



Dear Parent / Carer

As part of the school's careers provision, I am writing to update students, parents and carers about events that may be of interest and signpost you to resources that may be of use. This version is an update on what's in store for students in the next few weeks as well as updating you on some of the exciting opportunities our students have engaged with during our first term.

### **Year 11 and Year 13**

A polite reminder that even after our students have left school, I am still available to offer support in relation to pathways etc. Alternatively, you can also contact our Careers Advisor Mr Lee Grant direct on 07890 416541 or email: [lee.grant@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:lee.grant@bradford.gov.uk). We can arrange a meeting in school or a conversation on the phone if you prefer. In addition, I will be present at both results days. On the GCSE day, Keighley College and Craven College representatives have also been invited into school should you need further conversations with them.

### **Business Partners**

Many thanks to our many business partners, training providers and FE/HE educational establishments for supporting us throughout the year. They provide invaluable insights into the world of work and up to date information in relation to post 16 options with our students. Examples of some of the visits and opportunities that have taken place this term are listed below:

PwC – Career Ready Programme – Yr10 students x 5 skill development workshops

West Yorkshire Police Contact Centre – Yr13 site visit

West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Water Safety – 2 x water awareness workshops

Yorkshire Building Society – Yr10 – 50 students have now have obtained their *AQA Employability Unit 1: Problem Solving Unit*

The Royal Navy- Yr8 STEM

Zoolab – Yr8 Geography curriculum link

### **Year 13 – Apprenticeship support**

The apprenticeship route requires students to be vigilant in monitoring opportunities and it is recommended that CVs are created together with a basic cover letter in advance, ready for applications. I have added a useful link below to support this.

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/cvs-and-cover-letters/>

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I have also added some links that students have already been provided with, in order to monitor for appropriate apprenticeship positions:

[www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeships](http://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeships)

West Yorkshire Learning Providers [Provider Search - The Yorkshire Apprenticeship Service](#) Info on colleges and training providers that offer apprenticeships in the region.

More specific to Leeds - [Leeds Directory - The Yorkshire Apprenticeship Service](#)

[UK Apprenticeships, Graduate Schemes & Work Experience · GetMyFirstJob](#) Get my first job –

[talentview.org/construction](http://talentview.org/construction) Talent view for construction - based apprenticeships

[Alternatives To University | NGTU](#) – Information on degree apprenticeships and other options that aren't university

[Higher & Degree Apprenticeships | Amazing Apprenticeships](#) Degree apprenticeship listings

### **Parents/carers Partnerships**

[As you are aware, we are always striving to provide opportunities for parents/carers to engage with us in our career programme, whether that be at the careers fair or transition evenings etc. I would like to outline some new initiatives to develop this further.](#)

**Unifrog:** The Complete Destinations and online careers tracking Platform

### **Parents/carers access is now LIVE**

As you may already be aware, all students have access to this platform specifically through PSHE career sessions in school, but also at home.

### **What is Unifrog?**

Unifrog is designed to support learners in making informed decisions about their futures, with a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each student has their own account that provides a range of information related to their personal interests and aspirations.

Key features of the platform for students include:

- Psychometric testing quizzes
- Career and subject exploration
- Webinars and interactive short courses
- Self-reflection and portfolio building tools
- Search tools for live apprenticeship and employer opportunities, and university courses
- Application and essay-building tools

Students can log in from any computer, tablet, or smartphone. We encourage you to use the platform with your child so you can support them through the process of deciding on their next steps.

You can now create your own parent account where you will be able to view your child's interactions and research, as well as being able to use all the excellent resources available.

To open your account, use the following link:

[www.unifrog.org/parent](http://www.unifrog.org/parent)

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You can only open your account using the email address you have provided to school as contact for your child. If you have any issues signing in, please contact me on the details below and I will try my best to support you. There is also more information on the school website: <https://www.parksideschool.net/personal-development/careers/>

In addition, you also have the option to sign up to Unifrog's parent / carer newsletter to get additional expert advice and guidance on supporting your child with their next steps.

