



# FEARNHILL SCHOOL



## Careerfile

Issue 21 30th October 2023

### Fearnhill Success Story

I have known Nicole since she joined Fearnhill as a Year 7 student and spent considerable time with her as much of her extra-curricular time was spent in the PE Dept either at sports clubs or representing the school in numerous sports fixtures.

With my Head of Careers hat on I was convinced she would follow a sporting route in the future. However, the more dishes I was luckily able to test for Nicole when she would bring them to me to sample, coupled with her love of cooking and desire to be a chef - I knew that Nicole would follow her heart. Nicole went to North Herts College to study catering after Year 11 and has achieved fantastic results both from the course and in the many competitions she has entered. The fact that she is now doing what she loves whilst travelling the world is just awesome.

I contacted Nicole to ask if she would do a careers talk to my catering group whilst shore side and she happily obliged. The classes sat in wonderment at her achievements whilst listening attentively to her career journey and life as a Royal Navy chef and asking many questions at the end. I am always so proud to hear of our ex-student's successes and right now this is Nicole's moment.

Congratulations on your success to date Nicole, for following your heart, sticking to your guns and finding the career that was so obviously right for you. See Nicole's story in her own words on page 2.

*Ms Balchin, Careers & PSHE Lead*



### Important dates for your diary

#### Fearnhill 6th Form Information Evening

Wednesday 8th November

For Year 11 students & parents/carers - letter [HERE](#)

#### Highfield Sixth Form Information Evening

Thursday 9th November

Look out every fortnight for  
new features -  
all things career related!



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## Services for Young People

We are pleased to welcome Chris Aylward, a Services for Young People Advisor, to Fearnhill school on designated days during the Autumn term to meet with students and discuss their options, ideas and opportunities available to them after Year 11. We aim to get every Year 11 student booked in for an appointment with an advisor before the end of the academic year. Every student will then be followed-up by myself to check they are set for their next steps.

**Services for  
Young People**

It is essential that students do not miss their meeting as this wastes valuable time. Students are asked to make a note of the time, date and place of their meeting when Tutors announce them prior to the day. If students are unable to attend their appointment they are asked to swap with another student in their form group and inform myself or Ms Charter so that their slot can be re-scheduled. Reminder cards are issued to students via their Tutors on the morning of their meeting to ensure they don't forget!

A 'Drop-In' session is also offered at break and lunchtime whereby students can go along, without an appointment, to ask any questions they have re: their future.

Chris is covering for Jo Bains, our usual advisor, who is currently off recovering from an injury. We wish her a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming her back in the Spring term fighting fit!

## Nicole's Career Path

"I am an ABCS (Able Rate Catering Service) in the Royal Navy. I have competed in culinary competitions for the navy in the Tri service catering competitions, as well as representing the navy in the national Young National Chef of the Year where I made the final 2 years running. I have cooked for the Second Sea Lord (third highest ranking officer in the navy) as one of his chefs to provide high end cooking for royalty and other high profile guests.

I have cooked on board warships, HMS Defender, where I served up to 240 people 3 times a day whilst trying to keep morale high with good food. I got to spend a month in Australia helping a batch 2 offshore patrol vessel HMS Spey. Now I am currently drafted in the Falklands as a private chef for the commander of the base.

I absolutely love my job within the Royal Navy as you get to travel the world meet new people and sometimes get to cook at the top level. The great thing about being on ship is you're not just a chef; you do first aid, fire fighting, and therefore become a damage control 'expert'.

The Royal Navy for me was the best decision I've made in my career as I've only been in 2 years and I've managed to do all of the above after my phase 1 and phase 2 training which I finished in June 2022."

## Special Mention - October III

Madison 8H took the opportunity of making the most of strike days in Year 7 by doing work experience.

*"On the inset days and the strike days we had, I went into Northfields Infant and Nursery School and helped doing some activities with some Year 1 students. I did reading, art, some playtime duties and generally helping within lessons throughout the day. I also spent some time with Nursery children. This was voluntary and I did full School days."*

This is fantastic evidence that Madison can use on her CV and for applications for future work experience, employment and further education in addition to the confidence Madison will have gained and the insight into the world of work. Well done Madison!



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## College Open Events

Please be aware that Further Education Colleges are now starting to host their Open Days/Evenings. Remember, all of you should have a plan B, you can apply for as many 6th Form/College courses as you wish and should be keeping your options open. Visiting local Colleges may help you decide what you really want to do over the next 2 years whether it be 6th form, College or an Apprenticeship.

Please check the Open Days/Evenings dates and times which are displayed on the Year 11 Careers board. These, along with other important information, are also emailed to you so be sure to check your school email regularly.



**OPEN DAY**

**ST ALBANS**

 **SAT 4<sup>TH</sup> NOV**

 **10AM-3PM**

**Oaklands College**



**OPEN DAY**

**WELWYN GARDEN CITY**

 **SAT 11<sup>TH</sup> NOV**

 **10AM-3PM**



  
NORTH  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
COLLEGE

**OPEN EVENT**

**STAY GO  
CLOSE FAR**

See where  
a course at NHC  
will take you

**Wednesday  
15 November**  
5pm - 9pm



  
CENTRAL  
BEDFORDSHIRE  
COLLEGE  
Part of The Bedford College Group

**OPEN DAY**

**Thursday 9 November**  
**4.00-7.00pm**

**Register today!**



  
BEDFORD  
COLLEGE  
& UNIVERSITY CENTRE  
Part of The Bedford College Group

**HANDS ON  
LEARNING**

**YOUR FUTURE  
STARTS HERE**

**OPEN DAY**

**WEDNESDAY  
15 NOVEMBER**  
**5.00pm - 8.00pm**

**REGISTER NOW**

## Year 11 16+ Options

The Year 11 students have a lot of information being given to them at the moment and it can all feel very overwhelming. The important thing is for them to talk to me and their tutors or trusted member of staff if they have any concerns regarding their future choices or mental health.

