



Careers Newsletter

2025

April



careers@mket.org.uk



www.waltonhigh.org.uk

NEWS FROM THE CAREERS TEAM

Careers guidance is crucial in helping students emerge from school ready to either continue their studies or ready for the world of work. We provide information, advice and opportunities to allow students to be well informed when making subject and career decisions.

Careers Team –

It's been a busy couple of months for the Careers Team. We have supported Year 12 with Work Experience for the first time in a number of years. The team have seen all Year 13 students in preparation for their next steps following their time at Walton High. We continue to see Year 11 students and work on developing our links with employers to support opportunities for our students.

Students from any year group can request a Careers appointment via their form tutor, or by attending the Careers Office during break/lunchtime.

Our location:

Brooklands Campus – We are in the office opposite the ILA

Walnut Tree – We are based in the Library



National Apprenticeship Week 2025

We started the term with National Apprenticeship Week, all students across the school had a tutor time presentation highlighting Apprenticeships as a future pathway. Below is some information to continue their research and for parents to gain a clearer understanding of this option.

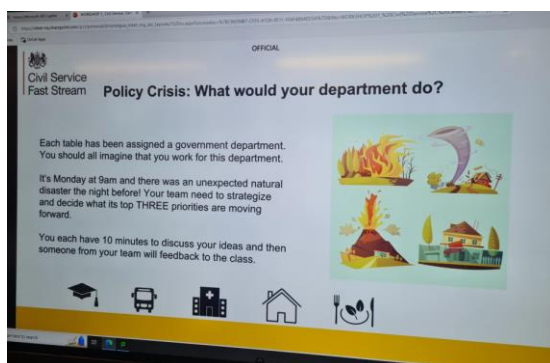
What are Apprenticeships? – click [here](#)

Understanding Apprenticeship levels – click [here](#)

The Amazing Apprenticeships website holds lots of helpful information and allows you to hear from current apprentices, you can explore apprenticeships further - [here](#)

During National Apprenticeship Week we hosted a number of events for our Post 16 and Year 11 students.

Year 12 were able to engage with an interactive workshop from the Civil Service, the session included information on Apprenticeship opportunities across the Civil Service, and allowed students to develop an understanding of the skills and qualities needed to work within this organisation. Students took part in a scenario-based challenge working as a small team to deliver the required outcome. Further information on careers within the Civil Service can be found here – <https://www.civil-service-careers.gov.uk/>



National Apprenticeship Week continued:

Year 11 and Year 13 students attended assemblies with FCDO Services, a local employer offering a range of Apprenticeship opportunities. Students were made aware of a range of live vacancies, gain an understanding of the role and responsibilities of the service, and learnt about the recruitment process. At the end of the assembly students were able to ask questions and sign up for an interactive session with more employees from FCDO Services via a virtual Worktree session after school.



FCDO Services Virtual Careers Workout session – This session was held after school allowing interested students to learn more about the organisation, hear from a range of current employees and develop a clearer understanding of the opportunities available. A number of our students have decided to apply for apprenticeships with FCDO Services following these events.



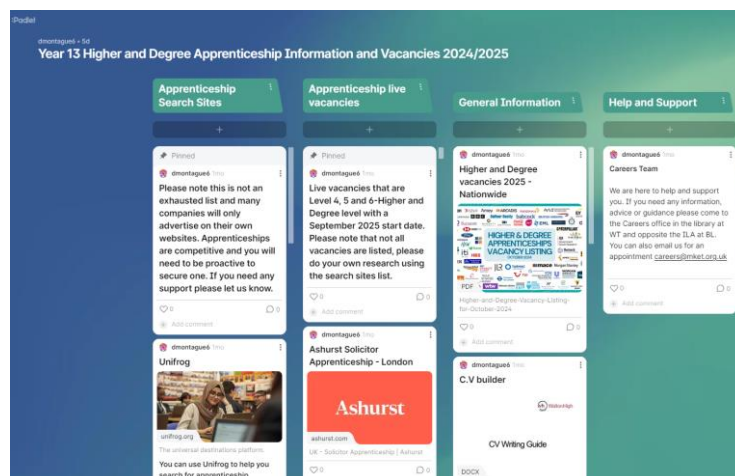
Ongoing support – We will be running some **Interview preparation sessions** with a staff member from FCDO Services, if you are a student who has got through to the interview stage please sign up for an interview support session. Please email careers@mket.org.uk

Brooklands – Wednesday 23rd April – Time to be confirmed

Walnut Tree – Friday 25th April – Time to be confirmed

Year 13 Apprenticeship Padlet: For students in Year 13 we continue to support those who request help with application support and interview preparation. Our padlet holds a wide variety of information including Apprenticeship search sites, live vacancies and useful resources. You can access the padlet below:

[Year 13 Higher and Degree Apprenticeship Information and Vacancies 2024/2025 -](#)



