



MJC SUMMER UPDATE

A Term full of Sunshine and Success!

It's been a hot term in more ways than one! While the sunshine has certainly made an appearance, our students have also been busy making the most of a wide range of exciting opportunities.

Many students have been out on work experience placements, developing valuable workplace skills and building confidence. Others impressed employers during our Interview Skills Afternoon, practising their communication and interview techniques. Our Creative Media students have also been busy at college, exploring new technology and developing their creative talents.

Meanwhile, our Enterprise groups have been hard at work creating fantastic products for our fabulous Blossoms and Brews event. Their efforts paid off as visitors enjoyed a wonderful afternoon browsing stalls, supporting our young entrepreneurs and purchasing a range of brilliant products.

The MJC Team:

Nola, David, Jenny and Gemma

Say hello to our Supported Library volunteers!



One of the standout achievements for the **Library SEND Team** was the **pilot of our Supported Library Volunteer offer**. Over three months, Burgess Hill Library welcomed two students who joined us as volunteer Library Assistants. During their placement they supported a range of daily tasks. Their enthusiasm, humour, and positive attitude made a lasting impression on staff, and they were a real credit to their college.

We're thrilled with how the scheme went - and even more pleased to invite you to read on and hear directly from the students themselves about what the experience of working in one of our busy town libraries meant to them.



Disability Register Newsletter



Names: Sophie and Bethyn

Role: Supported Volunteering Programme

Library: Burgess Hill

How long: 10 weeks, once a week from January to March

Which library jobs have you done?

Both: Stocking up the merchandise (activity books and wall-charts); checking the self-service kiosks for returned books; unpacking and sorting the boxes of books arriving on the library van; looking for customer reservation requests; packing book boxes for the library van; counting the donations money; unpacking and checking an order of wall charts and activity books; restocking the leaflets; shelving books returned to the library; learning how to take cash payments; helping people find books and using the self-service kiosk; creating a Manga themed Teen book display; taking cardboard to the recycling bins; cleaning, tidying and organising a Children's non-fiction shelf; checking the condition of returned books; stocking the photocopier and printers with paper; communicating with library staff about jobs done.

What have you enjoyed?

Bethyn: Unpacking the van because I liked sorting and organising the books into the piles.

Sophie: Unpacking the van as I liked the banter and conversation in the workroom. I liked that it's straightforward and the process is the same each time. Also, I liked the extra freedom and independence, as I liked walking here on our own and going out at lunchtime without an adult. I've enjoyed the whole experience as there were lots of things to do and there was a lot of variety.

What surprised you about working in a library?

Bethyn: The amount of reservations! People really like to reserve books. Also, that you have to look through ALL the picture books to find a reservation.



Disability Register Newsletter



What have you gained from the experience?

Sophie: I am more confident. I felt confident to help a customer to find a large print book because I trust the staff as they are very reliable and I knew I could ask for help.

Bethyn: I was unsure about whether people would like the Manga display we created. When we looked the next week someone had taken the Demon Slayer book so they must have liked the anime because it's popular. This helped me feel more confident about my book choices for the display.

What advice would you give to others about working in a library?

Sophie: If you like helping people and like a work-place that's a little bit quieter, then go for it. Also make sure to wear your glasses and check the prescription so you can see the very small print. This was a unique experience. It's like a bubble as it's not connected to home and the experience is different from being at school.

Bethyn: Go for it! But if you have a book in your hands and you think there is something wrong with it then go with your instinct. Always check the condition of books as you never know if it's been damaged in transit. If something goes wrong there is always help. You can ask at the help desk and don't be ashamed to ask for help. It's okay to make mistakes, it's a learning curve.

Tell us a fun fact about you.

Bethyn: I can retain information I've learned about a fictional character and can remember it for the rest of my life.

Sophie: I own a horse tooth!