Students are advised to check their school email accounts weekly, if not daily! Careers information and opportunities are sent regularly and we wouldn't want them to miss the deadlines. These are copied to parents/carers as well for reference.

## Key Word/Phrase of the Fortnight

UNEMPLOYED



TO BE **WITHOUT**  
**A JOB.**

## Obscure / Obsolete Job Titles



### osherers

In Victorian England, toshers spent their days (and sometimes nights) going through the sewers to look for anything that could be sold for money, like coins or silver spoons. Toshers carried big sticks that they used to sort through sewage to find the shiny objects they were looking for.

## Apprenticeship FAQs

**Public services apprenticeships help make our society a better and safer place to live.**

Public services are all about people, businesses and communities, covering education, fire services, police and many more besides. Many people who work in public services want to make a difference and they go home at the end of the week with more than just a pay cheque. They know their work helps other people and makes our society a better and safer place.

Any questions [contact us](#)

ESCAPE STUDIOS

WE'RE IN THE TOP 6% IN THE UK FOR GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT\*

DID YOU KNOW?

The UK's creative industries generate more than **£100bn a year** and employ more than **2 million people!**

THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

**SCHOOL OF ANIMATION, GAMES AND VFX**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CAREERS AND SALARIES

\*Source: Graduate Outcomes 2020/21 survey results published by the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). HESA open data is published under the (CC BY 4.0) licence.

Image courtesy of Freemove

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# The Apprenticeship Guide Website

The Apprenticeship Guide website is designed to be accessible and motivating for students. It is your one-stop introduction to the world of apprenticeships. Find out all you need to know about apprenticeships, from what the different levels mean, to preparing your application and interview tips. You can also check out current vacancies to apply for and the latest news about companies hiring and success stories from current apprentices, all helping to inspire your career choice.

Please visit [www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk](http://www.apprenticeshipguide.co.uk) as you consider the next step in your education and career.

The Apprenticeship Guide website is a one-stop introduction to the world of apprenticeships in England.

Search online for hundreds of [apprenticeship profiles](#), explaining the roles, responsibilities and rewards.

There is also practical advice on choosing the right apprenticeship, interview techniques and more. Plus, case studies profiling apprentices and their achievements, to help inspire career choices.

Students can also apply for an apprenticeship with a top employer on the [vacancies](#) section of the site.

## Amazing Apprenticeships

Has there ever been more options available to a 16 year old leaving school?!

This episode is the first of three in 'Options October'. In later episodes we'll focus on post-18 choices and 'retraining', but in this episode, it's all about the options open to young people post-16, after their GCSEs.

Joining Rachel are Lisa Capper MBE, who is the Principal of Stoke-on-Trent College, and Laura Hussey, who is a teacher within DSPL and parent of a Year 11 student and a daughter who's just left sixth form.



### Series 3 - Episode 6

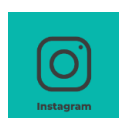
The Options Post-16: what are the choices facing our 16 year olds?



Share the love - tell someone else!

Know someone else who might be interested to hear about the podcast?

Make sure your friends and colleagues hear about this helpful new podcast series - so don't keep it to yourself, get sharing!



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# Year 7 Pastoral Evening Feedback

On Tuesday 10th October our Year 7 Pastoral Evening was held here at Fearnhill.

Feedback from the evening ranged from 'good' to excellent! The following comments were used:

## *What went well?*

*"I understand the importance of home/school connection. The tour was good, my daughter was very excited to show me and I was impressed with how quickly she knows her way around."*

*"Thank you for a wonderful evening."*

*"It showed how settled my daughter is in such a short amount of time."*

*"It was a nice evening where lots of questions were answered."*

*"I liked how personal it was and we were made to feel very welcome."*

*"There was a great deal of information given which was useful to take away and process."*

*"I was unable to attend, I feel like I've missed a great opportunity."*

## *Even better if...*

*"I would like to have seen more subjects/work completed."*

*"I would like to have met teachers for each lesson."*

*"It would have been better with more 1:1 interactions with staff rather than general feedback."*

# Medic Mentor

## Real Students. Real Journeys. Honest Reviews.

Pursuing your dream of becoming a doctor may feel overwhelming, but remember that countless successful doctors have faced similar challenges and doubts. Believe in yourself and your abilities, focusing on your strengths and passion for medicine. Medic Mentor and its community of supportive students and mentors are here to guide you. Embrace the journey, knowing that success comes from resilience and learning from setbacks. Trust in your intelligence, drive, and passion, taking it one step at a time and seeking support when needed. Never lose sight of your dreams, for you have what it takes to achieve them.

The Medic Mentor website has numerous videos of med students sharing their journey. Fathimah is at the University of Birmingham in their 2nd Year. Click [here](#) for Fathimah's story.

MEDIC  
MENTOR  
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY



## MEDIC MENTOR IS COMMITTED TO Widening Access To Medical School

Widening access to medical school involves making the opportunity to pursue a career in medicine more accessible to students from diverse backgrounds, including those from underrepresented communities, lower socio-economic backgrounds, and non-traditional pathways.

Medic Mentor is a UK-based non-profit organisation that aims to increase the diversity and inclusivity of the medical profession by providing support and guidance to students from underrepresented backgrounds who are interested in pursuing a career in medicine.

<https://medicmentor.org>

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