Assemblies:

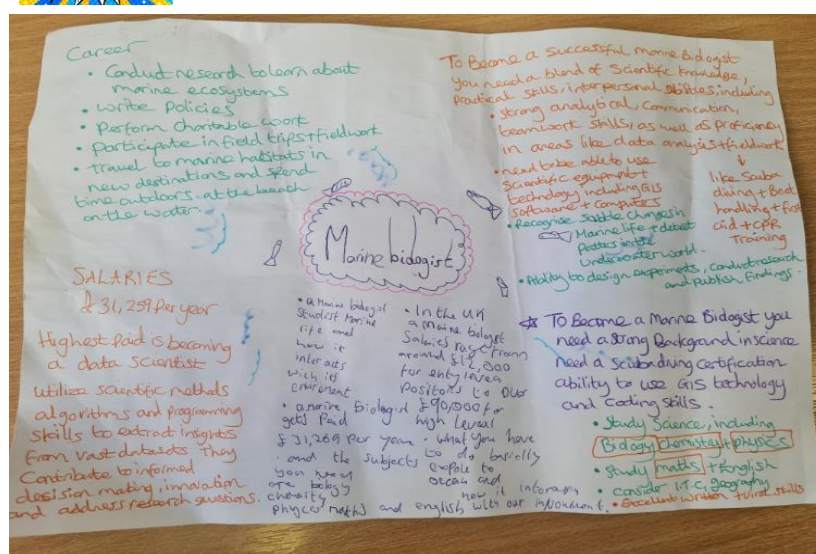
In February we welcomed a variety of employers to both campuses to speak to our students across all year groups. Our Careers Team also highlighted their offer, and spoke to students about pathways available following Year 11. These include Post 16, College to study vocational courses or A levels, securing an Apprenticeships or training with a specialist training provider such as Varsity Nine Football Academy. The Careers Team focused on raising aspirations and working hard within school to have a variety of options available when in Year 11.

Thank you to MK Dons SET, MK College, FCDO Service and Varsity Nine for their continued support.



Varsity Nine





University of Hertfordshire – Health and Social Care

Thank you to the University of Hertfordshire who continue to support the school. Bella attended our Health and Social Care course to talk to students about degree courses available. This interactive session allowed students to find out more about Careers and HE options. Well done to Bridget who won the goodie bag. You can find out more about the University of Hertfordshire [here](#).



Year 13 Medicine and Dentistry applicants:

Two of our Year 13 students spoke to our Year 12 cohort who are looking to apply for Medicine or Dentistry at both campuses. Having just been through the application process Vivek and Akshaya shared their experiences and knowledge with those looking to apply this academic year.



Business – Howdens Insurance trip – Year 12

Our Year 12 students interested in Insurance attended a breakfast networking event at Howden Insurance. This small group of students had the opportunity to learn more about Careers within the Insurance Industry, network with employees and tour the new offices in central Milton Keynes. Feedback from students was really positive with 100% of students not only enjoying the trip but also now considering a Career within the sector. In the summer Howdens will be offering 4 of these students the opportunity to apply for a work experience placement.



Year 12 Applied Science trip to John Lewis Warehouse

Our Science department took a group of students to John Lewis Magna Park to explore Health and Safety processes within the work environment. Students had a tour of the warehouse and heard from employees about the different job roles available. They learnt about Health and Safety legislation and completed a workbook to support the completion of their Applied Science Unit.



WAREHOUSE SAFETY			
	Caution Forklift trucks operating		No unauthorised persons allowed beyond this point
	All visitors and drivers must report to warehouse office		Pedestrians must keep to walkways
	High visibility clothing must be worn		Do not climb on racking
	Protective footwear must be worn		Report all accidents immediately

