

Informative and inspiring evening at DHS year 11 Careers Fair

On Monday 24th September DHS held a Careers Fair for all year 11 students and their parents/carers. This was a vital opportunity for them to find out about post 16 options and begin to think about which path they will take. There are a wide variety of employers, colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship schemes for the students and their parents/carers to speak to. With over 30 exhibitors the fair offers a comprehensive view of the options available post 16 and the differing requirements needed to take them. This arms our students with the knowledge needed to begin to make the all-important decisions about which path they want to choose and what they need to achieve to pursue that path.



The atmosphere was buzzing and the turnout was excellent with the majority of year 11 students attending. Following a welcome and introduction from Karen Jefford, Careers Leader, and a short talk about apprenticeships from WSCC with a former student in the main hall, there was plenty of time for the students to visit all the stalls.



As the students moved around employers such as Carpenter Box (accountancy), Littlehampton Leisure Centre, HMRC, Richard John Academy (hairdressers) and Steve Willis Training (construction) they were able to find out exactly what was required to pursue a career in that area. The team from Ricardo explained that they were there to show students the different routes to becoming an engineer, as it is not just via university.

We were also joined by 5 colleges and 8 sixth forms to speak with students about post 16 qualifications. There was also career advice and guidance available from the DHS careers team, National Citizens Volunteering.

There were some familiar faces, as we were joined by former DHS students, including Benjamin Marshall, now an apprenticeship in Town Planning and former Head Boy Alastair Lee, there as part of Worthing College's team who said 'it's strange to be back but good, I'm really enjoying my course at Worthing College.'



Karen Jefford, Careers Leader at DHS explains, 'this event is vital to students at this stage in their schooling. As they begin year 11 they need to be thinking about what is next for them. Applications for colleges need to be in before the end of this term and so it is really important our students get a full picture of what post 16 education can look like so they can make an informed decision.'

The year 11 students were really encouraged by the event saying, 'it has made me think about next year, and feel excited about it' and 'it was really good to see so many options.'

Many thanks to the careers team for organising such a fantastic and worthwhile event. We were also grateful to have younger students from DHS at the event to help with welcoming and sign in, and keeping the exhibitors fuelled with refreshments.

