

Swakeleys School for Girls

Careers Strategy for Swakeleys School for Girls 2026-2027



CAREERS PROVISION AT SWAKELEYS SCHOOL FOR GIRLS AND SIXTH FORM

Vision

Careers education at Swakeleys School for Girls is committed to helping our pupils develop the skills and knowledge to make successful careers choices, manage their transitions in learning and feel prepared and confident in the next phase of their life. Whether this be in further education, entering the world of work or training through apprenticeships.

At Swakeleys School we ensure that all students receive high quality careers guidance which enables them to achieve their full potential and be the best they can be. Swakeleys School will ensure that every student has high aspirations and considers a broad range of careers in their future lives. As a school we will challenge any stereotypical views and look to improve the opportunities for all our pupils supporting social mobility.

We have a whole school approach to careers education. Swakeleys School ensures that careers education is deeply embedded in the curriculum. All departments across all key stages are involved in the delivery of careers education during a two week careers fortnight each January as well as throughout the year. Curriculum areas ensure that links are made between subject areas and future careers and pathways throughout the academic year, with careers embedded within curriculum guides. Our aim is that our pupils understand how what they are being taught links with future careers.

Please see the [Swakeleys School Careers Programme](#) for detailed information on the CEIAG programme supporting our pupils across each of the year groups.

Aims of the careers programme at Swakeleys School for Girls

Objectives

For all pupils in years 8-13:

- To provide ALL pupils with high quality careers guidance and an educational programme which will raise the aspirations and achievement of ALL our pupils.
- For pupils to understand the essential link between their learning in school and how this is relevant in the ever changing world of work.
- For pupils to develop key employability skills and enhance their knowledge and understanding of key labour market information.
- To empower students to make informed choices at key transition points about their next steps.
- For all pupils to have access to independent and impartial careers guidance.
- For pupils to be experience a range of encounters with employers and people in industry as part of the Gatsby Benchmark 5 criteria.
- To provide pupils with extensive opportunities to meet with external providers about the opportunities they offer including technical education and apprenticeships
- To promote the STEM agenda and challenge stereotypes of certain careers

- To be informed of technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses
To hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster event

CEIAG Learning Outcomes for Swakeleys School for Girls Students:

Year Group	Learning outcome	CDI
7	Developing Skills and Aspiration To introduce pupils to types of careers based on their likes and interests, the subjects they enjoy and what they are good at.	Grow throughout life.
8	Decision making and Setting goals To explore options at GCSE level and consider the subjects they wish to choose based on careers that they are interested in pursuing in the future.	Explore possibilities, see the bigger picture
9	Acquiring Skills & learning about LMI To continue to explore future career pathways, acquire additional skills to prepare for future pathways.	See the bigger picture, Explore possibilities
10	Preparing for Work Shadowing & Post 16 options To be able to write a CV. To develop employability skills by participating in a work shadowing programme and enable them to see the link between school, the subjects they are learning and the world of work.	Create opportunities, balance life and work, manage career
11	Achieving GCSEs and Plan Post 16 To research and understand the different options available at post 16. To have a plan A, B & C in place for post 16.	Manage career, explore possibilities, see the bigger picture

To support pupils in meeting the careers intent and outcomes for learning, we have a range of support and resources in place.

- Unifrog subscription for all pupils
- Independent careers advisor employed by the school for 1-1 CEIAG
- Whole school careers focus fortnight event in January
- Careers Fair in January for Years 7-11 (with over 35+ exhibitors)
- Work shadowing for Year 10 pupils
- Work experience for Year 12 pupils
- Careers newsletter on Padlet update regularly
- Careers assemblies on Apprenticeships, LMI, local colleges and vocational qualifications
- 1-1 Mock interview day
- Speed networking events to introduce pupils to different careers and employers
- Insight workshops (on STEM Careers, OXBRIDGE, Entrepreneurship, Apprenticeships)

- Careers Trips linked to departments (Sky Academy, Harry Potter World, Bosche, Virus Factory)
- School reception / welfare duty responsibilities

Curriculum Delivery of CEIAG

At Swakeleys School, we have a comprehensive PSHCE programme for every year group which supports in the delivery of dedicated careers lessons for each year group. All staff contribute with the delivery of careers through their roles as class teachers and form tutors. Each week, a new 'job of the week' including labour market information about the role is shared and discussed the start of each PSHCE lesson. Class teachers and curriculum areas explore the link between the subjects they teach and potential future careers throughout the academic year with a particular focus during the careers fortnight period. Pupils are also taught about how the skills and knowledge they are learning, links to careers. Curriculum areas have highlighted links with careers in their curriculum guides.

