

15 January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 10 Work Experience Monday 8 – Friday 19 July 2024

I write to inform you that the school is committed to providing your son/ward with ten days of work experience in Year 10 from **Monday 8 July to Friday 19 July 2024**. Work experience or placements have been proven to be a valuable motivational tool in helping to raising academic standards. One of two things happen: first, students enjoy the experience and, as a result, become more focused in their studies; or, second, students dislike their placement so much that they work harder at school to not end up in that type of job. From a school perspective, it is a win-win situation.

The Best Work Experience

Our evidence shows that the best work placements are those found by the student. These are called “own finds”. These “own find” placements are usually in an employment sector which the student has a real interest. In some cases, “own finds” may be linked to an employment sector of a family member or friend. Whatever the link, students are strongly encouraged to make an “own find”.

Tip: this is not about choosing a career pathway - it's about choosing a work experience.

Each year, a number of students are unable to find their own placement; in these cases, young people will be allocated places based on their responses within the Skills Audit (sent by email to your son/ward). Given this fact, it is important that all students reflect on where they are now as well as the direction in which they want to go before they complete and hand-in the Skills Audit.

Deadlines

The deadline for “own finds” is 12.00pm on **Monday 19 February 2024**. After this date, any student unable to find their own work placement will be allocated a placement by the school (subject to availability).

Costs

Work experience is free. The only cost involved will be if any student either fails to complete their “own find”/allocated placement (£65.00) or requests a change of placement (£40.00). These are standard charges and cover our internal administration costs which includes investigating insurance as well as designing contracts and job descriptions.

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Wide Work Placement Offers

Some parents/carers are self-employed or already work in establishments which accept school work placements. If this is the case, or you can offer one or more place, I would greatly appreciate if you could contact Jayne Spink with details of the company and the contact person.

Frequently Asked Questions

WHAT DOES MY SON/WARD DO NEXT?

1. Investigate work experience opportunities with friends and family.
2. Secure a work experience placement.
3. Hand-in the "own find" form to Mrs Spink if he has found a placement.

CAN MY SON/WARD WORK IN THE FAMILY BUSINESS?

Yes, but only if the family business is sizeable and has an ELI.

CAN MY SON/WARD RECEIVE SOME CAREERS AND EMPLOYMENT ADVICE, INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE (CEIAG)?

Yes, we will be targeting individuals towards the Summer Term. If your son/ward is keen to have a one-to-one interview about their future work prospects, request an interview through Mrs Spink (see below).

Please return all "own find" forms via to the main school reception or via email to Mrs Spink (jspink@isleworthsyon.org) before 12.00pm on **Monday 19 February 2024**.

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully,



Mr M Adams
Careers Leader

