



Barr Beacon School
www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk

Ref:KH/gk/CareersAdviceParentCarerLetter/Year12

6th October 2026

Year 12 Work Experience Week
Monday 12th to Friday 16th July 2027

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to keep you informed of the career support available to your child in the Sixth Form, and to launch our Year 12 Work Experience week.

Work experience has long been recognised as one of the best ways to help young people prepare for the world of work. It can help students to get a taste of the workplace, expand their networks and gain transferable skills to support their future university or apprenticeship applications.

Year 12 Work Experience Week will be taking place on Monday 12th to Friday 16th July 2027. We are making you aware of these dates now, as students must start approaching employers early in order to secure a valuable placement. Work Experience is compulsory for all students and, although students are responsible for finding their own placements, the school will give students advice and offer additional support where needed.

It is important to keep in mind that:

- Employers must have Employer's Liability Insurance and health and safety procedures in place.
- Students must not work after 10.00pm or before 7.00am and must not work for more than 8 hours a day.
- Students must have a 30 minute break for any shift lasting more than 4.5 hours and must have at least 12 hours off between each working day.

When your child has secured their placement, please complete this [Parent/Carer Form](#) and your child will need to ask their employer to complete the [Employer Form](#). **The deadline to complete these forms is Thursday 25th March 2027.** Both forms must be completed or the placement will not be able to go ahead.

We will prepare students for their placement in the summer term and school staff will visit students during their placement (or make contact where a visit isn't possible) to ensure everything is going well.

Further Careers Support

Our Year 12 students have had a busy term settling into Sixth Form, beginning with their Transition Day at Aston University. We have also offered a number of guidance sessions in school to prepare students for the next stage of their career journey, as it is important to start thinking about this early.



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This has included:

- encouraging students to apply for work experience early
- talking to students about the value of extra and [super-curricular](#) activities to build up a strong CV and personal statement
- a visit from Aberystwyth University with an engaging assembly on Choosing Courses and Universities
- providing students with a directory of useful resources in our [Careers Guidance Handbook](#)
- launching a 'Careers Padlet' (the link to this can be found in student's school inboxes). This is an online compendium of optional opportunities students can engage with to explore their next steps choices and prepare for their future applications. This will be updated regularly as new opportunities arise.

More events will take place throughout Year 12 and into Year 13.

Widening Participation Programmes

We have also been advertising widening participation programmes. There are a number of programmes run by local charities, businesses and universities that help disadvantaged Year 12 students to explore their options, expand their networks and gain valuable experiences for their CVs and applications. In some cases, these opportunities can lower entry requirements for certain courses and universities.

Although the eligibility varies for each opportunity, they are often based on criteria such as low household income, living in an area with low progression to university, caring responsibilities, students with no parental experience of university, and children in care. However, as the criteria varies, they are worth checking with your child. Some fantastic opportunities include:

- [The Sutton Trust](#)
- [Social Mobility Foundation](#)
- [Pathways to Birmingham](#)
- [EY Smart Futures](#)

Please contact the Sixth Form Office if you would like more information.

Yours sincerely



Mrs K Hibbs
Headteacher



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