



Sandwell Academy



Employers' Newsletter ~ Issue 1 ~ November 2020

Circulated to over 300 businesses across the region

Some of the companies and roles that Sandwell Academy Alumni have gone on to work for are:

API Global, Hong Kong

Senior Investment Consultant

BMW

Quality Technician Apprentice
Human Marketing Executive

Capgemini

Software Engineer

Dains LLP

Commercial Services Trainee

Eversheds Sutherland

Legal Secretary

4MySchools Recruitment Agency

Education Recruitment Specialist

Moog Aircraft Group

Engineering team Leader

Sandwell Academy

Deputy Inclusion Manager
Teacher of Maths
Teacher of Performing Arts
Teacher of English
Teaching Assistant/Fitness Suite Supervisor

Secure Trust Bank

Financial Business Analyst

Senior Aerospace BWT

Project Manager

TSB

Bank Manager

West Bromwich Albion FC

Professional Footballer

West Midlands Police

Contact Officer

Message from the Careers Team

Since the new academic year began, the Careers team and the students have been getting used to the new way of working and the virtual world. Students are attending university open days online and we are planning virtual talks from businesses, such as HSBC, Capgemini, Talbots Law and the NHS for students interested in apprenticeships and the working world. Students have also been completing their UCAS applications, with virtual personal statement workshops from Newman University and also directly linking with Staffordshire University and Coventry University.

The Careers Team are still planning to hold the next Employer Breakfast and the date for this is Wednesday 13 January 2021 at 7.30am – 9.00am, and we are hoping this will be face to face. Please save the date and further details will be sent out in due course.

Year 13 student awarded prize for University of Oxford essay writing competition



Year 13 student Katie Bevan has been awarded the runner up in the Brearley Essay Prize, which is hosted by the Stubbs Society of the University of Oxford, for her essay on feminist foreign intervention. The Stubbs Society is the University's oldest and most illustrious forum for scholarships in international history, grand strategy and foreign affairs.

Unfortunately, because of Covid-19 restrictions, Katie will not be able to visit the University of Oxford, which was part of the runner up prize, but instead met with the panel of judges virtually last week. Katie has also received a certificate and a book voucher.

After attending the virtual meeting with the judges Katie said, "It was really interesting speaking to the panel, the winner and other runner up. The President of the Society said that the panel were 'fundamentally impressed with my essay'."

Katie's PT, Miss Toure said, "Katie works tirelessly on her studies, is very motivated by her lessons and she is currently completing her UCAS application to move on to higher education next year".

Congratulations Katie and good luck with your UCAS application!

Virtual Work Experience During Lockdown

During lockdown, some of our students took up the fantastic offers of virtual work experience from companies such as Spotify, Mediacom, Young Academies, Brighton & Sussex Medical School, PwC, Glen Howells Architect and Johnson Matthey. These were great opportunities for students to find out more about different types of businesses by attending online workshops and taking part in projects and assignments with other students from across the country.



Year 13 students Tamara Mpofu-Manyanda and Lena Akhter both attended a virtual week at Spotify at the end of June. Both students worked in teams on a task of

advertising a Netflix movie on Spotify. This included online sessions learning about advertising on Spotify by using audio adverts and banner ads. At the end of the week the teams gave presentations on three advertising ideas and were judged by a panel from Spotify. Lena said, "It was a useful experience as I learnt how to target adverts and use data as well as the methods used to advertise the product".

Year 11 student Fife Olusanya had an amazing opportunity to attend a virtual week at Glenn Howells Architects who are based in Birmingham. Fife learnt about different aspects of architecture working in groups and individually on building plans for a five storey model which he made out of cardboard. Fife said, "It was a good experience learning about aspects of architecture and is definitely a career I am interested in when I leave school".

**Glenn Howells
Architects**

MEDIACOM

Malikah Muhammed in Year 13 attended a virtual insight day at Mediacom who are a leading media firm. Malikah took part in activities discussing marketing strategies and how and why they are effective. Malikah said, "It was really interesting to learn about marketing and to get an insight into the career I want to go into".

Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience with University Hospital Birmingham (UHB)



**University Hospitals
Birmingham**
NHS Foundation Trust

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital has partnered with Medic Mentor, the UK's largest medical family, to provide free, live virtual work experience to any student in the UK wanting to become a doctor, dentist or vet. This work experience programme is completely unique because unlike other virtual work experience programmes, it is live, using high fidelity simulation in the best state-of-the-art-simulation centre in the country, at the QE Hospital in Birmingham.

This is a fantastic opportunity and 34 of our students from Years 10, 11 and 12 have applied and been successfully accepted onto the programme where they will follow three patients over a 6-month period as they go from diagnosis, to treatment and follow up, that is provided by real doctors and a multidisciplinary team. UHB and Medic Mentor are committed to ensuring that students still have the opportunity to gain valuable insight into healthcare careers and high quality application support, even in these difficult times.

One of our Year 12 students who attended the launch said, "I really enjoyed the launch session, I thought it was very insightful and informative about the healthcare profession and I am excited for the rest of the programme".

Requests for Employer Support

If you are able to offer virtual work experience placements for students in Years 10 to Year 12, please get in touch with us to discuss further.

We are also still hoping to hold face to face work experience in the Summer of 2021 for Year 10 and Year 12 students. If you are able to provisionally offer a placement, please contact us for a request form. Due to the current pandemic, we will be contacting employers who have offered placements in the Spring Term with an update on how we are planning to move forward

We are also looking for speakers who can give virtual presentations to students about their career paths or opportunities, such as apprenticeships, that are available in their business.

If your company has any literature, resources or videos that we could use with students, such as virtual tours of your premises, case studies or job profiles, please get in touch.

If you can help with any of the above, please contact Clair Drummond, Employer Engagement Officer at cldrummond@sandwellacademy.com

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Social Media

We are on LinkedIn and Twitter!

Find out more about activities in the Careers Department by following us.

Twitter:
[@SandAcadCareers](https://twitter.com/SandAcadCareers)

LinkedIn:
www.linkedin.com/in/sandwell-academy-511780ba