' was designed for students aged 16-18, aiming to equip them with essential employability skills in preparation for their future careers.

Held at the BT Group offices, the day-long event proved to be informative for our students. Facilitated by careers experts and company employees, the sessions engaged students in real-world scenarios, challenging them with activities and resources designed to hone their skills and aptitudes.

The event's significance was underlined by BT Group's reputation as a top private sector employer in England and their consistent ranking in the Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers. This event not only provided our students with invaluable skills but also ignited their passion and enthusiasm for their future careers.

"I never imagined I could be part of creating something as cool as 'Mike,' our innovative coat loaded with WiFi, a charging port, and speakers! Working at the BT workspace was mind-blowing, and having the support of BT employees made it an unforgettable experience."
(Joel Yr 14)



What's Coming Up:

Date	Talk	Students
12th January	Football Academy Talk	Year 12
25th January	Young Enterprise	Year 10
30th January	Interview Skills Workshop	Year 14
5th February	Preparing for Options—Ben Best	Year 10
29th February	Careers Fair	Year 10, 13, 14 Parents/Carers

Exciting Opportunities:

WorkPlus Applications open for 15th January at 9am

<https://www.workplus.app/>

Belfast Met and SERC Higher Education Applications are open

<https://www.belfastmet.ac.uk/full-time/higher-education/>

<https://www.serc.ac.uk/courses/he>

EY Assurance Apprenticeships:

https://www.ey.com/en_uk/careers/students/programmes/belfast/assurance-apprenticeship-belfast

MEGA Degree Apprenticeships in Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering and Accounting and Finance are open:

<http://www.midulstermega.com/>

Applications for the BBC's Level 3-5 apprenticeship schemes across Business, Editorial and Technology:

[Belfast - BBC Jobs](#)

Deloitte Summer Vacation School and Bright Start Higher Apprenticeships starting September 2024:

https://apply.deloitte.co.uk/UKEarlyCareers/SearchJobs/?4933=2767821&4933_format=4379&listFilterMode=1&jobRecordsPerPage=20&