



DYW Newsletter – November 2021



This DYW (Developing the Young Workforce) newsletter gives parents and carers of pupils an update on some of the activities the school is undertaking to prepare our pupils for life after Hillhead Head High School. You will also find information on upcoming key deadlines. Lots more information can be found on our school website, (including copies of all the material shared at our Pathways Evening in October) and there are updates shared on pupil Teams pages on a very regular basis as well as via our school Twitter account **@HillheadHS**. However, we appreciate that families have busy lives and hopefully this summary of key information will be helpful. At the end of the newsletter are contact details for staff in the school who can answer any questions you may have, or provide additional support to your child in order to ensure they are fully ready for the world of work.

University UCAS Applications



26th November- Complete the additional information section and choices section online. Return predicted grades and comment forms to Pastoral Care teachers.

Personal Statement Feedback- Any pupil wishing to receive feedback on their Personal Statement should email it to Mr Richardson who will share with our partners, FOCUS West for expert feedback.



College Applications



All school leavers at Hillhead High School should complete a college application, even if university, apprenticeship or employment is their first choice. This ensures that everyone has a back-up options, in case things do not go to plan.

December - College applications for those currently attending a college course or undertaking a Foundation Apprenticeship will open in December. It is vital that pupils take advantage of this early access as it will increase their chances of gaining a place at college.



Mid January- Applications for all other leavers will open around the 15th of January (exact date to be confirmed by the colleges). Pupils should be ready to submit their application as close to this date as possible, as places are offered to suitable applicants on a first come first serve basis. Pupils should have their 2000 character personal statement completed and checked prior to this date. Mr Richardson will send out more information on support sessions for writing college applications soon.

Apprenticeships

28th February 2022- Apprenticeship applications for BAE Systems for August 2022 start are now open and close on the *28th of February*.

<https://www.baesystems.com/en/careers/careers-in-the-uk/apprenticeships>

You can sign up for email alerts about new apprenticeship opportunities at <https://www.apprenticeships.scot/>.

Work Experience

Mr Richardson posts a range of work experience opportunities on S4-S6 year group Teams pages on a weekly basis and all pupils are encouraged to take up opportunities that interest them and/or fit with future career plans.



HSBC- Applications are now open to take part in the HSBC work experience programme. <https://www.hsbc.com/careers/students-and-graduates/student-opportunities/uk-work-experience-programme>

A wide variety of high quality virtual work experience opportunities are open to senior pupils and these can be found here [here](https://www.s4snextgen.org/)- <https://www.s4snextgen.org/>.

S5 and S6 pupils should be mindful of the evidence gathering period when applying for any work experience opportunities.

Level 6 Leadership Award



All S6 pupils are undertaking the SQA Level 6 Leadership Award this year. This is to allow all pupils the opportunity to gain a Higher-level qualification and to recognise the hard work and effort put into S6 committees. From the 19th of November pupils have met in their committee groups during Friday 5. The S6 Leadership Team began the award a few weeks ago and have been providing support to their peers. As well as developing key skills through their committees, such as teamwork, problem solving and communication, gaining one or more level 6 qualifications provides more opportunities to our pupils upon leaving school.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Over the past three months all S6 pupils have been offered the opportunity to undertake the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. This is fully funded by the school with all equipment available to pupils who need it. Over 100 S6 pupils have completed their expedition sections which is an incredible achievement. Pupils should now focus on completing their Physical, Skill and Volunteering sections and keeping evidence of this through photographs or a logbook.



Anyone who is unsure of what to do to complete these sections should contact Mr Richardson. We would also like to wish good luck to our new Gold Duke of Edinburgh participants. It will be a challenging award to achieve but the experience will be well worth it!

Departmental / Faculty Focus on DYW

One of our school priorities this year is to embed skills for work across our curriculum and all Faculty Heads and Principal Teachers are currently leading faculty/department discussions on how they can continue to develop support our pupils to develop the necessary skills to be successful when leaving school. Below are some examples of departmental displays highlighting different career options and the various skills that can be developed within different subject areas.



Contact Details

For questions about university, college, apprenticeships, employment, Level 6 Leadership Award, Duke of Edinburgh or work experience contact Mr Richardson: gw12richardsonjack@glows.sch.uk

If your child has recently left school and would like support in finding their next step contact Kayleigh Smith (DYW co-ordinator): gw21smithkayleigh@glowmail.org.uk

To book a careers appointment contact- Fiona Bain (Skills Development Scotland Senior Careers Advisor: fiona.bain@sds.co.uk