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ALUMNI CAREERS EVENT 2025 HANDBOOK

GROWING EXCELLENCE EVERYDAY

Welcome Message



It gives me great pleasure to welcome our ex-students to our second Alumni Careers event. The response to the invite has been phenomenal, resulting in a jump from over 30 in attendance last year to over 50 this year! This speaks volumes about the type of person that Fearnhill School helped nurture. By freely giving up your time, and in some cases, money, to share your experience and expertise in your career to date - you are helping to inspire the next generation of Fearnhill students. The current opportunities in education and work are vast but so many choices can make it a confusing time in a young persons life. Meeting employers and employees, especially those who have walked these corridors and sat where our young people now sit, will help them to make more informed decisions whilst witnessing that anything is possible with hard work and determination as you have all proved.

Thank you for supporting both this event and our young people, it really is appreciated. I wish all of you every continued success and happiness now and in the future.

Lesley Balchin

How the day will work

Employers will be set up in 3 areas for you to visit.

If your time slot is at the beginning of a lesson - please line up outside the hall (as you do for assembly) and your class teacher will meet and register you there. If it is the second half of your lesson, your class teacher will escort you to the hall.

Students are then free to visit the employers in the Main Hall, Drama Studio and Teaching & Learning Room in which ever order they choose (plan below).

Entry to the T&L Room (6th Form room by canteen, opposite the coffee bar) is either through the back doors of the hall and through reception, or straight up the Hall corridor steps and through reception should you choose to go there first. The side doors to the hall are entrance only.

Students must leave after their 30 minute slot.

Period 1: Year 9

Classes with: L Balchin, L Rouse, L Chilton - 8:55-9:25

Classes with: T Rayner, J Cheeseman - 8:55-9:25

Period 2: Year 10

Classes with: E Jennings, P Armstrong - 9:55-10:25

Classes with: D Carroll, J Woosey - 10:25-10:55

Period 3: Year 11

Classes with: V Kam, J Lee, R Ogedengbe - 11:15-11:45

Classes with: H Lattimer, A Hipperson - 11:45-12:15

Period 4: Year 8

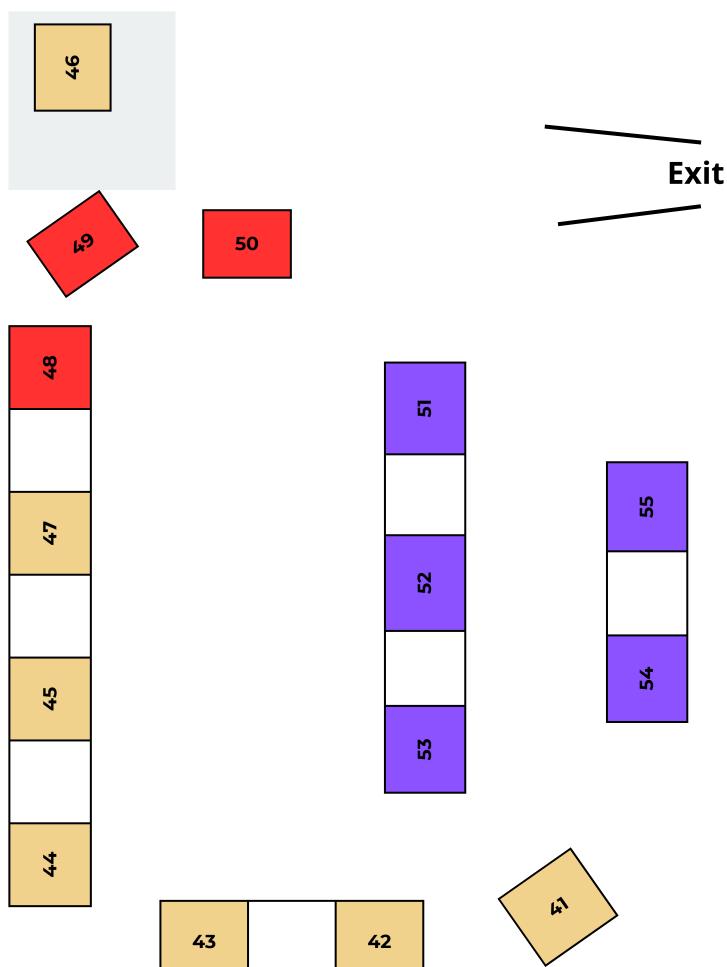
Classes with: E Jennings, J Woosey - 12:15-12:45 Classes with: K Cross, J Mills, R Thurlby - 12:45-13:15

Period 1-4: Years 12 & 13 (including Guest students)

