FEARNHILL SCHOOL

Careerfile

- Issue 65 16th November 2026



Year 11 16+ Options

The Year 11 students have a lot of information being given to them at the moment and it can all feel very overwhelming. The important thing is for them to talk to me and their tutors or trusted member of staff if they have any concerns regarding their future choices or mental health. Year 11 will soon be involved in a 'Next Steps Post 16' day where they will be further investigating their post-16 choices in order to make their applications for courses as soon as they open.

In the meantime, students attended an assembly before half term where we went through the options available and decisions to be made. The slides with all links and useful information is on the Year 11 google classroom. Some questions to be asking yourself are listed here:

- What type of course does each establishment offer? Is it for you
- Attend open evenings to find out more about the course. If you don't go - you'll never know...
- What are the entry requirements? Find these in course explanation on establishment website...
- What grades are needed for what course level?
- Apply for everything to keep your options open!
- Once applications have been made - check emails regularly. Failure to attend an interview/taster day will jeopardise your place.
- Reference requests must be forwarded to form tutors to complete
- It's your future - your choice - your life... choose wisely!

Ms Balchin, Careers Lead

CALLING ALL FORMER FEARNHILL STUDENTS...

WE NEED YOU!



Ms Balchin, our Head of Careers, would love former students to share their career stories to inspire our students.

It doesn't matter what your journey has been since leaving school - bank manager or basketball player, barista or barrister - come and let our students talk to you about your career path.

If you would like more information on how you can be involved in our Careers event on Friday 12th March 2027, please email:

admin@fearnhill.herts.sch.uk

International Men's Day

November 19

Celebrated annually across 80+ countries worldwide to recognise the positive value men bring to their families, communities, and society.

Year 11 French Speaking Mock Exam

November 20

Year 11 Mocks End

(whole Yr grp - still some subjects)

November 23 — **Year 11 Art & 3D Design Mock Exam** — November 26

Year 13 Mocks End

November 27

Post 18 Information Evening

On Thursday 15th October our Sixth Form Pastoral Evening was held here at Fearnhill. Feedback from the evening ranged from 'good' to 'excellent!' Here's what the attendees had to say:

"I have a better idea of subjects I'd want to take for A levels."
"I learnt about subjects I am interested in."
"I learnt what the courses entail."
"I enjoyed finding out about the different subjects."
"I enjoyed the taster sessions."
"We were told what we would learn in 6th form."
"The majority of questions were answered and there is a better understanding of A-levels offered."
"I can't think of anything needing to be improved for next year."
"The sessions made me look forward to picking the subjects."
"It was fun and enjoyable."
"It was really beneficial, a visual experience of what will come up."

Parent/Carer Feedback

"The advice and information given was very useful."
"The taster sessions were very good with Mrs Brownjohn."
"The availability of teachers and current A Level students to provide the different course overviews and perspectives on the reality of studying was excellent."
"Mr Fowler, as a passionate and knowledgeable teacher, always represents a very good value ambassador for the school and his subject!"
"It was very useful."

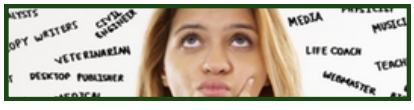
Thank you to Mrs Chilton and Mrs Mackrell for an informative and productive event!

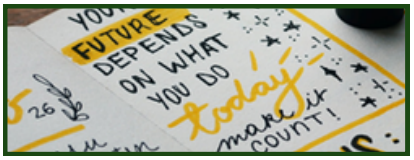
The value of gaining work experience...

"Dexter worked from home, independently, researching potential clients and contacting small businesses to build their websites. He spent time working on this during the summer holidays, generally between 9am-5pm. He spent hours researching small businesses that might benefit from having a website designed or improved. He then cold-called these businesses to introduce himself, explain what he could offer and try to secure clients. He put a lot of time and effort into finding businesses to contact and making calls, determined to get his business off the ground. I'm really proud of the effort Dexter put into this and how determined he was. He was very nervous about cold-calling strangers, but he was determined to find clients and make a success of it. Having done this myself in my 20s, I remember how excruciatingly nerve-racking it can be to pick up the phone and call people you don't know! Despite his nerves, Dexter pushed himself outside his comfort zone, speaking to businesses and putting himself out there.

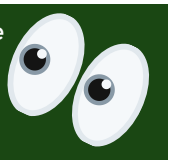
I think it was a really positive and productive use of his time during the summer holidays. As well as working hard on his website design idea, he spent time thinking about other entrepreneurial ideas and exploring different ways he could start a business. It was great to see him using his initiative, being creative and thinking about how he could turn his ideas into something real. The experience helped him develop his confidence and resilience."

Parent of Dexter 8P





Look out every issue for new features - all things career related!



Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

Services for Young People

X (was Twitter)
@HCCSfYP

LinkedIn
Services for Young People

Telephone
0300 123 7538

Facebook
Services for Young People

YouTube
@servicesforyoungpeople

Email
sfyp@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Instagram
@hccsfyp

Website
www.servicesforyoungpeople.org

Contact us or follow us on social media

Year 9 Future Ready Programme

On Thursday 15th October, our Year 9 Future Ready students had a visit from a local company, Morgan Sindall and took part in an 'Escape Room' Workshop Activity.

Students were set a series of challenges that unlocked the next level upon successful completion of each 'clue'. They raced against other teams to unlock the clues and break the 'code' of the final station, which will tested their listening and observation skills. Each clue and activity was designed around repairs, planning, customer service, salaries and job roles in the Construction sector.

Students will be asked to evaluate their performances at the end of the task, as well as receiving employer feedback throughout the workshop.

This challenge is modelled on an 'assessment centre' task and required students to engage heavily in teamwork and active listening. This workshop is very immersive and hands-on.



