



# Future Aspirations & Careers Newsletter

Edition 2

## Welcome

Welcome to the Spring Edition of our Future Aspirations and Careers Newsletter. At PCS we pride ourselves on the depth of knowledge and skills of our careers team who are always readily available to help with any CEIAG Careers Education Information and Guidance that our students may have.



In their PSHE lessons, **Year 7** have just completed a unit on Careers, teamwork and enterprise skills and raising aspirations, **Year 8** on Equality of opportunity in careers and life choices, and different types and patterns of work.

**Year 9** are about to embark upon a series of lessons where they will receive all the guidance required to ensure that they select the correct KS4 option subjects to study. They will also be supported in their decision making through assemblies and taster lessons.

They are very fortunate to be able to seek advice through some of our year 10 Curriculum Ambassadors as well.

We are looking forward to welcoming our year 9 parents to the year 9 options information evening in the main hall on Thursday 2nd March and this being followed up by a parent's evening on Thursday 9th March.

**Year 10** are now in the final stages of securing work experience placements. The deadline for completing this is **Friday 10th February**.

As we move into Term 4 the majority of Year 11 students have now had their post 16 interviews and can now focus on getting those grades required in order to achieve success and move on to the next stage of their journey.



**6th Feb - 10th Feb is National Apprenticeship Week.**

The theme for National Apprenticeship Week 2023 is 'Skills for Life'. This fits in well to everything our curriculum at PCS has to offer. We will be holding an information evening about apprenticeships to all parents and carers later in Term 4, however parents and carers can click on this link:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/influencers/resources-for-parents>

to find out more about how they can support their child in finding out more and to help make informed choices.



## PCS Alumni

We were delighted to welcome back 3 ex-students into PCS last week, Ben who left 6 years ago, is now an accounts manager for a recruitment company, Caitlin left 5 years ago and is now in her 3rd year of a University course training to be a paramedic and Siobhan who left 16 years ago, has been a dental nurse for 12 years and has decided to go to University in September 2022 to study to become a dental Hygienist.

They met with different groups of students and shared valuable information with them, reminding them that they need to grasp opportunities during their time at PCS in order to achieve their goals.

We would like to say a massive thank you to them for giving up their time.

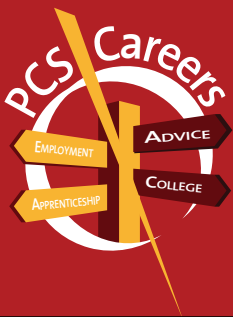
We are building up our bank of alumni, however if you know of any ex-student who would like to come back into PCS to share their career journey and experiences with our students please email:

[pcs-careers@swale.at](mailto:pcs-careers@swale.at)

## National Careers Week



**6th March - 10th March** is National Careers Week. We have lots of activities planned across the week aiming to give every student in years 7-10 an opportunity to engage in careers and Higher Education related activities.



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If you are the parent or carer of a year 8 student, please look out for the letter coming home soon about the exciting 'Take Your Child To Work Day' opportunity.

## Open Doors Visits



Open Doors visits provide students with the opportunity to visit workplaces of local employers to interact with employees and learn about roles, employability skills and career pathway within different industry sectors. At PCS we are fortunate enough to work closely with the following partners.

We ask all of our students to complete a Google Form on the Careers Google Classroom relating to potential areas of interest in the future so that we can target students with opportunities accordingly.

We do regularly remind students that we need to know where their areas of interest lie in order to target them with these trips.



## Careers Advisors

On Wednesday 25th January our Student Leadership Team had their first breakfast meeting before school with Kevin and Meena who introduced themselves to them as our new PCS Enterprise Advisors.

They have a lot of exciting ideas and projects they would like to launch with PCS students to further develop their career information and guidance.

We are very much looking forward to working with them in the coming year.

