



# Careers

Meaningful | Aspirational | Relevant



St Paul's  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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# Newsletter

Advent 1  
2025



Welcome to our termly newsletter, which gives us a chance to share all the exciting activities we have organised this term. When Red Bull came into school the careers team even got the chance to have a go at some of the activities.

This year we are making employability skills a feature of all our events. These are sometimes referred to as transferable or soft skills. We are trying to ensure pupils see the link between what they are learning at school and the skills employers value in the workplace.



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## Employability Skills

- S** Speaking & Listening 
- T** Team work 
- P** Problem Solving 
- A** Adaptability 
- U** Understanding 
- L** Leadership 
- 'S** Self Management 

»» Meaningful »» Aspirational »» Relevant



## In person Workouts

Employability Skills

### **S** Speaking & Listening

These events continue to be popular with both pupils and guests. It is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to become more confident speaking to people they don't know and by listening to the guests they gained valuable insight into challenges they face at work, how they got their job, how their career might change in the future and tips for getting a job.

Many pupils said the event sparked their curiosity about the world of work and that by talking face to face learned the value of networking.



Employability Skills

### **S** Speaking & Listening

## Broadening Horizons



In October and November Year 10 pupils had the opportunity to attend a Broadening Horizons session supported by members of our fantastic Alumni network, Bucks Fire and Rescue Service, and staff from Ringway. The aim of the session was to give pupils time to discuss job opportunities and routes into jobs with a range of guests from a variety of sectors and to make them aware of different roles within an organisation. We actively encouraged pupils to ask questions, listen carefully to the answers and then ask follow up questions to improve their understanding of the roles being discussed. We are running 2 more sessions in March for the remainder of year 10.





## Unifrog

Employability Skills

**S** Speaking & Listening

Employability Skills

**T** Team work

Employability Skills

**P** Problem Solving

Employability Skills

**A** Adaptability



unifrog

All pupils in years 7 and 8 are now logged onto Unifrog and we encourage them to use the platform regularly as it is a mine of information for all things career related. Especially about different routes into work. The yr 8 curriculum is to learn and explore different pathways. During the year 8 sessions pupils played a game of Careers Jenga. The pupils had to ask each other questions; good answers allowed them to take a block away. This was to develop their confidence when speaking to people they might not know very well and to successfully complete the activity they had to apply employability skills such as problem solving, teamwork and adaptability. We would like to remind parents that they can also log onto Unifrog at home.

The process for parent accounts have changed and we are working collaboratively with Unifrog on a relaunch for parents in the New Year. Please keep an eye on our socials and school website.

## Work Experience

Year 10 pupils will be completing their work experience in January and will have the opportunity to develop all the employability skills during their placement. This year the placement is for 2 weeks, which is certainly more of a challenge. However, many pupils have been very proactive, risen to the challenge and have found 2 one-week placements. With 280 students looking for two weeks' work experience, we are left with 7 placements still to source. The careers team have increased their WEX sessions in the library to help and guide students in a bid to make sure that every student has a meaningful work experience placement.

They will have a WEX booklet to complete and this will give them the opportunity to reflect on how they have been able to apply their employability skills in the workplace.

Following the launch last month of WEX for Year 12, they have thrown themselves into looking for placements, with many students keen to find places that align with their future aspirations such as apprenticeships. WEX sessions will begin after Christmas and resources have been shared with parents and students to help in the meantime.

If you or your company can help, then please contact [workexperience@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:workexperience@st-pauls.org.uk)

## I Work

Employability Skills

**S** Speaking & Listening

Employability Skills

**T** Team work

Employability Skills

**P** Problem Solving

This is a workshop we organise to help support and prepare pupils with EHCP's and SEN K in Year 10 for their WEX. During the workshop they participate in a Workout session as well as activities to improve interviewing skills and discuss risks and concerns around WEX.

We look forward to working with them again in February when they will have a chance to reflect on their WEX.



## Careers Fair

Employability Skills

**S** Speaking  
& Listening

Employability Skills

**U** Understanding

We held our annual Careers Fair on December 3rd and as always were so pleased by the number and variety of attendees. The event was open to all year 11, 12 and 13 pupils and we had a quieter session in the middle of the day to support our more vulnerable pupils. At the end of the day, we also welcomed in parents, and we hope they all gained a valuable insight into the pathways available to their children. We have noticed that because of previous events they have attended the older pupils are much more confident talking to people and seem to come to the Fair keen to find out about pathways available to them and opportunities locally. Below are pictures of Alumni who attended the event, but we also welcomed 8 different universities, staff from Gulliver's Land, FCDO and Network Rail to name just a few of the 30 exhibitors who attended.







## STEM X

Employability Skills

**S** Speaking & Listening

Employability Skills

**T** Team work

Employability Skills

**P** Problem Solving

STEM X is an educational program run by Oracle Red Bull Racing and Milton Keynes College, which uses Formula 1 to teach science, technology, engineering, and maths to children aged 9 – 14. It combines theoretical knowledge with practical application through activities like the 'Pit Stop' Challenge, STEM racing, and design challenges.

STEM X relates to the broader concept of STEM education and its vital role in developing critical skills, fostering innovation, and preparing students for high – demand careers. It fosters lifelong curiosity by developing persistence and adaptability.

It also encourages problem solving, creativity and communication skills that are essential in a rapidly evolving world and transferable across all aspects of life.

We were also selected to appear on **BBC Look East** to advertise the work the College and Red Bull are doing to promote STEM.



Feedback from Students

*'This is so cool'*

*'I was not aware that they had other departments with Red Bull, finance/ HR'*

*'I really like the pit stop as you really have to depend on communication and teamwork'*





## Alumni Network

We now have over 100 ex pupils actively involved in Alumni events. We are very proud of their achievement and love hearing about the experiences of work since leaving school. As well as attending careers talks and the Careers Fair. We have Alumni who are part of a mentoring programme. The mentoring sessions will be an opportunity to share some of your life experiences and mentor students about the following foci: Academic Success and Careers.

If you are an Alumni and would like to take part in our network, please email [alumni@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:alumni@st-pauls.org.uk)



## Future activities

These are the events planned for next term. We are always looking to involve more ex-pupils and companies at our events. If you are interested please contact us at [careers@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:careers@st-pauls.org.uk) or [alumniandsupporters@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:alumniandsupporters@st-pauls.org.uk)

## Upcoming Events

- WEX 19th -30th January (Yr10)
- Get that Apprenticeship ( Yr 13) 11th February
- Broadening Horizons 2nd and 4th March (Yr 10)
- Get that Job 3rd, 5th 17th and 19th March ( Yr 9)
- Yr 7 Unifrog sessions

If you or your company would like to support any of our activities, please contact us at [careers@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:careers@st-pauls.org.uk) • [alumniandsupporters@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:alumniandsupporters@st-pauls.org.uk) • [workexperience@st-pauls.org.uk](mailto:workexperience@st-pauls.org.uk)