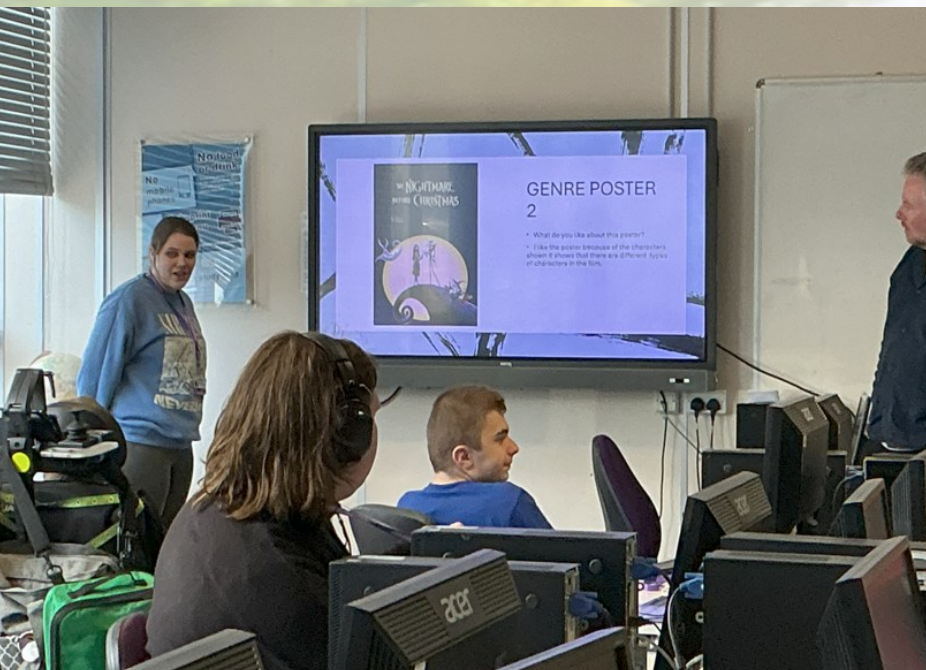
COLLEGE LINK COURSES

Creative media

Coming Soon to a Cinema Near You? Maybe!

Our Creative Media students created a film idea, pitched it to a “film director”, and combined their creativity and AI to design a blockbuster-worthy poster. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to explore the exciting world of media production while developing teamwork, communication and creative skills.

Watch this space for future Hollywood stars!





WORK EXPERIENCE

Birchwood Grove

C P School



Fruitful Service in Action!

Orange Pathway has once again done a fantastic job supporting KS1 and KS2 pupils at Birchwood Grove Primary School, delivering milk and fruit to every classroom. Their commitment, teamwork and adaptability have helped them develop confidence, independence and essential life skills.





WORK EXPERIENCE

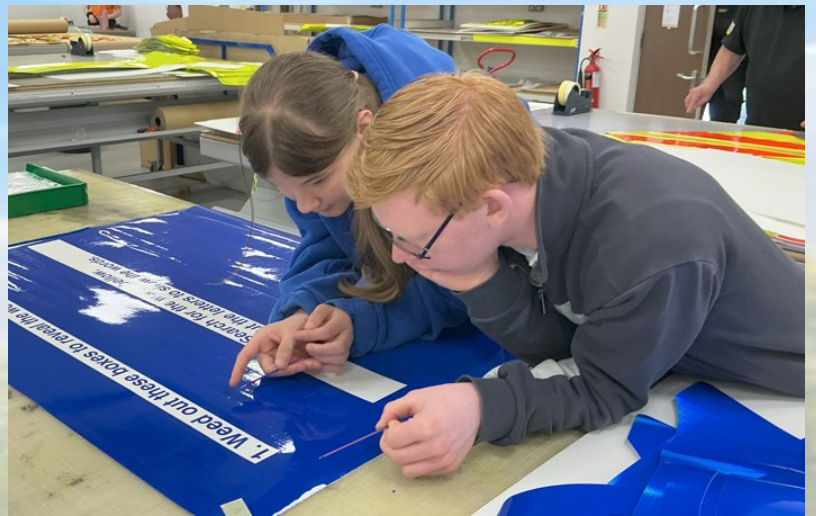


HIGH VISIBILITY MARKINGS

PVL Takeover!

What's it really like to work at PVL? Two students got the chance to find out.

From trying out different departments to getting stuck into a variety of tasks, they showed loads of creativity, independence and a positive attitude throughout the experience. They took on new challenges, learned how different teams work together and gained a real taste of the workplace.





WORK EXPERIENCE

Wakehurst

Royal Botanic
Gardens **Kew**



Buzzing with Discovery at Wakehurst Place!

A group of students enjoyed visiting Wakehurst Place, where they took part in the pilot scheme of “Roots In”. They learned all about the vital role bees play in our environment and took part in a valuable data collection task. They also used their creativity skills making their own plant creations.





Rain, Shine and Rabbit Time!

No matter the weather, our rabbits still need lots of love and care! A huge well done to these two fantastic students who showed excellent perseverance by rolling up their sleeves and making sure the rabbits were well cared for.



WORK EXPERIENCE


woodlands P E Assistant
meed

Stepping Up and Standing Out

This year, pupils at the school site have loved having an additional PE Assistant on the team. Bringing enthusiasm, energy and a can-do attitude to every session, he has shown fantastic independence and adaptability, confidently adjusting activities to suit different age groups. Over the course of the year, he has grown enormously in confidence and has become a valued member of the PE team. His dedication, positive attitude and willingness to take on new challenges have helped him excel, making a real difference to pupils and staff alike. Well done on an amazing year!



