



# Careers Café...

## Careers Fair 2025: Bigger, Better, and Brimming with Opportunity

Our annual Careers Fair returned in July, with more energy and ambition than ever before. With a vibrant mix of employers, universities, colleges, and training providers in attendance, students from Years 8 to 12 were given a unique opportunity to explore a wide range of career pathways and future study options.

From engineering firms to creative industries, healthcare to hospitality, the event showcased the diversity of opportunities available to our students. Representatives were on hand to offer insights, answer questions, and inspire the next generation with real-world advice and guidance.

A dedicated quiet session ensured that all students could engage meaningfully in a calm and focused environment as part of our ongoing commitment to inclusivity and accessibility.

One exhibitor shared the following: *"Welcoming team, very well organised and loved that the students were prepped with questions!"* Feedback like this reflects the enthusiasm and professionalism that made the day such a success.

We are always keen to hear from local businesses, organisations, and alumni who would like to get involved with our careers programme, whether through future fairs, talks, workshops, or mentoring. If you are interested in inspiring the next generation, please get in touch at [careers@hazelwick.org.uk](mailto:careers@hazelwick.org.uk).

## Planning for the Future: What Each Year Group Should Be Doing Now

As the academic year progresses, it is the perfect time for students to start thinking ahead and taking proactive



steps toward their future goals. Whether you are just beginning to explore your options or preparing to take the next big leap, here is what each year group should be focusing on:

### Year 11 – Exploring Post-16 Options

This is a crucial year for making informed decisions about what comes next. Students should attend post-16 options events, research sixth form, college, and apprenticeship pathways and speak with subject teachers and careers staff to understand which choices align with their interests and strengths.

### Year 12 – Discovering Careers & Gaining Experience

Now is the time to dive deeper into career exploration. Students should begin researching industries, attending careers talks and identifying areas of interest. Planning and securing work experience is key as real-world exposure helps build confidence, skills and clarity about future aspirations.

### Year 13 – Applications & Next Steps

Whether applying to university through UCAS, pursuing apprenticeships, or entering the workforce, Year 13 students must stay on top of deadlines and requirements. This is the time to polish personal statements, prepare for interviews and submit applications. Being proactive and organised will make all the difference.

### How Parents and Carers Can Support

Parents and carers play a vital role in helping young people navigate their choices. Having open, ongoing conversations about education and career options can make a big difference. If you're looking for guidance on how to support these discussions, [Talking Futures](#) offers practical advice, resources, and conversation tips to help you feel confident and informed.

**Top Tip for All Years:** We post careers opportunities on Satchel One so keep an eye on key dates, ask questions, and take ownership of your journey.