

The Parent Council's "Flying Start" initiative

School children have little experience of the working world, yet within a few years of starting secondary education, we ask them to make choices about the subjects they will take – decisions that will affect their future career and studies.

Together we can support our children in making informed choices by introducing them to people who already work in a variety of jobs and by encouraging them to think creatively about possible future career paths.

Williamwood High School has a potential pool of around 3000 parents working in a wide range of career environments. The Parent Council's *Flying Start* initiative aims to tap into this as a resource to support all of our children, particularly those in the upper school, to ensure they make informed choices about their futures.

We are looking for people from all walks of life and from a variety of different jobs. All we need from you at this stage is your name, job or profession, contact details and your willingness to participate. We are currently collating a database of career choices for our pupils.

You can help by:

- offering a pupil a work experience placement in your place of work or in the workplace of someone you know;
- giving a short talk to pupils or joining a Q&A session on your career; or
- helping prepare pupils for interviews, whether for college, university or directly into a job.

The school website (see *Quick Links*) gives you more details and a video presentation on Flying Start which highlights the benefits of work experience. To send us your details online, e-mail us at info@whs-pc.co.uk.

Thank you.

Robert Caldwell
Chairperson of Williamwood High School's Parent Council