

# Careers Education 2017 – 2018

Over the course of the year 2017 – 2018 pupils at OLSJ have had many career related workshops, interactions with employers and visits to colleges of FE and Sixth Form.

The year started with BAE Systems coming into school to run a workshop with all our Year 7 and 8 pupils to provide them with an insight into the technology of the future.



Pupils were treated to an interactive roadshow and had the opportunity to explore STEM related careers, listen to stories from people working in STEM related jobs and even have a go at operating a robot. Also in the autumn term Year 7 pupils had the opportunity to take part in a panel chat show with a Doctor who talked to them about his role in the NHS and pupils had the opportunity to ask questions about his profession and particular areas of specialisms. This encounter took part in the school hall and was filmed by a team of professional film makers allowing pupils the

opportunity to witness the skills and qualities needed to make documentary films.

During the course of the Year pupils from Year 7 were fortunate to visit a Buddhist temple and Blackpool Zoo as part of their RE and Science curriculum.

In the Autumn Term assemblies from different Post 16 learning providers were organised for our Year 11 pupils to inform them of courses open to them at various establishments. In October the Year 11 curriculum was also halted for the day to allow Year 11 to take part in a number of workshops run by colleges and apprenticeship providers, to help them with their decisions for Post 16 study.



Pupils also had a lesson on CV writing skills and a workshop on labour market trends within the North

West, run by the Job Centre. The ASK team also presented an assembly to inform Year 10 and 11 pupils all about the apprenticeship route into employment.



In September our Year 11s visited the 'Blackburn is Hiring' event at the Cathedral to allow them to explore over 100 different employers and college providers to research paths they may want to follow in their futures.

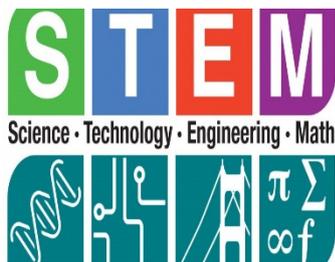
Throughout Year all our Year 11 pupils had a 1:1 careers, information, advice and guidance interview with a careers advisor from Blackburn with Darwen's New Direction team. Each of these interviews resulted in an action plan for the pupil providing them with guidance for their future career ideas.

Also in the Autumn term our Year 9 and 10 pupils took

part in a workshop that helped them develop their employability skills and for pupils to consider their strengths and aspirations for the future.



Pupils took part in a number of tasks that engaged them in being reflective about themselves and helped them to develop an aspirational mind set. Throughout the year the Future U team have also worked closely with a cohort of our Year 9 pupils and conducted weekly mentoring sessions over a six week period to further help them consider careers for the future.



Both Year 9 and 10 pupils have had the opportunity to take part in STEM related enterprise competitions throughout the year. These have been held at Universities and Colleges in the North West.

As part of their Technology curriculum rotation Year 8

pupils have been introduced to the Start Profile Careers package.



This allows pupils to investigate and explore all sorts of careers and routes into employment. Pupils start by profiling themselves and rate their interests, qualities, work preferences and skills, and the database then suggests careers that may be suited to their profiles. Pupils can then explore these careers and find out how to get into these careers and what the labour market trends are like in these particular industries. All pupils have access to the Start Profile site that can be accessed through our school website, following the careers link.



Following their Pre Public Exams in December our Year 11 pupils had the opportunity to have a mock interview with someone from the business world. A number of representatives came into school and

conducted these formal interviews to provide our Year 11s with help and guidance on how to conduct themselves in an interview.

In the Spring term our Year 7 and 8 pupils attended a Barclays Bank Lifeskills workshop which was run by an up and coming singer. J Sol mixed music with many thought provoking messages for the pupils to help them consider their steps to success.

Our Year 10 pupils interested in a career with Health & Social Care were able to attend taster sessions at Blackburn College focusing on careers within Health.

In March our Year 9 pupils attended the Blackburn with Darwen Skills Showcase at DACA which enabled them to visit lots of career stands that highlighted the skills needed for various careers. Pupils were able to engage with different careers and learn about the skills they need to develop to succeed in various industries.



As part of their Business Studies course Year 9 pupils

have also been on study visits to local business including The Chocolate House and Darwen Terracotta to speak with the owners about skills needed for setting up in business and how businesses have to cope with the various economic conditions of the UK economy.



Within Science Year 8 pupils were able to visit the Science Museum in Manchester and Year 9 and 10 pupils took part in field work studies centred on Salford and Cleveleys. Pupils were able to research the regeneration of Salford Quays and look at the range of businesses that have been set up in the area.

In May our Year 9 and 11 pupils had the opportunity to watch a live show of Macbeth. A touring Shakespeare company visited our school and put on two live shows for the pupils. This enabled pupils to not only experience the amazing theatre but also admire the occupations of the actors present before them.

In June Year 10 pupils interested in careers in construction were taken to

Themis College in Burnley to take part in taster activities in building, plumbing and decorating. Pupils were able to have a go at the activities and speak with the college providers about opportunities at the college for them once they leave OLSJ. In July all Year 10 pupils took part in a visit to Blackburn College to take part in taster activities to help them decide what they may like to do once they leave OLSJ.



In July we held our own careers fair and invited over 25 employers / college providers / Armed Forces and apprenticeship



providers into school.

Each year group had their own specific hour time slot to visit the hall where they could collect information, speak with employers / colleges, etc to find out information that will help them with their future career paths.

Year 10 pupils also helped with the organising and running of sports days within our local feeder primary schools and the Year 9 MIND team went to the Awards Presentations at Preston North End's Deepdale Stadium where they won the Innovation Award for the activities they ran in school such as 'Job Swap'.

In our penultimate week at school our whole cohort of Year 9 pupils took part in the Premier League Enterprise programme at Blackburn Rovers.



Run over three consecutive days pupils met at Blackburn Rovers and took part in a range of workshops that helped develop their employability skills

To end the year all our Year 10 pupils had a 25 minute mentoring interview with a

business representative  
who discussed their  
progress to date and helped

them formulate an action  
plan ready for Year 11.