

July 2025

# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

GORDANO SCHOOL CAREERS NEWSLETTER

***DREAM BIG***

July 2025

**SPECIAL  
EDITION**

## End of Year Special Edition:

A celebration of the Year 10  
Employability Programme plus a  
review of Year 12 Futures Week.



## Year 10 Employability Programme and Work Experience

Throughout the year the Careers Team run the Employability programme for Year 10 students focussing on:

- Job roles
- Job adverts
- CV's
- Mock Interviews
- Work Experience

Students choose a job role and then look at the specification for that role. They then learn about creating a CV and make one for themselves using the CV Builder on Unifrog.

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The CV's are then used by students in their Mock Interview. We invite a wide range of employers from the local area to spend all or part of the day with us interviewing the students. Every year our students exceed themselves and employers leave incredibly impressed by the thoughtful answers and mature attitude of our students. Students who impress the most "Get the Job" and are awarded a prestigious Gordano School pen. All students get useful employer feedback.

## Work Experience

The employability programme culminates in our **Year 10 Work Experience Week**, which takes place the first week in July.

This year practically all the 380 students in year 10 found a placement. As well as locally, students found placements across the country, from London and Surrey, to Norwich, Wales, Devon, Matlock and Gloucestershire.

Staff visited or phoned as many students and employers as possible throughout the week and thoroughly enjoyed seeing and hearing about these student work places.

One parent commented: *‘Thank you for keeping this in the curriculum. It is invaluable, not just so kids can work out what they want to do or what they don’t want to do in my child’s case, but for the independence it gives them, for the real-world experience of routine and what a work day can be like, for the accountability and the opportunity to meet other people and as an opportunity to start to build a CV.’*



## Preparing for Next Year

### Current Year 9 Parents and Students:

Work Experience will be 29 June – 3 July 2026. You need to start to plan for work experience **NOW** –never under-estimate how long it can take to secure a suitable placement. We have already sent some information through to parents about starting to plan for work experience and you can find more information here: [Parents – LSP Careers](#)

## Futures Week – Year 12

The aim of Futures Week is to start preparing Year 12 students for the big decisions they need to make when they are in Year 13. A lot of this week is focussed around preparing for their Post 18 pathways, how to research degree courses and UCAS personal statement writing; as well as providing informative workshops on employability and apprenticeships. This year we added in the opportunity for the students to have a Mock Interview with a local employer. We also included a Community Action day and then students secured work experience for the final two days.

### Day 1

Students selected from a range of workshops centred around Universities, UCAS and Personal Statements. We also offered 'how to prepare for an Assessment Centre', run by representatives from Babcock Engineering, which was useful for those applying for apprenticeships. Aspens also ran a workshop on "Cooking on a Budget"



### Day 2

We invited a number of Universities to run workshops covering everything from Portfolios, Auditions and Interviews to Resilience and Wellbeing. We were also pleased to welcome Coreus and Jess Shakli, a Gordano School Alumni, who now works for the Civil Service, to give some employer talks.

In the afternoon students attended their mock interview. We were delighted to have a number of local employers and very grateful that they allowed their staff to take part with this event. The employers engaged thoroughly with our students and were highly impressed with their interview skills.

### Day 3

This was a Community Action/support activity day. We were delighted to work with Turn the Tide in Portishead to undertake a litter pick around the town, Harbour area and Lake Grounds. Turn the Tide provided all of the equipment for this activity including grab sticks and Hi-viz vests. The teams filled an industrial rubbish bin with the amount of litter we picked up and seemed to enjoy taking part in an activity which benefited the whole community.

A special thank you to Portishead Marina Boatfolk for kindly taking away all our waste that was collected by the students at this location.



## Parents We Need You: Could you get involved with Careers Events at Gordano School?

We are always looking for companies and individuals to work with us to support our students to find out more about careers, employability and the workplace. We have a range of different events that we always need help with, from Teatime Networking and Careers Spotlights to Mock Interviews and working on careers projects within curriculum subjects. This is your opportunity to influence our future workforce and perhaps assist your future recruitment plans. If you feel that you would like to be involved with any of these opportunities in your professional capacity, please contact [careers@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:careers@gordanoschool.org.uk)



### **The Careers Team -Who's who?**

Mrs Fairs – Strategic Lead for Careers

Mrs Van Den Eekhaute-Jones – Teacher Lead for Careers

Mrs Gardiner – Careers Adviser

Ms Jones – Careers Adviser

Contact [careers@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:careers@gordanoschool.org.uk) to discuss how you could support careers pathways for our young people.



All students in Years 7 – 13 have a Unifrog log-in  
Students can email [careers@gordanoschool.org.uk](mailto:careers@gordanoschool.org.uk) if their log-in needs renewing.  
Parent login: **GDSCPARENTS**

### **How can Unifrog help me?**

- Explore what subjects you would be interested in studying Post 16/18
- Explore different job profiles.
- Explore universities/apprenticeship opportunities.
- Discover and sign up for online courses
- Record all your key activities and achievements

[www.unifrog.org](http://www.unifrog.org)