Year 9 – SSG Experience of the Workplace project

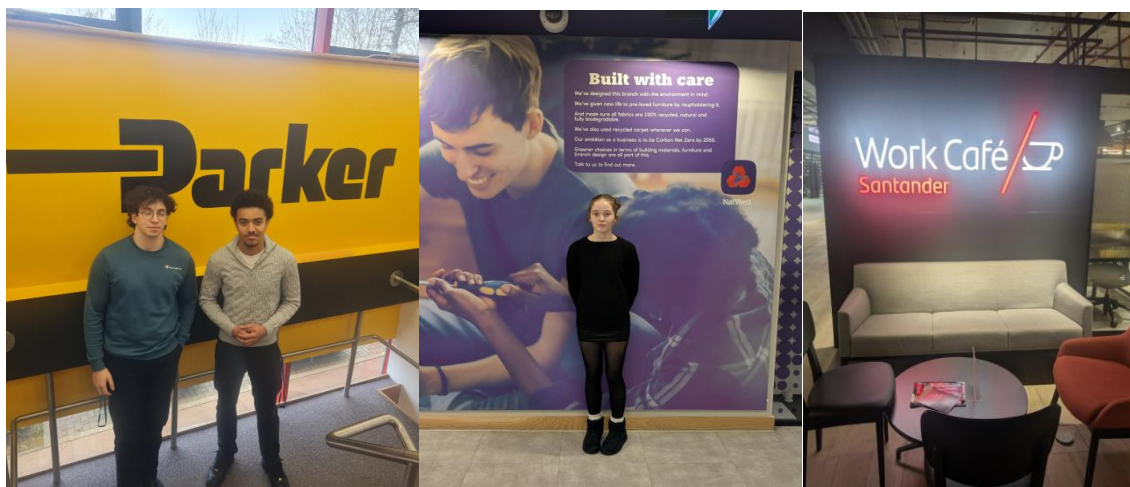
The Careers Team in partnership with SSG are running a pilot project to engage more students in workplace experiences. The first session held in March consisted of an in-school session engaging students in activities to review their strengths, developing teamwork and challenging their perceptions. The second session will take place in April with a trip to Woburn Safari Park to take part in an employer project. We hope to run more of these sessions if the pilot is successful.



Year 12 Work Experience:

In March we ran Year 12 Work Experience, it was lovely to see the huge variety of placements across both campuses allowing our students to experience the working world. Those who were not on placement completed virtual work experience from home using our E book -

<https://read.bookcreator.com/ZksuKFz39jMSjaJgcTzDvq5KfFu2/pLOO7YpLQkOaMWC34hUKew>



Year 10 Work Experience dates: BL w/c 9th June and WT w/c 23rd June

Parent information can be found on Firefly [here](#)

Year 12 – Network Rail Work Experience

A huge thank you to Network Rail who continue to support us with Work Experience placements. In March we welcomed ex-student Theo, and his colleague to both campuses to speak about Network Rail as an employer. They provided an overview of the opportunities available including degree apprenticeships. Students were then able to apply for the Work Experience programme, x15 successful students attended a one-week placement exploring Careers within IT.

Campus visit and talk about Careers at Network Rail



Work Experience placement – This one-week placement at The Quadrant allowed students to get first-hand experience of App development, Business Intelligence using Power Bi, Develop Cyber Security & Industry level encryption techniques and Commercial & Procurement of goods and services.

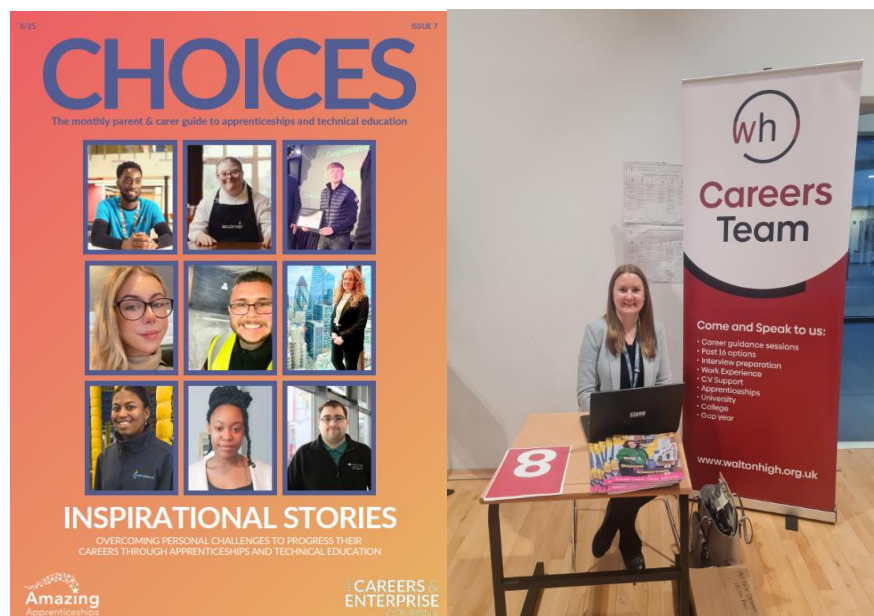


Parental Engagement:

Our Careers Team attended our recent Year 8 options evenings and Year 11 IAG evenings at both campuses. Parents were able to speak to our qualified advisers about different career paths and request appointments for their children.