ICT lessons are used at various intervals in the Year at KS3 to support the delivery of careers lessons as well as to ensure that pupil's engagement with the Unifrog platform remains high.

Our Character and Culture Curriculum also supports our careers vision within the school and reinforces the importance of essential employability skills and having high aspirations.




Our Character and Culture Curriculum

We Enjoy ✦ We are safe and kind ✦ We build positive relationships ✦ We look after our mental health ✦ We attend clubs ✦ We participate or compete in sport ✦ We raise money for charity ✦ We contribute to school events ✦ We recognise and celebrate diversity	We Aspire ✦ We complete research and wider reading ✦ We experience careers and the world of work ✦ We contribute to school council ✦ We are aware of the news and world events ✦ We lead and empower others ✦ We are part of a wider community	Employability Skills ✦ We work as a team ✦ We are leaders ✦ We read and write effectively ✦ We solve problems ✦ We show independence ✦ We are resilient ✦ We are creative ✦ We listen ✦ We are numerate ✦ We plan ✦ We speak confidently
We Achieve ✦ We do our best ✦ We meet attendance targets ✦ We reach reward milestones ✦ We meet deadlines ✦ We make progress	We Succeed ✦ We meet academic targets ✦ We create things ✦ We perform and speak in front of audiences ✦ We positively express views and ideas ✦ We volunteer and hold positions of responsibility	



As a school we offer lots of **Student Leadership Opportunities** to all pupils to develop their leadership and employability skills throughout Yr 7-13. Leadership roles are open to all pupils and pupils and these include roles such as: Form Councillors, Senator Reps, Sub Committee Reps as part of School Council, Sports Leaders, Sports Captain, House Captain, SWAB mentors, Reading Mentors, Prefects, 6th form Leadership team and working doing reception and welfare duty to experience the world of work in Year 7-9.

Measuring and Assessing Impact

Swakeleys School measures and assesses the impact of its careers provision regularly. We obtain feedback from the pupils, parents, leadership group, external links with the school and our careers adviser. We also evaluate our Careers Provision by completing a Compass+ Evaluation questionnaire at least once a year. This provides information about how we are performing against the [8 Gatsby Benchmarks](#).

Our most recent **Compass + evaluation** in March 2026 shows that we continue to make excellent progress with meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks, well above the national average:

Benchmark	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026*
1	94%	88%	82%	85%
2	100%	80%	100%	96%
3	81%	100%	100%	95%
4	100%	100%	100%	92%
5	75%	100%	100%	75%
6	62%	100%	100%	95%
7	70%	62%	75%	86%
8	100%	75%	75%	92%

*Changes made to the questions on compass+

We feel confident that our careers provision at Swakeleys School is supportive and inclusive and gives our pupils the right support, knowledge and skills to be successful in their future at Swakeleys and beyond.

Students with SEND

Swakeleys School will ensure that careers guidance is differentiated, if appropriate and based on high aspirations and a personalised approach.

The careers leader works closely with the SENCO and other staff to support learners with understanding the different pathways available and how to develop the necessary skills to succeed and achieve their full potential. The school will continue to work with families of learners to help them understand what career options are available and share opportunities with families. We run a SEND trip to Uxbridge College (Hayes Campus) once a year so that our students can explore further education opportunities beyond Swakeleys School at Post 16.

All pupils on EHCP plans meet with the careers advisor for 1-1 appointments each academic year as part of their annual review to support their careers guidance. The school continues to build partnerships with businesses and employers to support our SEND pupils and allow them to fully benefit from encounters with employers. A Careers SEND lunch takes place during the careers fortnight. SEND students are also supported to attend our annual careers fairs alongside Teaching Assistants, with experiences differentiated and adapted in real time where needed.

