



**Newton
Abbot
College**

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SPOTLIGHT ON CAREERS



DECEMBER 2021

Welcome to our first newsletter this academic year! We hope our Year 7s have settled in well and Year 12s are enjoying Sixth Form.

This newsletter is put together in partnership with Gemma Nalder from CSW. Our foci this term are: Career in the spotlight with Rebecca Gibbs, Year 10 Work experience and an introduction to our Student Padlet.

One to one careers interviews are still available on request with Gemma Nalder from CSW.

Contact me, Mandi Grant, via careers@nacollege.devon.sch.uk

We hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Careers Spotlight!

In today's issue we have interviewed Mrs Gibbs who is part of the Sixth Form Leadership Team; she has kindly shared with us her career journey. So, for future teachers out there this is the article for you!

"Hello, I'm Mrs Gibbs.

Originally I wanted a career as a physiotherapist but, after some not so encouraging words from a teacher, I decided not to pursue this goal. I went on to the local college and studied a BTEC L2 Sports Course and retook my Maths and English GCSEs. After successfully completing these I went on to the L3 course. During this time, I was very passionate about sport so decided to look at what careers I could pursue. I had an inspirational PE tutor, and this inspired me to consider teaching PE. I applied to university for a Bachelor of Education with a specialism of PE and my second subject was Religious Studies. This



FEATURING:

- Career Spotlight
- Careers @ Sixth Form
- Work Experience
- Employability Skills
- Padlet

Careers @ Sixth Form

For those that managed to attend the successful 6th form evening, it was lovely to meet some of you and hear your future ideas.

How the 6th form offer can really help you on your future pathway! If you didn't manage to attend, you can contact Sixth form for more information.



was a 4-year degree which included placements within secondary schools. Once I had completed this I had to do a qualifying year in school to get my Qualified Teacher Status. I did this at Kingsbridge Community College. I then took on a supply role at Newton Abbot College as a PE teacher which then developed into a full-time teaching post as a PE teacher where I have taught for 17 years. During this time, I was appointed BTEC Coordinator which started my journey into leadership. Unfortunately, due to health issues, I stepped slowly away from the PE department and became involved in Health and Social Care. I have had different leadership positions within the college but am really enjoying my most recent appointment within sixth form. I enjoy the challenge and offering support to those students who may need it. It is a very rewarding job. This role is my biggest achievement so far. Also, as a teenager, I had various part time jobs enabling me to have my own money, from Chambermaiding, to a sales assistant in Woolworths to working in a wine store. All these experiences helped me to develop lots of useful transferable skills.

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/>

ATTENTION YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE!

Helping your child prepare for work experience should be an exciting activity. It doesn't need to be hard work but it is worth spending time preparing together so the experience is easy and valuable for everyone.

Work Experience Works

Your child will have learnt many valuable skills at school, helping them understand and enjoy life. However, the world of work is starting to get closer and initially, whilst this may be a paper-round or a weekend job, we need to ensure that they are equipped with the skills required for today's workplace. Work experience will provide an opportunity for students to spend time with an employer where they will carry out a range of tasks in the same way as an employee with the emphasis on learning. Work experience will help them put classroom skills into practice so they can develop the "Employability Skills" that employers look for. This is a big step towards a successful career that can be rewarding and fulfilling.



For many, choosing what to do on work experience is the most difficult part. Remember, work experience is not always about choosing a career for the rest of your life; it is about gaining experience in the world of work. The decision of where to apply should be led by the student. As a parent/carer your role is to encourage, support and also to help when they get rejections from applications. Like any job application, rejection is not personal; the

employer may just not be in a position to help at the time.

Check out the BBC's website which has some interesting work experience videos.

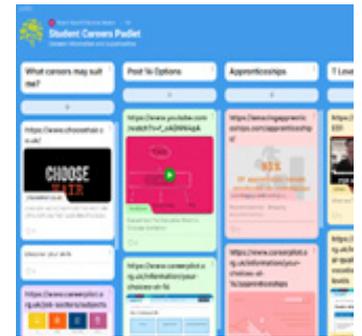
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00zf3m1>



Take a look at our Student Padlet



Padlet is a free online tool that is best described as an online notice board. Padlet can be used by students and teachers to post notes on a common page. The notes posted by teachers and students can contain links, videos, images and document files. We have created a careers Padlet with a focus on post -16 and -18 options. Visit our student Padlet either by the QR code below or the link in our Careers section on the college website.



What are Employability Skills?

These are the skills that employers seek in any member of staff whether they are new to the working environment or have years of experience. Even by attending school and participating in learning you will be gaining valuable employability skills. These can include being punctual, reliable, communicating effectively and being organised, all of which are transferable skills for your future.

"66% of employers say work experience is a significant or crucial factor in their recruitment."

YEAR 11

All Year 11s will be sent an email shortly offering a careers appointment with Gemma Nalder from CSW. In the email there will be a link to a google form for students to complete; this will take you 2 minutes and will help us to plan for the appointments in the new year.



UCAS

The UCAS deadline is nearly upon Year 13 and Year 14 students, with most degree courses requiring applications submitted by the 15th January. Did you know UCAS is a valuable resource to help explore career pathways whatever year you are in? www.ucas.ac.uk