



Welcome to the second newsletter of this academic year. Over the last two months, there has been a lot of activity for Year 12s to get them ready for applying to university in Year 13. The Y12s had a fantastic time at the UCAS Exhibition! We had 221 students sign up for this event, who met with 89 universities/colleges from across the UK as well as representatives from the Army and the RAF. They all came away with an armful of freebies and a wealth of knowledge that will help them narrow down which university they want to visit ready to apply in the next academic year. We had 146 Year 12 students visiting one of four universities; they had a choice of Leicester, Loughborough, Nottingham or Sheffield. It was a wonderful day, the students spent time listening to a professor about how to choose a course, how to choose a university, about the several types of accommodation as well as going on a tour of the campus. This will have given them an insight into life at university and what research they need to start doing ready to choose a location and course in Year 13. We also had a Year 12 Information Evening with a presentation from Mrs Billett about post-18 options, applying to university, applying for student finance and early entry. If you would like to read the presentation, you can find a copy of it on our academy website under Curriculum – Careers – Parents/Carers or by clicking on this link The Priory Academy LSST - Parents/Carers (priorylsst.co.uk).

A joint event was held for Year 11 and Year 12s interested in studying at the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge. We had ambassadors from the universities attend, which included professors, some of our past students and some current students who have been offered a place at Cambridge. They talked to students about applying to Oxbridge, about personal statements, how to prepare for an interview and specific subjects. On this day, we also had Year 10 join a Career Clock event. This involved them talking to employers for 10 minutes and then trying to work out what they did for a career. The Year 9s attended Lincoln University to get an insight into university life.

We have now had 75 of our Year 13 students confirm their firm and insurance offers from their chosen university. Hopefully, we will have more over the coming weeks.

Mrs Nuttall and I drove a group of Year 10 students to the University of Sheffield as part of a Discover US programme. The programme is part of a widening participation programme from the university, which the students had to apply for independently. They were then invited to the university to carry out workshops including subject specific workshops, money matter workshops and life at university.

The Year 10 work placement initiative was launched with a presentation to the students from Mr Sleight. A copy of this can be found on our academy website <u>The Priory Academy LSST - Work Experience (priorylsst.co.uk)</u>. All students in Year 10 must attend some form of work placement. This can be a physical work placement between 29th June and 1st July, online work experience, attend two or more Career Talks or other approved workshops or

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events. If they wish to attend a physical work placement their application must be submitted to Mrs Morgan-Brown by the 16th May.

We have had guest speakers into the Academy from Streets Heaver, a Project Manager and a Learning and Training Manager. Over the next two modules we have invited guest speakers from an IT software company, a local business owner, Cognassist, Knight's Solicitors, Aerosparx, the medical department from Lincoln University, E-Commerce, a senior lecture for Astrophysics from Lincoln University, an ex-student coming to talk about careers in Dance and Dance Science, Duncan and Toplis and careers in STEM from Loughborough University. Students from all year groups have had awareness sessions on careers and the different pathways as well as careers embedded in their curriculum.

If your child is in Year 11 or Year 13 and they are interested apprenticeships, please ask them to keep checking their emails. Mrs Billett and Mrs Morgan-Brown are sending out emails daily with new apprenticeships. Students can also register with apprenticeship websites to receive updates directly to their inbox.

This list below is a few websites we use. They have a magnitude of useful information, opportunities and webinars for parents, as well as students, so you can help support your child's career path. There are also a few websites listed below that the students can use to gain virtual work experience, which they can use on their personal statements or CVs. Please find attached some information about National Apprenticeship Week from Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership.

- Success at School Success at School: Search Jobs and Courses
- Government Find An Apprenticeship Find an apprenticeship (findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)
- Amazing Apprenticeships website <u>Amazing Apprenticeships</u>
- Springpod <u>Search for apprenticeships</u> | <u>Springpod</u>
- Get My First Job Search | GetMyFirstJob | Apprenticeships, Degree Apprenticeships & Work Experience
- Success Beyond School <u>Events for Parents | InvestIN</u>
- Success Beyond School Workshops and Summer Schools <u>Choose Your Career | InvestIN</u> these all have a cost attached to them.
- NHS Talent Academy Virtual Work Experience Work Experience | NHS Talent Academy
- Speakers for School <u>Virtual Work Experience | VWEX | Speakers for Schools</u>
- Springpod Virtual Work Experience Free Virtual Work Experience | Springpod
- Information regarding student finance <u>Student finance GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>
- Rate My Apprenticeship Students Advice Archives | RateMyApprenticeship Blog

If any student would like a meeting with staff in the Career Hub to discuss their pathway, for help with completing an application form or writing a CV please ask them to email directly to Mrs Billett abillett@prioryacademies.co.uk, or Mrs S Morgan-Brown smorganbrown@prioryacademy.co.uk. Alternatively, they can speak to their Form Tutor, Head of Year or their Pastoral Learning Mentor who can email the Career Hub to request a meeting.

Yours faithfully

Mrs A Billett Mrs S Morgan-Brown

Careers and Pathways Lead Career and Pathways Assistant