**Unifrog:** Talent Pool

Yr13 students who chose not to follow a university pathway, were invited to join Talent pool, a resource within our online career's platform, Unifrog. Once updated CV's have been uploaded together with some additional background information such as interests and skills, they can receive unique course and apprenticeship opportunities directly from universities and employers, tailored to their interests, skills and academic profiles.

**Keighley College** – Inclusive assembly – Friday 19 June- 09.00 – 09.45 parents/carers invited

Keighley College have agreed to come into school to discuss their courses, pathway options that may be of interest to your child and the EHCP consultation process, ready for when your child leaves Parkside. Parent/carers of the students who would most benefit from this assembly have received an invite and we look forward to seeing you. In addition, the workshop will provide an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have.

For your further information, Coleman Training Development have also agreed to come into school to outline their pre and supported internships. The date will be confirmed at a later date and invites to the parents/carers of the students who would again benefit from this assembly, will receive a personal invite. I have added the link to their website below:

<https://www.colemantrainingdevelopment.com/send-programmes>

**Student Employer Opportunities:**

We have been successful in creating a new partnership with Asda that will provide some exciting new programmes for our students in the next academic year:

**Asda Heroes** - This is an inclusive, project-based learning programme that will be for some of our Year 7 students. It is a virtual programme, that consists of videos, resources and activities for us to use throughout the academic year. Teams will then submit their work, and the top teams will be asked to compete for the National Champions.

**Asda Futures** – There will be six sessions throughout the academic year at the Asda MCE in Leeds where Year 9 students will design a product from concept to shelf. The programme develops key employability skills as well as introducing them to a variety of hidden careers within retail. There are also workshops from our apprenticeship providers and a hidden careers fair in February.

**Asda Leaders** - This is a virtual programme for our Year 10 students aligned with the Business GCSE. By looking at the National Curriculum frameworks students will be asked to work with an Asda mentor to develop a profitable business solution, solving a real-life business problem. There will also be a hidden careers fair in February where Asda will be promoting early career opportunities.





**Congratulations to .....!**

Bella & Charlotte in Year 10 for being successful in gaining places on the KPMG *It's Her Future* an award-winning technology insight programme taking place this summer. This is an excellent opportunity for the students to get exposure to the exciting world of technology and business. They will hear from speakers from KPMG and selected leading Bristol technology businesses, work collaboratively on engaging activities and be coached and mentored throughout by their team of volunteers. Another fabulous addition to their CV's!

Seth in Year 10 for securing a work placement with Wilsden Primary later this month.

Eryn in Year 10 got to the final of the West Yorkshire Young Poet Laureate competition.

Will in Year 10 who has just won The Speakers Trust, Yorkshire 'Speak Out' Challenge, a public speaking competition.

**Alumni- welcome back!**

Emile – who will be passing on some useful information to our students in the history faculty next week with Mrs Rushworth. It will be lovely to see him again.

**Coaching groups careers programme:**

This term we will be focusing on *small businesses*. We want to help students discover the opportunities available in small businesses and we will cover three different topics - what small businesses are and where to find them, the careers and apprenticeship opportunities they offer and how to apply for apprenticeships with small business employers.

Job of the Week (JOTW) continues to be a regular part of our careers programme within coaching. Students gain an insight into two careers each week by watching fun and interactive videos learning about pathways, qualifications and salaries. Within their coaching groups, they then have discussions around their own job interests and what's important to them, for example working outdoors or having a good salary as well as how they might develop key skills that they may need to access the jobs.

**Careers - PSHE update.**

As you are aware, every student in school participates in our extensive careers programme. An important element of this is our *Careers* PSHE programme. Each year group receives either a drop-down day with careers related workshops and speakers or a series of lessons over a few weeks with activities and speakers.

**Year 8** completed their programme in April. Sessions included what are my interests; Creating the life you want; What does success mean to me; Job applications superhero CV's and the challenges and rewards of work.

