



Letter from the Editor

It has been a busy term for careers here at The Warwick School. The Year 11s have all submitted college applications, we have had a number of careers events across all years, and I have started to work with Year 9 on their option choices. I hope that you enjoy reading this issue of Fast Forward!

Mrs Pearce

Careers Diary

What careers activities have taken place this term?

Summer Holiday

Year 10 Imperial College Science Summer School
Year 11 Work Experience
Year 11 NCS The Challenge

Sept/October

Year 10 Surrey Opportunities Fair
Year 11 College Open Days

November

10th Nov **Year 11** Lunchtime talk on sports scholarships to universities in the USA
 11th Nov **Year 8** Teentech Science Activity
 11th Nov **Year 11** Apprenticeship talk
 16th Nov **Year 11** Mock Interviews Exercise
 24th Nov **Year 8** Numeracy Event Lingfield Park Racecourse
 30 Nov **Year 9** St.Hildas College Oxford talk on university

December

3 Dec **Year 9** Surrey Skills Fair Careers Event
 11 Dec **Year 11** interviews for RYLA Youth Leadership Scheme

What is coming up next term?

Spring Term

18th—22nd Jan **Year 9** Option assemblies
 Thurs 28th Jan **Year 9** Options Evening
 2nd-4th Feb **Year 9 & Year 10** Opportunities Week
 First week of Easter Holidays—RYLA Youth Leadership Scheme
 All term **Years 9, 10 and 11** Weekly Careers Drop-in Sessions (see below)

Careers Drop in Sessions

Where: Careers Portakabin
When: Tues, Wed & Thurs lunchtime
Help with:

- Choosing GCSE and post 16 options
- Exploring future career options
- CV writing and letters of application



Focus on the Alumni

Ben Gosling



Ben left The Warwick School 13 years ago and regularly comes back to the school to help with careers events. He currently works as a Project Designer for a large roofing company called Briggs Amasco.

What does his job involve?

Ben produces 2D & 3D detail drawings for constructing buildings such as schools / universities, hospitals, and shopping centres. He has responsibility to ensure that the roofing design proposed is physically possible to build, will work on site, and will keep the building watertight. He is also involved in co-ordinating the design with other trades by going to various design meetings on site and carries out site inspections of all work, to make sure that all details are being followed and being built correctly.

What has been his career path to his current role?

After The Warwick School Ben attended Hadlow College in Kent as (at that point) he thought he would like to get into Countryside & Fishery management and this college ran a specialist course in the area. After 2 years study he obtained a BTEC diploma but decided that this career was not for him after all. Instead he got a part time job in a local music store. Whilst he enjoyed this work Ben could see that there were limited opportunities for progression. In his search for a career area with more opportunities he decided to apply to work in construction industry. His first job was with a local roofing company called Prater who he chose as they have a reputation for providing lots of training and developing their staff. They paid for him to go to College and helped him gain lots of experience. After Prater Ben worked for a few other construction companies to help build on his experience, and for the past 3 years has worked for Briggs Amasco. Amasco are keen to train their staff and to develop their skills. Ben loves working there and is looking forward to progressing his career further.



After Year 11—What Next?

It is now a requirement that all students must stay in education or employment and training (apprenticeships) until they are 18. Here is a list of where students from last years Year 11 moved on to:

Apprenticeship	5	Brooklands College	1
Reigate College	67	Central Sussex College	1
East Surrey College	49	ACM	1
Nescot	1	Lewes Sixth Form	1
Ifield Community College	1	Tunbridge College	1

Employability Skills—What are they and why focus on them?

Employability skills demonstrate to a future employer that you would be a good person to employ. Along with getting good results in your exams at school, being able to demonstrate these skills is extremely important in order to secure future employment, apprenticeships, college and university places. There are 5 key skills that employers like to see. The following table lists these and gives examples of how you can build these whilst you are at school.

Teamwork	e.g. Playing sports, team projects, group work for subjects, drama groups etc
Communication Skills	e.g Presentations, mixing well with people of all ages, voluntary work, written communications such as letter writing
Reliability	E.g Full attendance at school, positions of trust such as prefect, good timekeeping, voluntary work, part-time work etc.
Responsibility	Do you baby-sit, have a part time job, have you helped out in school or organised an event, etc?
Organisational Skills	Balancing social life with school, organising a coursework timetable, organising events out of school etc.

Work Experience

As you move towards the higher years of the school you can look to 'practise' the employability skills that you have built in a work environment. In the post GCSE summer last year some of our Year 11s chose to do this through work experience. An ex-Warwick School student, Blessing Oladipo, worked at a local Public Relations company. Here is her story:

My work experience here at 'Famous Publicity' has been great! Through this work experience I had the chance to learn more about PR and how to develop myself as a person. This work experience made me realise that even the tiniest bits of detail or the things that may appear insignificant all count to make a successful project. During my stay here I also learnt how to relate with my fellow colleagues and what terms to use whilst talking about the project, this really enriched my vocabulary and added to my knowledge.

I have been working on various things whilst I was here, but the biggest project I worked on was directly related with an event called 'The Rubik's Cube World Championship'. My job in this case involved putting together a report on this event; I had to search for national and international newspapers, news sites, blogs and multimedia companies that published articles that had to do with this event. To speed up the job, I was taught how to use specific software such as Meltwater and PR Newswire Agility. Apart from using Google to carry out the research, I also used Twitter as one of my search engines to search for things such as media highlights and measure statistics which was quite good.

In conclusion, this work experience has been really helpful for me as I was able to learn more about PR and what it actually involves. The people in the office have been very good and patient with me, which really helped me to be very productive because I was able to communicate with them and relate with them about the work, so if I had any questions they were always there to help.



Interview with the Alumni

We hear from two ex-Warwick students who are currently in Year 13 at our partner Sixth Form College, Reigate College



Shayde Brown **Ellie Rolfe**

What subjects are you studying now?

Shayde: *I am currently studying A-Level Maths, Chemistry and French but I'm also taking an extra AS in Further Maths as well as an EPQ project. Last year I also took AS Business Studies and AS Critical Thinking.*

Ellie: *I am currently studying Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Further Maths AS and I have just finished my EPQ.*

What college activities are you involved with outside of lessons?

Shayde: *I am the Charity Officer as part of the Student's Union at the college and I recently took part in the Senior Maths Challenge.*

Ellie: *Last year a I did fencing for a bit at college during lunchtimes which was fun even though I wasn't very good! I also took part in self-defence for a while which was also really fun. I haven't had as much time this year to do many extra-curricular things as I have quite a lot of work and also have a part time job outside college.*

How did you find moving from school to college?

Shayde: *There is obviously a massive step in the work load but I have loved being given more independence and I feel more like an adult. Also, I love the fact that I am able to specialise in only a few subjects that I love.*

Ellie: *In the transition from Warwick to Reigate, one of the main things I found quite shocking was how much more independent you need to be and how much work you are expected to do outside of your lessons. It was also difficult coming from a close school environment into a place where I didn't know many people, but you can quickly make new friends which is really nice.*

What do you plan to do next?

Shayde: *I would like to go to university in the USA but if I stay in the UK, I am going to study French at university. I have received offers from all of my university choices. For my future career, ever since studying Catering at The Warwick School, I have wanted to be a patisserie chef (possibly in France) and this hasn't changed since coming to college.*

Ellie: *After college, I am hoping to study chemistry at university. I've recently had an interview at Cambridge which was an amazing experience, so it's fingers crossed now! I don't have any real clear career aspirations at the moment but I know I would like to work in something in science.*