The popular sector posters from our Year 8 display can be found here - [Sectors Booklets](#)

Choices Magazine is a monthly parent and carer guide to apprenticeships and technical education, you can access it - [here](#)

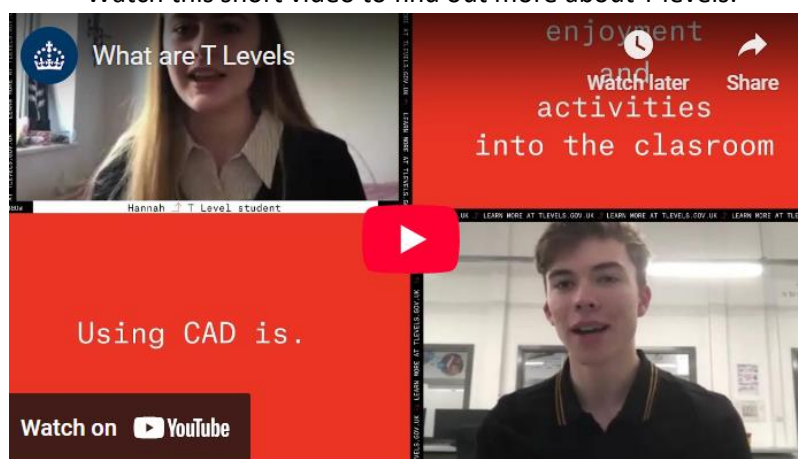


Understanding T levels:

[T Levels](#) are a qualification choice that follow GCSEs and give students a head start towards the career they want.

They suit students who wish to start working towards a skilled occupation, prefer a practical approach to learning and want a predominantly classroom-based course. You can find out more about T levels [here](#).

Watch this short video to find out more about T levels:



MK College offer a variety of T level courses which can be explore via their website [here](#).



All students in Years 8 to 13 have free access to Unifrog.

Yr7 will be added after the half term break.

What is Unifrog?

Unifrog is a universal destinations platform, a one stop shop for whole school careers guidance.

Our mission is to level the playing field when it comes to students searching for the best opportunities and applying successfully by working closely with our community of students from over 3,000 partner schools and colleges.

Our impartial, user-friendly platform allows students to explore pathways throughout school/college, evidence key activities and competencies, and draft and collate feedback on Personal Statements and CVs to submit the strongest possible applications.

Parents can sign in to Unifrog [here](#) to create a dummy account to explore this excellent resource.

Parent access code – **WaltonParents**

For further information about Unifrog click on the image below or [here](#) to watch a short video about the platform.



SKILLS EMPLOYERS ARE LOOKING FOR

Qualifications are not enough, employers are also looking for the following skills and qualities in their employees.

01.

Communication Skills:

Communication skills allow you to understand and be understood by others. These can include but are not limited to communicating ideas to others clearly, a friendly and confident demeanor, respecting other points of view and speaking in a public setting. Developing your communication skills can do much to help you advance in the workplace.



02.

Problem solving:

Problem-solving skills are skills that enable people to handle unexpected situations or difficult challenges at work. Organisations need people who can accurately assess problems and come up with effective solutions.



03.

Teamwork:

You need teamwork skills to be successful at work, regardless of your job title or industry. Working well with colleagues, management and clients will make your work environment enjoyable and help you complete tasks quickly and efficiently. Employers value employees who are team players that can help the organisation reach its goals.



04.

Organisational Skills:

Organisational skills are some of the most important skills you can have as an employee. Being organised allows you to meet deadlines, minimise stress and carry out your duties more efficiently.



05.

Resilience:

Challenges commonly arise in the workplace. Handling and thriving amid those challenges requires that you have resilience. Resilience is a skill that can benefit you at all stages of your career development.



06.

Initiative:

Initiative skills in the workplace are your abilities to assess a situation and take action, without requiring direction or permission from someone else. Initiative is a useful skill to develop as it can help you to appear confident, assured and decisive with your decision-making. It can also highlight problem-solving ability and leadership tendencies within a team.



07.

Reliability:

Being reliable in the workplace means that you are trustworthy, consistent in performance or behavior, and can be counted on to follow through on work tasks in a timely manner.



08.

Strong work ethic:

Good work ethic means consistently committing to doing your best on the job. It reflects dedication, responsibility and a positive attitude toward your tasks. Demonstrating a strong work ethic not only helps you perform better but also strengthens relationships with colleagues and enhances the company's image.



Parent feedback welcome. If you have engaged with the Careers Team and would like to provide some positive or developmental feedback please email feedback@mket.org.uk

We welcome input from parents and hope to offer a supportive service to our students across both campuses.

Firefly has been updated with Careers information for Students, Parents and Teachers. You can find out more via the links below.

Students – Firefly click [here](#)

Parents – Firefly click [here](#)

Teacher – Firefly click [here](#)

Upcoming events Summer Term

Year 10 Work Experience: All Year 10 students have the opportunity to find a work experience placement during the allocated week for their campus below are the dates:



If any students need support please ask them to come to the career's office.

Here is a video to explain how to upload a work experience placement to Unifrog - <https://cdn.unifrog.org/video/d1oea9nec6/480.mp4>

Career Workout – Speed Networking with employers – **Year 9 and Year 10 at both campuses.**

In May we will welcome Worktree to both campuses to run some speed networking sessions allowing our students to engage face to face with employers.