**Name:** Kevin Hitchmough

**Job Title:** Executive Coach

**Sector:** Leadership Development, Talent Management, Organisational Change

**Enterprise Advisor for:** Peacehaven Community School

**Interests:** Football, Gardening, Yoga and Helping people be the best version of themselves.

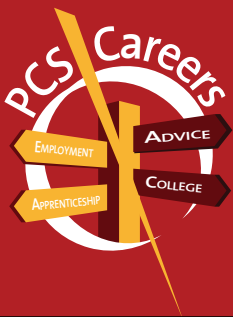


**Why are you inspired to support Careers**

**Education across Sussex:** Because of my own struggle to find my career path - it took me until I was nearly 30 to feel comfortable with my career direction. My passion and my day job are similar to what I want to contribute to Careers Education - I help people use their talents to make their unique contribution to the world.

**Career Journey:** Building sites in Liverpool, First person in my family to do A Levels or go to University, Do the wrong degree, Cake factory in Suffolk, Making PG Tips in Manchester, Going to Poland to get Pot Noodles, Developing Leaders in NYC, Changing culture in Paris.





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**Name:** Meena Ibrahim  
**Job title:** Private Banker  
**Sector:** Banking  
**Enterprise Advisor for:** Peacehaven Community School

**Interests:** Reading, mindfulness, sports, space, geo-politics and economics

**Why are you inspired:** Having been in the working world for nearly a decade now, I am still learning and discovering things I wish I knew at school age and so I want to enable young adults to make better decisions with the access I can provide.

**Career journey:** Started with law and then worked in corporate finance, from there I went to insurance sales whilst studying for my financial planning qualifications. I then became an Independent Financial Advisor and then moved into the discretionary investment management space before ending up in Private Banking.



## Dates For Your Diary

*(Note there will be additional trips to Universities and industry over terms 4, 5 and 6)*

**6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023** - National Apprenticeships Week

**6<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023** - National Careers Week

**7<sup>th</sup> March 2023** - Freshers Futures Event -Y10

**8<sup>th</sup> March 2023** - Take Your Child To Work Day - Y8

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2023** - University Game Show - Y9

**22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023** - Post 16 Information Event For Parent And Carers - Y10

**9<sup>th</sup> May - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2023** - Mock Interviews With Employers - Y10

**25<sup>th</sup> May 2023** - College Tasters Fair - Y10

**12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023** - Work Experience -Y10

## Parent Corner

We are extremely grateful to all parents who have supported us already with sharing their careers experiences and careers advice with our students and helping out with mock interviews.

We are always on the look out to share as many career pathways as possible with our students. If you feel that you have the capacity to support our careers team in any way, please could you contact us [pcs-careers@swale.at](mailto:pcs-careers@swale.at)

## Before Teaching...

In our last edition we asked you if you knew what these teachers once did.

Answers are:

**Mrs Tremlett** - Bellringer in Portsmouth Cathedral

**Mr Broadbent** - Professional Football Player

**Miss Broadbent-Smith** - Wardrobe Mistress at The Theatre Royal Haymarket

**Ms Osborne** - English teacher in Japan

**Mrs McCaughan** - Worked for the British Army in Germany

**Mr Daintree** - Acoustic Consultant in the construction Industry

## How do the subjects you are taught at PCS relate to the world of work?

### Drama

Ms Pearce our Head of Drama says: Drama boasts a staggering amount of transferable skills which can be applied almost anywhere.

Apart from providing opportunities in theatre, film, television, media and design - both in front of an audience or behind the scenes, drama is great for any job that requires communication skills, confidence, presenting skills, team work, taking responsibility, working to a deadline, creative thinking and leadership skills.



### WHAT ARE 'EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS'?

It's a term used to describe the skills that have been identified as the most useful skills for any job. They can be broken down into 3 groups:

**1**

#### FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

This includes the more practical skills, such as being able to use IT and numeracy effectively.

**2**

#### PERSONAL SKILLS

This category features skills like working well in a team, being a good communicator and time management.

**3**

#### ATTITUDES, VALUES & HABITS

This is all about how you think and behave - are you confident and enthusiastic about the job? Employers need to see that you would be a good fit for their company.

### Our Careers Team

Are always on hand to help



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