6th formers can attend whenever they are free

Exit

T&L Room



Meet our Fearnhill Alumni

Animal Care		
Shara Thomas Veterinary Nurse Manager	Drama Studio	Providing treatment and care to animals; minor surgeries and post-operative care, monitoring anesthetics, Nurse consultations, triaging emergency cases, dispensing medications, Laboratory work.
Ella Dougherty Equestrian / Groom	Drama Studio 9	Studied equine management and now work on a yard as a groom.
Administration, Business & Finance		
David Ball Head of Coaching, Team Performance & Change	Stage 10	Specialising in personal coaching and supporting teams in how they work together for Rathbones Group Plc. Originally qualified as a Solicitor. Can advise on careers in law, financial services, HR and auction houses.
Daniel Bendon Senior Broker	Stage	I work with some of the biggest musicians and festivals in the country to arrange all of the insurances required within their personal and business lives.
Tamsin Goodhew Service Coordinator at East London Rape Crisis	19	Overseeing of all referrals to all advocacy and community engagement. Short-Term Casework Service (crisis intervention). Previously in post as ISVA.
Georgina Kivelehan Entertainment Businesses Manager	Stage 12	Manager of 2 entertainment businesses - an escape room and a TV-style quiz game experience.
Sonny Kurmi Chartered Financial Advisor	Stage 13	Helping individuals and business owners with their Pension, Investment, Protection and Tax needs.
Carla Pilsworth Director of Income Generation, Marketing & Communications	Stage 14	Responsible for income generation (fundraising) and marketing team at Garden House Hospice Care.
Priya Raj Operations Manager	^{Hall} 20	Running daily functions; organising interviews, diary management, social media content creation and management, overseeing projects, strategising for future plans, market mapping, onboarding and new starter training.

Millie Slattery Human Resources	наП 21	Team Lead/Line Manager at MGroup Services.
Charlotte Smith Recruitment Consultant	Hall 22	Working within Recruitment to Recruitment, placing consultants and agencies.
Bhavin Soneji Head of Audit	Stage 15	Ensuring the company is operating within control environment to minimise risk and loss and maximise profit whilst adhering to legal and regulatory requirements.
Sam Watts Account Advanced Manager	Stage 16	AECOM industry working with organisations on how they digitally manage construction and infrastructure life cycle, from design and engineering to Construction to operations and maintenance.
Harry Wilkinson Assistant Project Manager	Stage 18	Delivers projects on pharmaceutical site from inception to closure, values up to £250k. Assists on projects on value up to 15 million.
Computing, Techology & Digital		
Haydon Bartlett-Tasker Computer Technician	30	Building and operating the world's most advanced computer vision railway infrastructure inspection system. Taking video data from the front of trains and undertaking inspections using AI.
Graham Holloway Founder/Managing Director	наII 31	Providing IT consultancy, support, repairs, installations, hardware and software, to domestic and business customers.
Construction & Trades		
Jay Duguid <i>Plasterer</i>	Hall Stair 39	Company Director of plastering firm.
Creative & Media		
Cate Bishton Social Media & Community Coordinator	^{T&L} 51	Manage online presence and engage with The Wine Society social community. Create content that showcases wines, events, and values, ensuring we're always connected with members in a fun and informative way.
Stephen Pryke Freelance Composer & Sound Designer	28	Freelance composer and sound designer on a number of projects through which I have written songs in a range of genres, and I co- manage an independent record label with a fellow ex-student.

Cameron Lusty Freelance Composer & Sound Designer	53	Freelance writer for movies and television, but have also wrote comic books, short stories, radio plays, and online content. Oneoff lectures teaching creative writing and different aspects of dramaturgy. Worked as a producer and in various production roles.
Luke Shimell Marketing Team Leader	52	Company website Project lead (SEO, Customer Journey, Content Creation). Overseeing SEO (Search Engine Optimisation) strategy. Marketing Team Leader; ensuring franchise requirements are met and task allocation to team members.
William Smith Professional Trumpet Player	наII 29	Freelancing in the music industry working for bands/orchestras and in the West End in musical theatre pits.
Nicola White-Reed Senior Designer, Product & ESG Manager	24	Product design, sourcing, environment, social, governance, creative direction for the company, marketing.
Emergency Services		
Ashley Dymoke Field Intelligence Officer for Major Crime Unit (MCU)	^{T&L} 48	Developing Intelligence to support live investigations, using covert and overt tactics.
Elliott Lee Trainee Detective Constable	49	British Transport Police (Railway), investigating GBH, county lines, sexual assaults, suspects. Conduct investigations, make statements & review CCTV before submitting CPS. Attend crown and magistrates court, scenes of crime and investigate suspicious or child fatalities on the railway. Previously a uniformed police officer for two years.
Matt Reed Metropolitan Police Constable	50	Forensic Collision Investigator. Attending and examining scenes of fatal/serious collisions and major incidents involving vehicles. Completing reconstruction reports. Attending both criminal and coronial courts and giving evidence as an expert witness.
Engineering & Maintenance		
Morgan Payne EDI Content Writer	наII 25	Creating content (reports, website, events) for a not-for-profit that work to get more women into STEM careers.
Adrian Turner Engineering & Logistics Manager	^{Hall} 26	Working within the prototype engineering sector, ranging from the car industry to military and healthcare. Also building props for the film industry.
Frank Wray Staff Engineer	27	Working with a team designing GPU IP (graphics processor intellectual property) for use in mobile phones; designing logic, coding SystemVerilog RTL and running various design checks & tools.