Our approach to work shadowing is particularly bespoke and student-centred. Placements are carefully selected based on students' interests, confidence levels and support needs, with reasonable adjustments put in place to ensure meaningful participation and success. Examples of this include supporting a visually impaired student to access a placement at a garden centre with TA assistance, as well as providing highly supported placements within school settings such as the

canteen, library and Art Department for students who benefit from familiar and structured environments. As a result of this personalised approach, 100% of our SEND students have successfully accessed a work-related learning experience over the past four years. Reflection opportunities are also built into work shadowing placements, allowing students to process experiences and complete log books with TA support. In addition, specialist support is provided to ensure accessibility for all students, including the braille of careers and curriculum materials where required.

Transition planning is embedded throughout Key Stages 3 and 4 through the use of personalised transition booklets and supported reflection activities, particularly benefiting students with ASD. The school is committed to continually developing its SEND careers provision through enhanced destination tracking, strengthened partnerships with post-16 providers and increased parental engagement within the careers process.

Through this holistic and personalised approach, we strive to ensure that all SEND students feel supported, empowered and aspirational about their future pathways.

Careers delivery through ICT & Unifrog 2026-2027



Date		Year 7
	Gatsby	
WB 13th October 2026	2,3,8	Introduce pupils to the Unifrog platform and go through LOG in process. They are likely to need support / help with logging in for the first time. They have all been sent welcome emails. Who am I? (60 mins ICT lesson) Students develop self-awareness skills by reflecting on their likes, cultural heritage, connections and interests. They will also explore how some characteristics are protected by law.
WB 23rd Nov 2026	2	What is Unifrog? Introduce the platform to students, get all students logged on, and complete the Careers library treasure hunt. (60 mins ICT lesson) Careers library treasure hunt - I
Careers Fortnight 4th January – 15th January 2027	2,7 3,8	<u>Lesson 1 : Exploring possibilities – Dream jobs</u> Students analyse the skills and themes relating to their dream job and explore other careers with shared characteristics. Resources: PP and digital workbook Exploring possibilities: Dream Jobs (60 mins ICT lesson) <u>Lesson 2</u> Students complete the Interests quiz on Unifrog and find out which jobs might be of interest to them. (60 mins ICT lesson) Interests profile
WB 8th March 2027	2,7,8	Students explore how a career can be defined as a career journey. They identify activities that form part of their career journey and look towards career ideas for the future. (60 mins ICT lesson) What is a career?
WB 13th April 2027	2,3,6	Students explore some examples of how employment today is different to employment in the past and they consider the skills that are predicted to be essential for the future workforce. (60 mins ICT lesson) Resources: PP and digital workbook Careers and the future
WB 1st June 2027		Time to explore Unifrog and record activities and competencies they have participated in since last interaction.

Date			Year 8
	Gatsby		
WB 19th October 2026	2,3,8	Remind pupils of how to login and their login details. Students create a collage of their interests. They also explore what they are proud of and connect their interests and achievements with different careers. Resources: PP and what are my interests digital template What are my interests? (60 mins ICT lesson)	
WB 23rd November 2026	2,3,6,7	What does success mean to you? Understanding what motivates you and how this influences your career choices. Resources: PP and what are my interests digital template What does success mean to you? (60 minutes ICT lesson)	
Careers Fortnight 4th January – 15th January 2027	2,7,8	Lesson 1: Decision making: choosing what to study at KS4 Students explore the next steps they need to take in advance of choosing their KS4 optional subjects. Resources: PP and Digital Workbook “decision making: choosing what to study at KS4” Decision making: Choosing what to study at KS4 (60 minutes ICT lesson) Lesson 2: Continuation of above lesson and completion of the digital workbook. If finish, then pupils can continue exploring Unifrog to explore with subject choices.	
WB 8th March 2027	2,7	Practice writing a CV by creating one for your favourite superhero. Use the 15 minute offline PP and then give pupils time to experiment with the CV writing tool template. Your superhero CV	
WB 26th April 2026	2,7	Practice writing a CV by creating one for your favourite superhero. Use the 15 minute offline PP and then give pupils time to experiment with the CV writing tool template. Your superhero CV	
WB 1st June	2,6,7	Students explore what they might want their life to look like in the future. They create a vision board digitally or by hand using the template as a guide. Resources: PP and digital template Creating the life you want (60 minute lesson)	

