

WORK EXPERIENCE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Does my child have to find their own placement?

Yes. The reason for this is because in doing so, students take ownership for their work experience and will gain independence/employability skills in the process.

What support is there to help my child find their placement?

We are here to give guidance as and when students need it. Students can access a template to help them structure their email to employers. They can come along to the Library on Tuesdays or Thursdays break 2, where the computer area at the back of the Library is dedicated for use by Year 10 to work on finding work experience. Mrs Yeomans will be available during these sessions, but is also able to offer guidance Monday-Friday before and after school.

What is the £20 voluntary contribution Parents are being asked to give for?

Unfortunately, specific funding to support Key Stage 4 work experience programmes in schools was removed by the Government and the cost of Work Experience is £50.00 per student (the cost of conducting statutory Health & Safety/Insurance checks by a professionally qualified assessor). We therefore request a voluntary contribution of £20.00 towards the £50.00 cost of the programme for any student wishing to partake in Work Experience and Hele's School will pay the remainder. If there are extenuating circumstances where Work Experience is cancelled due to Government restrictions we will refund any parent contributions.

If your child is eligible for Free School Meals, there may be the opportunity to apply for some financial support towards the cost. Please contact Mrs C Hamblin, Finance Officer, on (01752) 337193 to find out what funds are available.

Can my child go on a placement in another area of the UK?

From time to time we do have students who go on placement out of our local area, usually sourced via a family member who lives/works in a different part of the country. So this is possible, but may incur additional costs for Health & Safety checks. Parents/carers will be responsible for any travel/accommodation arrangements required. Please speak to Mrs Yeomans if this is something your child is considering.

Can my child go on a placement during a different week?

As a rule, no. The reason is that in June 2023, students will be having their Mock exams, so it is important that they do not miss any vital learning in the classroom. However, certain organisations, such as Peninsula School of Medicine & Dentistry, run their work experience programme on weeks that do not match with our work experience week. In these circumstances, Mrs Clapham will make the decision as to whether the student can undertake work experience at a different time. Such requests should be made in writing (by email) to Mrs Yeomans in the first instance.