"We did a matching game and made a Square with bricks, which was difficult. I now might think about looking into bricklaying!"

"It was good taking part in the activity and seeing about the industries. It helped me learn about the salaries and tools. It might make me want to do research in the future."

"It was interesting to meet new people and work as part of a team. I found it difficult asking questions. It made me think about what I want to study."

"It wasn't easy staying focused throughout! I discovered I'm good at organising."



"I realised I enjoy helping people."

"We learnt how much money bricklayers make and talked to real professionals. I'm more interested in this career now and want to research it more."

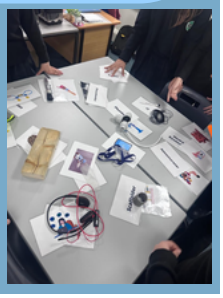


"We learnt about different jobs, their salaries, seeing how the workplace runs and meeting new people. It made me think about what I want to study. I learned I like working with technology. It showed me strengths I didn't know I had. I want to research this career more. I'm now considering an apprenticeship. I want to volunteer to get more experience."

"Reorganising the bricks to fit a certain pattern was interesting. It was hard matching the job to the description and salary. It gave us a better understanding of things that happen in the real world-like taxes could be linked to maths and apprenticeships so we can think about the future and what we want to do when we're older."

"It was difficult building a square with the wrong amount of bricks. I'd like to do more work experience and develop my communication skills."

"It showed my strengths working with a team, listening and communicating."



"I discovered I'm good at organising. I'm going to choose subjects that help me get into this field."

"The game/race we had to play was the best bit!"

Special Mention - November



Thomas 10G's ambition to become a professional cricketer is well on the way to becoming a reality, what with his selection for County and the tour to India! Talent, practice, persistence and dedication has got Thomas where he is today. However, he knows it is always necessary to have a back up plan to avoid disappointment should the dream career in sport not come true and he is keeping his options open as to what his choices after Year 11 might look like.
Very proud of you Thomas - such a great role model for others to follow.

"Our key word for the tour was EMBRACE . it included things like memories . being responsible . enjoying the opportunity we had . I think I definitely did that and loved every moment of the tour. We flew back home on the 30th . and I left feeling like the opportunity I had . I used in the best way possible. I hope that one day I can tour India again to play cricket professionally. The Mumbai cricket tour 2026 was amazing." ~ Thomas

Key Word/Phrase of the Fortnight



Career of the Month - November

Year 7 - Headteacher
Year 8 - Supply Chain Manager
Year 9 - Osteopath
Year 10 - IT Support Technician
Year 11 - Lighting Technician
Year 12 - Activist
Year 13 - Tax Adviser

Spotlight On

A unifrog series
SPOTLIGHT ON

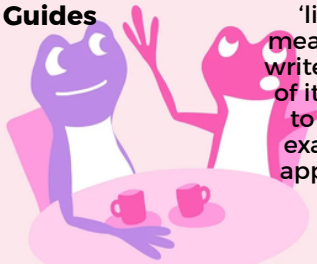
Scan to learn more & connect with this employer
Just make sure you're signed into Unifrog first!

RHS
The UK's leading gardening charity





Unifrog Student Guides



Find out what 'listening' means, how to write examples of it, and how to use your examples in applications.

Skills (Accessible)

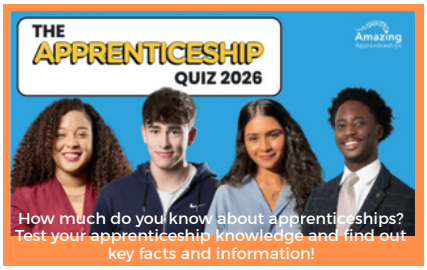
Apprenticeships

Meet the Apprentice



the apprenticeship guide







Work Wise
Supporting Apprentices to Succeed



BBC Apprenticeships 2027 are now open !

Meet the Employer

Foodmakers and shopkeepers, making good things happen together! Corporate, Retail, Logistics and Manufacturing. All of which are crafted to help you develop, by taking responsibility for people and projects.

Morrisons

Meet Morrisons Early Careers



Search and Apply for Apprenticeships

Amazing Apprenticeships

Looking for apprenticeships for school leavers? Level up your career today by using the filters to narrow down your job search and apply for roles.







Apprenticeship FAQs

Become part of this ground-breaking sector and help preserve energy for future generations with an energy apprenticeship

Any questions please contact us.

Energy Apprenticeships

Healthcare

Real Med Students.
Real Journeys.
Real Success Stories.

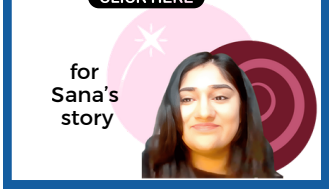
Medic Mentor



for Daniek's story

Dental Mentor

CLICK HERE



for Sana's story

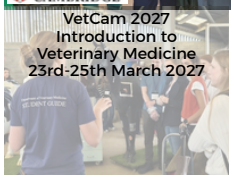














External Opportunities

Students are advised to check their school email accounts weekly, if not daily! Careers information and opportunities are sent regularly and we wouldn't want them to miss the deadlines. These are copied to parents/carers as well for reference. A few of these opportunities are listed here.











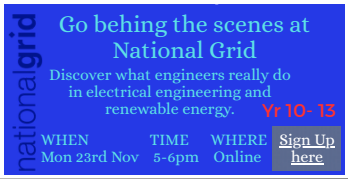
















College Open Events

North Herts College
3rd March 2027
28th April 2027
9th June 2027

Central Beds College
21st November 2026

Herts Regional College
24th November 2026

CRE8
Stevenage - 7th December

Bedford College
30th January 2027

Insight into University Residential Experience
Yr 12 2026/27