PSHCE lessons during Careers Fortnight 2026

Unifrog / Barclays Lifeskills

Year Group	Activity	
Year 7	Lesson 1 : Exploring possibilities – Dream jobs Students analyse the skills and themes relating to their dream job and explore other careers with shared characteristics. Resources: PP and digital workbook Exploring possibilities: Dream Jobs (60 mins ICT lesson)	Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book.
	Lesson 2 Students complete the Interests quiz on Unifrog and find out which jobs might be of interest to them. (60 mins ICT lesson) Interests profile	Use the 60 minute online PP
Year 8	Lesson 1: Decision making: choosing what to study at KS4 Students explore the next steps they need to take in advance of choosing their KS4 optional subjects. Resources: PP and Digital Workbook “decision making: choosing what to study at KS4” Decision making: Choosing what to study at KS4 (60 minutes ICT lesson)	Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book
	Lesson 2: Continuation of above lesson and completion of the digital workbook. If finish, then pupils can continue exploring Unifrog to explore with subject choices.	Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book
Year 9	Lesson 1: Working and earning: Managing your money Students explore their employment rights as young workers in the UK and discuss the importance of budgeting when managing an income. Working and earning: Managing your money Resources: PP & digital workbook	Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book.
	Lesson 2: What is the Labour market and why is it important? Exploring what the labour market is and how to identify and use different types of LMI. Use Unifrog tools to explore how LMI can help to make more informed choices. What is the Labour market and why is it important? Resources: PP & digital workbook	Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book.

Year 10	<u>CV writing and covering letters</u> <u>Barclays LifeSkills lessons</u> Lesson 1 :Writing a successful cv Use the lesson plan, presentation slides and interactive worksheets on CV writing with pupils during this first lesson. Resources: PP, interactive CV sheet Lesson 2: Putting together a winning CV Start to put together your CV, use the computers and tips website to support you with the layout. Once you have completed your CV, start on your covering letter. Students can use: Unifrog Resources What's the difference between a CV and a cover letter? And how do you write them? Find out in this lesson! Work experience: CVs and cover letters	Use the Barclays Life Skills lessons
Year 11	<u>Lesson 1: Choices Choices</u> Starter – Chatterbox activity (printed out and in folders for you) Students learn about the opportunities available to them post-16. This is a great time to ask students to record their intentions for the end of this academic year! Post 16 - Choices, choices Resources: PP & digital work book <u>Lesson 2 ; What are my employability skills?</u> Students use the Unifrog platform to research potential careers, degree subjects, and interests that will help them to identify A level options. What are my employability skills Resources: PP & digital work book	Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book. Use the 60 minute online PP & digital work book.

Provider Access Legislation (PAL)

The [updated provider access legislation \(PAL\)](#) has now been enacted. It specifies schools must provide at least six encounters with approved providers of apprenticeships and technical education for all their students:

- 2 encounters that are mandatory for all pupils to attend that take place any time during year 8 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 9
- 2 encounters that are mandatory for all pupils to attend that take place any time during year 10 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 11
- 2 encounters that are mandatory for the school to put on, but optional for pupils to attend, to take place any time during year 12 or between 1 September and 28 February during year 13

These 6 meetings are timed to inform consideration of post-14, post-16 and post-18 options and progression to the next stage of education or training.

This new legislation will become a key mechanism to further help learners understand and take-up, not just apprenticeships, but wider technical education options such as T-Levels and Higher Technical Qualifications.

