



October 2024

Dear Parent & Guardian

Headteacher - Patrick Earnshaw  
Deputy Headteacher - Mathew Downs

## Work Experience Programme Monday 14<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

We are delighted to be able to provide your child with the opportunity to participate in the Year 10 Work Experience programme. Please find enclosed an information leaflet outlining the procedures regarding Work Experience that will help your child prepare effectively for their placement.

Work Experience is a valuable learning experience for all students, regardless of ability and aspiration: almost all young people will enter employment during their adult life and a meaningful work experience can help influence their career direction. For those students who are at risk of disengaging from the normal curriculum, Work Experience can help them to take responsibility, improve their self-esteem and often improve attendance.

All placements are risk assessed. This is a service provided by Changing Education. Students can only attend placements once they have been satisfactorily checked and approved. Once students have a confirmed placement they must upload the details onto the 'connected – changing education' app (students should have downloaded this and activated using QR code available from tutor, Mrs Bower, Mr Hallam).

There is a significant cost to the school for providing this provision, unfortunately, the free provision of a Work Experience programme for Year 10 is unachievable. Whilst we will continue to subsidise the programme, we need the continued support of parents and are asking for a payment of £20 per placement towards the cost. *The school will fund any Pupil Premium student and/or any student in receipt of free school meals.*

The decision to charge for the Work Experience Programme was not taken lightly, but it is excellent value for money, in terms of the wide-ranging benefits that it can bring.

Payments should be made using the school's on-line WisePay facility. *Please note:* Payment must be made on WisePay, and the student's placement confirmed **before** returning the attached medical consent form. Duplicate copies can be found on your child's MyHighcliffe.

To allow students to secure a placement in good time, access to the placements (Dorset and Hampshire) is now available. If you have any queries, Mrs Bower, has many years of experience in relation to work experience placements

Please support the school and your child to help make this a memorable, valuable, learning experience.

Yours faithfully

Mr P Earnshaw  
Headteacher

Mr S Hallam  
Director of Learning

Mr J Holmes  
Head of Achievement Year 10

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