Healthcare		
Nicola Davies Cardiology Advanced Nurse Practitioner	^{T&L} 41	Looking after patients at Papworth Hospital who have had/suspected to have had a heart attack. Triaging referrals, clerking patients, listing and prioritising for procedures, post procedure reviews.
Ellen Dear Senior Regional Therapeutic Radiographer	42	Delivering Radiotherapy treatment across the UK and specialising in complex treatments.
Danielle Fraser <i>Midwif</i> e	43	Delivering babies and providing care for mothers & newborns.
Joshua Kiernan Doctor	T&L 44	Resident (Jnr) Doctor in Foundation year training at Lister Hospital. Working as part of the clinical team; diagnosing, treating and managing ward inpatients.
Tracy Maryan Specialist Nurse	45	Managing a service where patients are admitted to hospital with complications with cancer treatment they are receiving/have received. Daily management of assessment phone for patients to use when at home with side effects of treatment or unwell.
Ellie Ridpath + Colleague Armed Forces Dental Nurse	46	Dental Nurse and Oral Health Educator for Armed Forces.
Hannah Senior Health & Wellbeing Coach	47	A coach for adolescents (11-25) assisting them to improve mental and physical health.
Hospitality		
Rebecca Hope Events Manager	Stage 17	Working within the Medical Events industry arranging conferences for education purposes and assisting pharmaceutical clients with taking health care professionals to larger congresses in the UK and abroad.
Legal		
Jeremy Small CEO	23	I run an international legal recruitment and legal technology consultancy business.
Manufacturing		
Josh Davies Shift Manager at Altro Flooring	Hall Stair 40	Overseeing a manufacturing plant where safety flooring is produced. Works on a shift pattern.

Retail & Sales		
Lisa Barry Shop Manager	54	Day to day running of Garden House Hospice shop.
Tristan Potkins Relationship Manager	55	Getting products specified in councils and housing associations in line with regulations and standards. Training contractors on the relevant products and services then call on the electrical distribution chain to manage price and supply.
Science & Research		
Rebecca Grendon Doctoral PhD Student at Cambridge University	Hall Stair 33	I use AI to work out which therapies are most likely to succeed in kidney cancer treatment. This involves looking at images like MRI scans, understanding the structure of the tumor tissue using H&E staining, and analysing DNA and RNA in patients.
Karen Groot Strategic Research Coordinator (Projects)	Hall Stair 34	Project manager at University College London (UCL), working within the Research Coordination Office for the Life & Medical Sciences, managing a number of projects.
Laura Harpur Forensic Medicine	Hall Stair 35	Specialising in forensic science and medicine.
Stuart Kirbyshire Pharmaceutical Stability Lead	Hall Stair 36	Managing a team in a laboratory environment, performing chemical testing of tablets prior to release in the market.
Naomi Wray Doctoral Student in Mathematical Physics	Hall Stair 38	Research Algebraic Quantum Field Theory, reporting to a supervisor and research group. Support module teaching for Undergraduate Maths students at the University.
Sport & Leisure		
Katie Denver F1 Academy Head of Performance & Talent Development	Drama Studio 6	Responsible for optimising racing driver performance by developing young talent and supporting progression to top levels . Previously worked in similar roles for England Netball, England Rugby and Motorsport UK.
Tasmin Gentle Sports Therapist	Drama Studio 7	Treat, diagnose and rehab injuries within a clinic environment and football team.

Teaching & Education		
Georgia Brown Pastoral Care Coordinator	Drama Studio	Supporting students with any issues that may arise in school.
Jess Maddams SEN Maths Tutor	Drama Studio 2	I teach SEN students in a 1:1 basis and support learning in the classroom.
Kerry Maddox Teaching Assistant & MSA	Drama Studio 3	1:1 teaching assistant for a child with special needs. Lunchtime Supervisor.
Cathryn Neesam Educational & Child Psychologist	Drama Studio	Using psychology to support children and young people's learning and wellbeing in school. Working with parents and teachers.
Danika Williams Primary Teacher - PE specialism	Drama Studio 5	Working across a Federation. Teaching and Coordinating the PE, Sports and Physical Activity programme.
Transport		
Phil Marsh Railway Company Director	32	Advising on operations, performance monitoring, PR, media, event planning and rail industry economics.

Information Desk		
Lesley Balchin Careers Lead	Hall Stair 37	

Example Questions

What made you decide to go into this career?

What qualifications do you need?

What type of person do you need to be to do this type of work?

What's the best and worst part of your day?

What are the hours like?

What is the salary like?

What did you do straight after Year 11?

Have you always worked in this area of work?

Have you any tips for getting into this career?

Is this the career path you always wanted to follow?