	Organisation	When
Year 8	Global Academy	Autumn Term
Year 9	Global Academy Assembly Uxbridge College UTC Heathrow	Autumn Term Spring Term
Year 11	AIM Assembly (EDT) Global Academy Assembly Uxbridge College Assembly	Autumn Term Spring term Spring Term

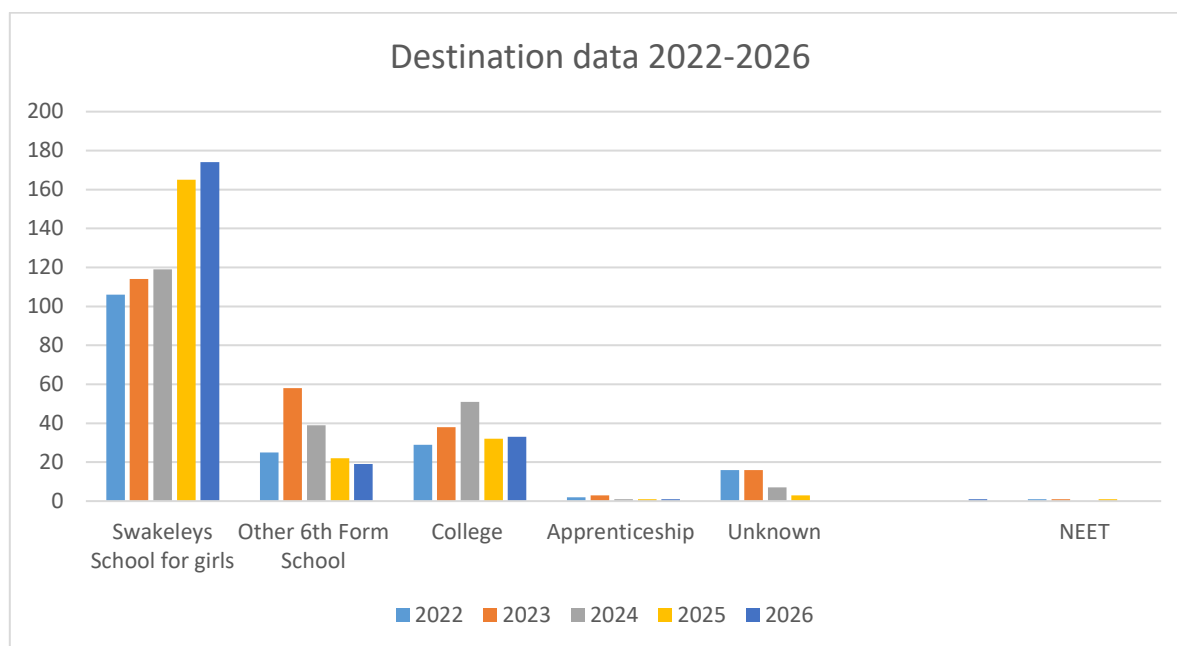
Year 11 Destination Data 2022 - 2026

179 Students– 2022
230 Students – 2023

217 Students – 2024
224 Students – 2025

228 students – 2026 (59 PP)

	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Swakeleys School for girls	106	114	119	165	174
Other 6th Form School	25	58	39	22	19
College	29	38	51	32	33
Apprenticeship	2	3	1	1	1
Unknown	16	16	7	3	1
NEET	1	1	0	1	0



PP and SEND Tracking of Destination 2025:

No. of students: 224 / 59 PP students / 28 SEND register

	ALL	PP	SEND
Swakeleys School for girls	165	43	17
Other 6th Form School	22	6	0
College	32	38	9
Apprenticeship	1	9	0
Unknown	3	1	1
NEET	1	0	0