**Year 7** are currently completing theirs. Topics will include Who am I; what is a career; careers of the future; What is an entrepreneur and what is a work- life balance.





**Linking curriculum learning to careers:**

Real life contexts and examples from the world of work can make subjects easier to understand and help students feel more engaged in their learning. Linking curriculum learning to careers can also boost achievement and help students progress. At Parkside we are passionate about engaging employers and businesses into our careers programme. Each faculty has a designated careers link member of staff who works with the careers leader to ensure the students can link their learning in the classroom to careers, every half term. Some recent and future examples, are below:

**Health & Social Care Yr10 students:** an **Allied Health Professionals (AHP) Day** hosted at **Shipley College** in their brand-new, state-of-the-art Health & Social Care facilities. The event will take place on **Tuesday 8th July, 10:00am–12:00 noon**

**STEMFEST, Leeds – Yr8 & Yr9 students- July 2.** *STEMfest* is an engaging and dynamic festival dedicated to celebrating the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. It sparks creativity, builds critical thinking, and helps young people see where STEM can take them.

**Drama: Blood Brothers performance** to see a live performance and understand the role of a performer.

**MFL: Alliance Francaise-** KS3 student workshop

**History: Auschwitz– Yr13** to learn about the Holocaust and consider its relevance for today.

**Useful links:**

For profiles of careers and Labour Market Information, please use the following:

**Careerpilot:** Jobs by job sectors

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/sectors>

**Explore careers:**

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>

**Explore local industries:**

<https://leeds.startprofile.com/page/industries>

**If you want to explore where subjects can lead you, use the following:**

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/job-sectors/subjects>

<https://icould.com/subject/>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/careers-advice/what-can-i-do-with-my-degree/>

**T Levels:**

Watch this under two-minute animated film, perfect for showing in educational settings or sharing with your communities to find out more about T Levels. The film covers what they are, why they are a great option and what's available, plus where to find out more.

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/t-levels-animated-explainer-film/>

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**Amazing Apprenticeships: What are HTQs?**

Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs) are level 4 and 5 qualifications that have been approved to deliver the skills employers need because they are high-quality, job-focused qualifications. Watch this short video for more information:

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/higher-technical-qualifications-htqs/>

**Amazing Apprenticeships: SEND**

<https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com/resources/?type=send#top-of-page>

**College Open Days/tasters:**

Some colleges still have open days before we break up for the summer. This is an invaluable insight into what the colleges offer, as well as providing the opportunity to gain an insight into what it would be like to study there.

**Craven College**

[Events from 7 May – 11 September – Craven College](#) – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2026 5:30pm -7:30pm

You **MUST** book in advance using the college link above.

**Yr10 Taster is now LIVE.** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 9:15am- 12:00pm. Your child will need to book individually in advance of the event. **Once you receive confirmation of the booking, it MUST be shown to the head of year to obtain approval to attend. If we do not see the confirmation, no attendance mark will be given.** [Year 10 Taster Morning – Craven College](#)

**Keighley College**

[Keighley College](#) – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2026 5pm-7pm

**Bradford College**

[Open Evening - Bradford College](#) Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2026 5pm-7pm

**Craven College - Aviation Academy (Leeds Bfd Airport) just for travel and aviation courses**

[Open Evening \(Aviation Academy\) – Craven College](#) Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 5:30pm-7:30pm – Book using the link

**Leeds City College**

[Select tickets – Leeds City College June Open Event – Leeds City College - Various Campuses](#) Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2026 – Book using the link

**Leeds College of Building**

[Virtual Open Event - LCB](#) can look at the college virtually but there is an open day in October. This is a college that only offers construction courses but does fill up quickly. If you are interested, applying before Christmas for most courses is advised.

**New College Bradford**

[Open Events: New College Bradford](#) Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July

Kind, regards

**Mrs S Stewart**

**Careers Leader**

**[Sue.stewart@parksideschool.net](mailto:Sue.stewart@parksideschool.net)**

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