

# Careers Café...

In this section of the newsletter, we bring students, parents and carers information on careers and the world of work.

## Hazelwick Triumphs at TeenTech Sussex 2025!

On Thursday 27th November 2025, a group of our Year 9 students represented Hazelwick at the TeenTech Festival at the Amex Stadium in Brighton. This event brought together schools from across the region for an exciting programme showcasing careers in digital, science, and technology. Ahead of the festival, computer science students took part in a Virtual Innovation session where they explored future technologies, interacted with industry experts, and worked on an innovation challenge to design solutions for real-world problems. This preparation set the stage for an incredible in-person experience.

At the festival, students got hands-on with cutting-edge activities. One highlight was building a Lego robot and programming it to move using coding, which was a brilliant way to combine creativity and technical skills. Later, they faced a timed computer investigation challenge, testing their research and problem-solving under pressure.

We are thrilled to announce that the Hazelwick team **WON** the challenge by an impressive 4 minutes across the day! This fantastic achievement reflects their teamwork, resilience, and enthusiasm for STEM.

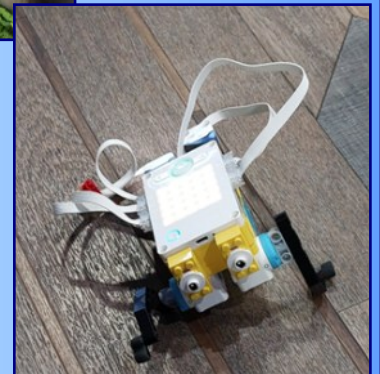
The TeenTech experience gave our students a unique opportunity to connect classroom learning with real-world innovation, inspiring them to think about future careers in science and technology.

### Student Voice:

*“It was a very fun and informative trip with lots of exciting events. The people there were very creative, and many business stands gave me a real perspective on what business is truly like. It was one of the best trips I have been on because I went with one perspective and came back with another completely changed one.”*

- Ryan Dutta (Year 9)

For more information about TeenTech and its mission, visit: [TeenTech | Inspiring Tomorrow's Innovators](https://teentech.org.uk)





# Careers Café Continued...

## Why Careers Education Matters More Than Ever

A recent government announcement has highlighted a growing concern: 1 in 8 young people aged 16–24 are now not in education, employment, or training (NEET). An independent investigation led by former Health Secretary Alan Milburn, will explore why so many young people are becoming disengaged, with mental health and long-term illness cited as major factors. This is being described as a “crisis of opportunity” for the next generation. [Independent investigation to be launched to tackle rising youth inactivity - GOV.UK](#)

At Hazelwick, we believe the best way to tackle this challenge is through a strong Careers Education, Information, and Advice and Guidance (CEAIG) programme. Our careers curriculum is designed to give every student the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make informed decisions about their future. From employer talks and workplace visits to interactive events like TeenTech, we ensure students experience real-world opportunities that inspire ambition and build resilience.

How parents and carers can help:

- Talk to your child about their interests and aspirations.
- Explore career pathways together using our resources.
- Encourage participation in careers events and challenges.

You can find full details of our careers programme and useful resources on our website:

[www.hazelwick.org/careers](http://www.hazelwick.org/careers)

Together, we can make sure Hazelwick students are ready to learn, earn, and thrive.

## Year 10 and Sixth Form Careers Interviews – Helping Students Shape Their Future

We’re excited to announce that careers advice meetings for Year 10 students will begin soon, and we’ve expanded the programme to include Sixth Form students as well. Every student will have a one-to-one appointment with Michelle, our qualified Careers Adviser from the Education Development Trust. These sessions are a fantastic opportunity for students to explore their interests, discuss future plans, and receive tailored guidance.

During the meeting, students will:

- Talk about their subjects, hobbies, and career ideas.
- Consider academic expectations and next steps.
- Leave with a Personal Action Plan to guide their decisions.
- Appointments will take place in the Careers Office (behind Reception), and students will be notified via their Form Tutor.

Top Tips for Parents and Carers:

- Before the meeting: Ask your child what they enjoy most in school and what careers they’ve thought about.
- After the meeting: Review their Personal Action Plan together and discuss how you can support their next steps.

Mrs Andrews