Calendar of Events during Careers Focus Fortnight January 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
5 January	6 January	7 January	8 January	9 January
Launch Step in to the NHS competition (Year 7&8) Year 8 Taster sessions (Media P2 & Sociology P4) <i>Canteen</i> Green Careers Display Alumni Display	Hall assembly on careers (Year 7&8) Year 8 Taster sessions (Health and Social Care P1 & Psychology P3) <i>Canteen</i> Years 8-10 Talk about Careers in Women Sport from the Harlequin Foundation (P2) <i>HALL</i>	1-1 Mock Interview day HALL (Year 11) Year 8 Taster sessions (Citizenship P3 and Childcare P4) <i>Canteen</i>	Hall assembly on careers (Year 11) Year 9-11 Geography talk on Sustainability within Delta Airlines and careers in Aviation P1 <i>HALL</i> Year 10 KCL MFL talk about careers in languages (P5) <i>HALL</i>	Hall assembly on careers (Year 9&10) Year 8 Taster sessions (Business P2) <i>Canteen</i> Science Made Simple (work shop) for all KS3. 3 workshops (P3-P5) <i>HALL</i>
12 January	13 January	14 January	15 January	16 January
Year 8 AMAZON – Think Big Mobile STEM workshop LRC Women in Engineering workshop (Year 9&10) Offsite SCS Railways Acton SEND Careers Lunch	Year 8 Options Careers Coffee Morning (Parents) <i>HALL</i> 6th Form Taster Day (Year 11) Year 9-11 Careers in Hospitality Talk Stephen Travis (P4) <i>Hall</i>	Careers Fair Day P1 – Year 10 P2- Year 11 P3 – Year 8 P4 – Year 9 P5 – Year 7 Insight workshops & Speed networking (Year 10 & 11: P3-P5)	Year 10 & 11 SEND trip to Uxbridge College (P1-P3) Offsite	TALK Geography with Katie Underwood & Hannah Alchihiimi-Alumni Year 8: P1 Year 9-11: P2 <i>HALL</i> Year 11 IAG session (P4) <i>ICT Rooms</i> Year 11 Mock results (P5) <i>Hall</i>

*Blue – new events for this year / *Red TBC

Events taking place across the whole fortnight:

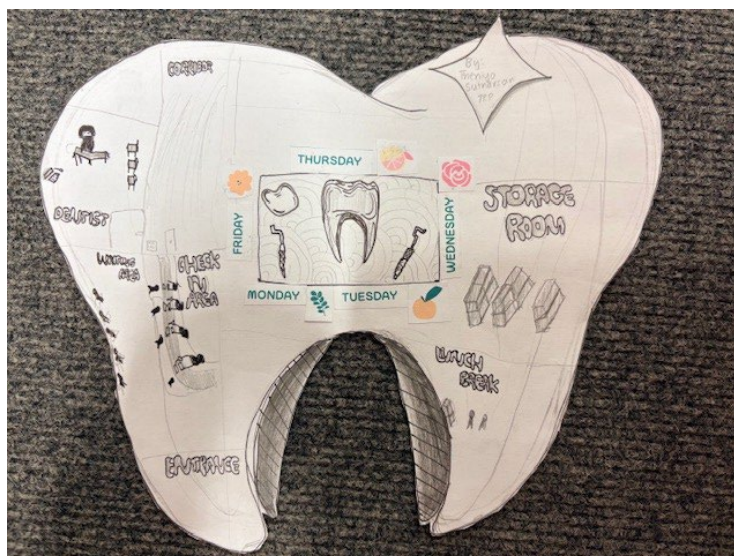
- 'Step into the NHS Competition'
- Careers focused PSHCE Lessons across ALL year groups
- Subject department participation in careers events across the fortnight through displays, homework tasks, guest speakers, careers activities / competitions in lesson
- Year 8 Taster lessons for all option subjects
- "Mathematics, Creativity and Confidence" TALK Postponed to WB 19/1/26

Careers News

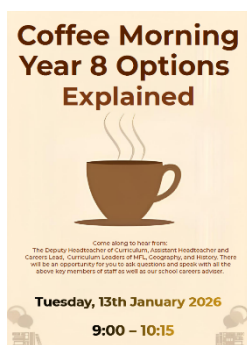
Careers Focus Fortnight 2026 (5th January – 16th January)

January saw the launch of our annual **Careers Focus Fortnight**, a two-week celebration of all things careers-related! Students were able to explore, feel inspired and learn about the exciting possibilities for their futures. From interactive workshops and assemblies to competitions and industry talks, the two week careers focus gave students a hands-on look at the opportunities that may lie ahead.

The fortnight began with **main school assemblies** exploring the importance of understanding the labour market (LMI) and how **AI and technology are transforming today's job landscape**. Students were encouraged to think about the skills they will need for the careers of the future. The excitement continued with the **"Step into the NHS" competition** for Years 7 and 8, challenging them to think creatively about healthcare careers and the vital roles that keep the NHS running. I am delighted to share the winning entry for the competition: **Theniya Sutharsan 7RP**



During the first week, our Year 8 students took part in a series of **subject taster sessions** in Media, Sociology, Health & Social Care, Psychology, Citizenship, Childcare, and Business, designed specifically to **support them in making informed Year 8 option choices**. These sessions gave students practical insights into potential career pathways and helped them explore which subjects might best suit their interests and future ambitions.