CHALK RESTAURANT

CELEBRATING SUSSEX'S SEASONAL PRODUCE IN THE HEART OF THE SOUTH DOWNS

Michelin Mission: A Taste of Fine Dining!

The Catering Enterprise group enjoyed a special trip to the fantastic Chalk Restaurant at the beautiful Wiston Estate. During their visit, they got a behind-the-scenes look at how a Michelin-style restaurant operates, discovering what it takes to deliver top-quality food and excellent customer service. From the kitchen to the dining room, students learned about the teamwork, organisation and high standards needed to create a fine dining experience. It was a tasty and inspiring day out!



Horticulture

Lettuce Celebrate Our Growing Success!

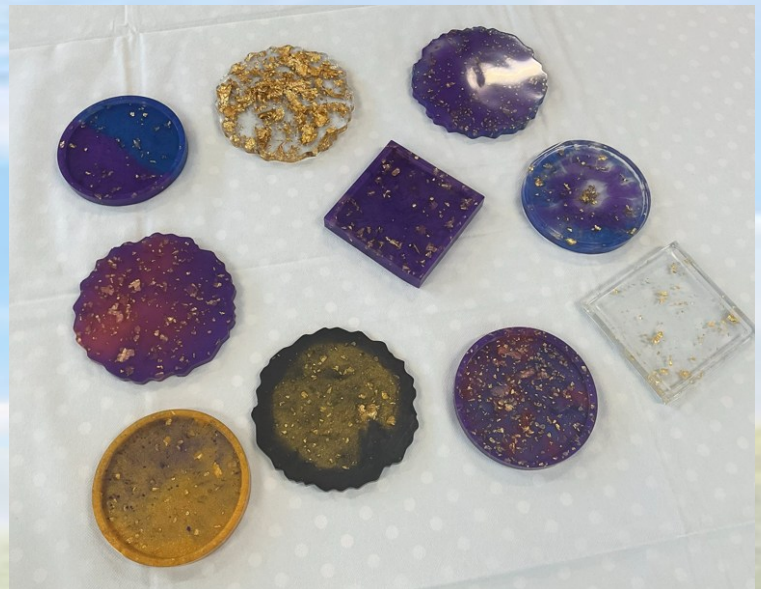
Our Horticulture Enterprise group have been hard at work planting a fantastic selection of lettuces and other delicious vegetables. Once grown, their fresh produce is passed on to our Catering Enterprise group, who use it to create some of the tasty lunches enjoyed across the college. It's a brilliant example of our enterprise teams working together and using their teamwork skills.



Retail

Coasting to Success!

Our Retail Enterprise group got creative and masked up to make some fantastic resin coasters, along with a wide range of other handmade products ready to sell at our wonderful Blossoms and Brews afternoon. The students showed great creativity and teamwork as they worked on their products, creating unique items that visitors loved and made the event a blooming success!





ENTERPRISE



Sunshine, Smiles and Sales!



Our talented Enterprise groups proudly showcased their fantastic products to visitors during our wonderful Blossoms and Brews event. Set against the backdrop of a beautiful summer afternoon, the event was buzzing with excitement as guests browsed the stalls and enjoyed the wide range of handmade and homegrown items on offer. Everyone had a fantastic time, and it was wonderful to see so many people supporting our young entrepreneurs and celebrating their hard work and creativity. A blooming success all round!





KS4 INTERVIEW SKILLS AFTERNOON

Nice to Meet You

KS4 students enjoyed an exciting afternoon with our employer partners, taking part in a fast-paced interview skills event. Meeting a range of employers in a "speed dating" style format helped students build confidence and practise their communication skills.





Rocking the Festival with Creativity!

Some of our keen KS3 students put their creativity and teamwork skills into action by helping to install a sculpture for the family-friendly Elderflower Fields Music Festival.

Working together, students supported the set up of the artwork and were proud to see their efforts become part of the festival experience.

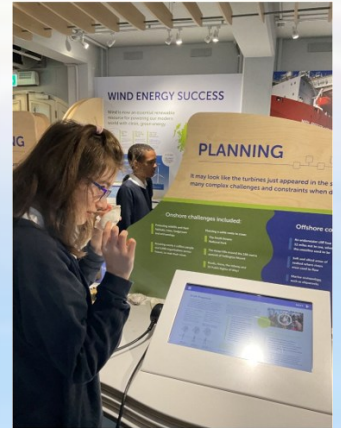




KS3 WORK PLACE ENCOUNTERS

KS3 Gets Powered Up at Rampion!

KS3 students visited the Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Visitor Centre, where they discovered how wind energy helps create a cleaner, greener future. Through interactive exhibits, hands-on displays and exciting virtual reality experiences, students learned how offshore wind farms work and the important role they play in reducing carbon emissions. It was a fun and inspiring visit that brought renewable energy to life!