To complement this, we also invited parents to join us for a **Careers Coffee Morning**, where they learned more about the options process and heard from some of our popular curriculum leaders, who shared insights into why their daughters might consider choosing their subjects at GCSE. This collaboration between students, staff, and parents ensured that everyone had the guidance and information needed to make confident, informed decisions about the future.

Adding to the inspiration, the **Green Careers and Alumni displays** showcased sustainability-focused roles and real-life success stories from former students, helping students envision the wide range of possibilities that lie beyond school.

Science Made Simple workshop

Our KS3 students had a fantastic time participating in the **Science Made Simple workshops**. Through a series of hands-on activities, students were able to explore STEM careers in a **fun, engaging, and memorable way**. These workshops not only sparked curiosity in science and technology but also highlighted the exciting career paths available in these fields.



Careers Talks

There were many opportunities to hear directly from employers and professionals from a wide range of industries during the careers fortnight. Students in Years 8–10 attended talks on **careers in women's sport** from speakers from the Harlequin Foundation, as well as a session on sustainability and **careers in aviation** delivered by a parental guest speaker who spoke about Delta Airlines. Year 10 students also heard from King's College London about **careers in languages**, and our Food Technology classes were fortunate to welcome guest speaker Stephen Travis to discuss **careers within the hospitality sector**, which helped students understand the pathways into this continually growing industry.

KCL Talk on MFL



Careers in Sport from the Harlequin Foundation



Delta Airways Talk on Sustainability



Hospitality Talk

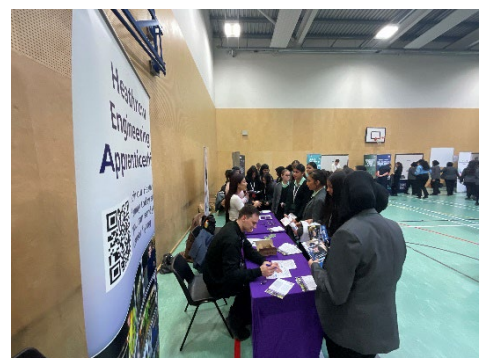


Whole-School Careers Fair

The centrepiece of the fortnight was our **buzzing whole-school Careers Fair**, which was a huge success. We were very excited to welcome **37 exhibitors** from an exciting and diverse range of sectors, giving students the invaluable opportunity to speak directly with employers, training providers, colleges and universities about where their ambitions and subject choices could take them next.



It was especially wonderful to welcome back our **alumni**, who returned enthusiastically to share their personal journeys and successes. Former students proudly represented careers within the **police force, fire service and care sector**, inspiring our students with real-life stories and showing just how many exciting and achievable pathways lie ahead.





Year 11 Insight workshops and Speed networking

Additionally, on the careers fair day, we planned and ran eight insight workshops and a popular speed networking event. This gave students the valuable opportunity to engage directly with professionals. These sessions were generously supported by 18 volunteers (including some parents) whose time, expertise and enthusiasm helped make the experience both informative and inspiring for our students.

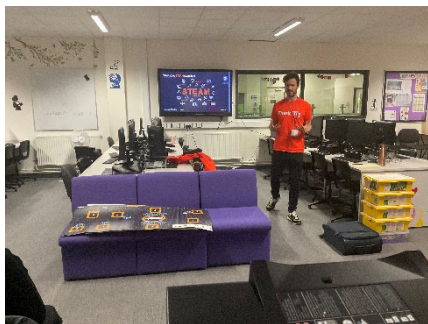


1-1 Mock Interview Skills Day

Year 11 were also involved in 1-to-1 mock interviews, providing an invaluable opportunity to prepare for and practise a mock interview scenario. Students attended the interview wearing business attire, and many had prepared a CV and covering letter for the event. Our interviewers were highly complementary of our students and high praise was given on the feedback forms. Thank you to all the business volunteers who supported the event.



Year 8 Amazon Think Big STEM workshop



Year 8 students have been participating in **Amazon's Think Big mobile STEM workshop**. Students have been building LEGO robots and bringing them to life through coding. A fun and exciting way to discover the exciting world of tech.



Careers Trips

During the fortnight, we ran two external trips. The first was a **Women in Engineering** workshop at the Acton HS2 site. Below is a small account from some of the Year 9 participants about their experience on the day:

"We were so lucky to be selected for the SCS Women in Engineering trip! We got first-hand experience of a construction site and spoke with female professionals who work as engineers. We also learned about apprenticeships and the different pathways available after sixth form. It was a great experience, and we are very grateful for this opportunity."

Farina, Tvisha & Aleena 9RP



A



small group of our Year 10 & 11 students attended a planned trip to **Uxbridge College** to explore the courses and facilities that are available to them. They met staff and students, asked questions about college life and learned more about the opportunities and pathways open to them after Year 11. Thank you to Mrs Morning for arranging this insightful trip for our students.



Careers visit: Uxbridge College Hayes campus

On Thursday 15th January 2026, a small group of year 10 and 11 students from Swakeleys visited the Hayes Campus of Uxbridge college. This was to find out about the different courses they had to offer and be clear about how the students are supported to be successful and happy.

On the trip we experienced what it was like to be on the campus. As we were guided around we were able to see some of the college's departments. Some of the facilities include, a theatre, a running restaurant (which the general public is allowed to access) and a hair salon (which is also available to the public). The college seemed well kept and had its own shop for the students to purchase food.

While exploring the performing arts area, we met a student who seemed extremely happy and wished to tell us about what it was like. We also walked past some tremendously friendly staff members who greeted us politely. Our group was also informed that if you have to re-take some of your exams, that they would support you all the way till you passed.

After this experience it is clear that it is a good idea to go to the open days of many colleges to get a good feel for each one and the different opportunities they present.

By Esme Grange

Careers Focus Fortnight 2026 was epic this year! It was an invitation for our students to dream big. The fortnight celebrated ambition and curiosity, inspiring every student to consider and take steps towards their future. A huge thank you to all our amazing staff and all the volunteers who supported the careers focus events.

Mrs Laguillo – Assistant Headteacher

QPR Work Experience Opportunity

For a few years now we have been working closely with QPR to offer work experience to our students who are particularly interested in learning more about careers in Sport. There is an application process involved in securing these work experience placements and I am very pleased and proud of our three 11 students who attended a week long work experience opportunity at QPR in January. Well done!



“We all found the work experience really fun and inspirational as it gave us a clear view on what coaching, volunteering, encouraging and communication skills we would use to benefit us in the future. We all recommend applying for this opportunity as it was a great experience. We all wished it was longer! As well as this it was a good experience to test ourselves for the future as we were interviewed and had the privilege to interview workers and QPR players. We were given a lot of freedom which was good as it allowed us to improve our time management skills. Overall it was very fun and we urge you to apply if you are interested in sports.”

Edey Kestell, Skye Shaw, Lucy Crawley – Year 11

Careers news updates

<https://padlet.com/plaguillo/swakeleys-careers-news-73h25c6pjo0vad1a>

A screenshot of a Padlet board titled "Swakeleys Careers News" by Mrs Laguillo. The board has a green background and features several sections and pinned posts. At the top, there's a welcome message: "Welcome to the new format for Careers News. This will allow me to update you with the latest careers opportunities as they are released." Below this, there are four main sections: "Current Opportunities", "Learning About Careers / pathways that may be of interest to YOU!", "Labour Market Information (LMI)", and "Making a 1-1 careers appointment with Mrs Kindley-Deeks". Each section has a plus icon for adding content. The board is populated with several posts: a pinned post by Ms McRory about "Lloyds Banking Group - 2026 May Half Term Virtual Work Experience" with a Lloyds logo; a pinned post by Mrs Laguillo titled "My Guide at 16 - Hillingdon" with a photo of three students; two posts by Mrs Laguillo titled "LMI info for April" and "LMI info for March 2026" featuring "LMI Bulletin" logos; and a pinned post by Mrs Laguillo titled "forms.gle" with a Google Forms sign-in prompt. At the bottom, there are more pinned posts partially visible, including "October Law Work ..." and "Explore the worl...".