Parent/Carer Careers Programme Entitlement Statement 2025/26

Your guide to understanding what you can expect from the careers education programme as a parent/carers.

Careers education is the process of helping students understand, explore, and prepare for the world of work. It aims to equip people with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes they need to make informed decisions about their future education, training, and employment.



Building Unique Pathways
To The Future



The Meed's Job Club

The MJC deliver the Woodlands Meed careers education programme across key stages 3, 4 and 5; providing information, advice and guidance on all things transition, careers education, work experience, and host multiple careers & transition related events and activities throughout the year.



Annual Review

Each year, parents are invited to attend their child's annual review to discuss future planning and transitions.

Vocational Profiles

A discovery document related to future plans about transition, education and work. Students begin to complete these in year 9, and update them throughout their time at Woodlands Meed until they leave.



The MJC update

Created and shared termly and provides information about careers education, recent careers & transition events and learning experiences the pupils have participated in. It also provides parents and carers with LMI and forthcoming careers and transition events at Woodlands Meed and the local community.

<https://www.woodlandsmeed.co.uk/page/?title=The+MJC+Update&pid=93>



Time4Transition

An annual event held at college in the autumn term where a wide range of transitions services including further education colleges, independent colleges, day services, supported internship providers, careers advisors, apprenticeship providers and employers are all under one roof and available to talk about your child's next step on their pathway to adulthood.

Parent Pledge

Parents are some of the biggest influencers and inspiration to young people, especially when it comes to careers. Parent Pledge is a way for parents to get involved with the careers curriculum and support students to learn about the world of work, by hearing your career stories.



Compass+ Report

At the end of the summer term each year, Compass+ Reports are sent out with students' summer term reports and they include a list of all the careers education and related learning and activities each student has been offered and/or taken part in over the year.

MJC Web Pages

There is a huge amount of careers education information on the MJC webpage section of the Woodlands Meed website. You will find key information about supported internships, the careers education programme, work experience, parent pledge, alumni, personal guidance and case studies. <https://www.woodlandsmeed.co.uk/mjc>



Personal Guidance

Students in years 11 and 13 are given the opportunity to sit with an independent careers advisor for 1:1 impartial careers and transitions guidance, to plan their next steps. Parents receive a written report with follow up actions.

<http://www.elev8careers.org.uk/>

Linked In

Woodlands Meed and the Meed's Job Club share exciting posts about the careers education and activities students participate in as a celebration of achievement and to network with local employers and businesses. https://uk.linkedin.com/company/meed-s-job-club?trk=public_post_feed-actor-name



Weekly

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Weekly Bulletin

The weekly bulletin is shared with parents/carer on the Woodlands Meed website every Friday. The bulletin includes community offers, information about family support services and information about transitions and internships opportunities.

<https://www.woodlandsmeed.co.uk/page/?title=Weekly+Bulletins&pid=143>

Glossary



Proud to be part of



Labour Market Information (LMI): Refers to data and insights about the world of work — things like:

- What jobs exist and what they involve
- How many of those jobs are available
- What skills and qualifications are in demand
- Typical salaries and working conditions
- Which industries are growing or shrinking



Personal Guidance: Refers to individual, 1:1, impartial guidance in relation to transitions, education, work experience and the future. Elev8 Careers provides this service to Woodlands Meed and further information about them can be found here: <http://www.elev8careers.org.uk/>



Compass+ Report:

The database that is used to record all careers related activity your child is offered, and/or attends, including: labour market information, encounters with employers/employees, workplace visits, work experience, encounters with further education and personal guidance.



National Careers Service

The NCS website provides careers advice and guidance that can help young people make decisions about their career.

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

West Sussex - Your Futures

Your Futures website is a careers education information hub for young people with SEND; to access up to date and relevant labour market information in an accessible format.

<https://careershwbsh.yourfutures.uk/>

Parent Pledge

SHARE YOUR CAREER STORY!

You can make a difference to a young person's future!

Whatever career path you have taken, you can inspire, educate and encourage young people with SEND by sharing the knowledge and experiences you have gained along the way.

- “ Did you know that parents and carers are the biggest influencers on young people's future aspirations?
- “ Did you know that conversations about careers can have a positive impact on motivation and attitude to success?
- “ Did you know by sharing stories about your career and life path you can make a positive impact on the lives of young people with SEND?

The MJC team are preparing students for a successful transition from school and college and we would like your help!

Our students can't be what they can't see! There are lots of ways you can get involved please contact the Meed's Job Club for more information about how to get involved.

Email: careers@woodlandsmeed.co.uk

Phone: 01444 244133 ext: 3028

