



Careers Alumni Event

What a way to celebrate #nationalcareersweek2025 at Fearnhill School, welcoming back our ex-students for our second alumni careers event.



Over 50 of them came to share their career journey, wanting to 'give back' and support the current Year 8-13 students.

Words cannot express how grateful we are to them for taking the time to come along and be part of this amazing event.

The day was all about aspiration and inspiration and our alumni were the embodiment of this. Our students are so lucky to have had the opportunity to engage with, and learn from, such amazing role models from all walks of life and showcasing a vast range of careers. I am overwhelmed at the response and your genuine affection for Fearnhill.

Thank you to each and every one of you - to say I am proud of you all would be an understatement. Same time next year... bring it on!

Ms Balchin, Careers & PSHE Lead

Continued on Page 2.

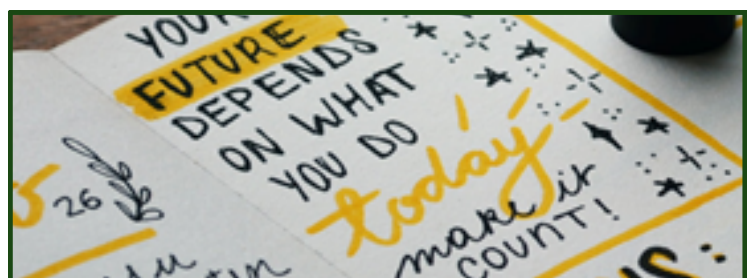
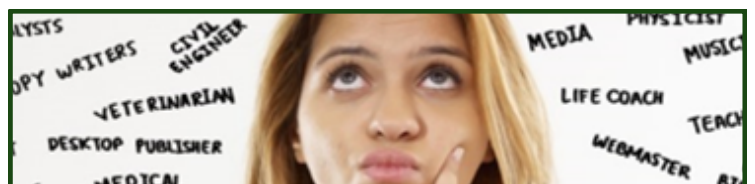
Important Dates for your Diary

Year 11 GCSE Dance Assessment - 24th March

Year 11 Period 6 resumes - 24th March

Year 7 Parents Evening - 25th March

Yr 11 MFL Speaking mock exam - 26th & 27th March



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



ALUMNI CAREERS EVENT 2025

We were so excited to welcome our ex-students back to the school to inspire our future generation of workers

Shara Thomas Veterinary Nurse Manager Animal Care	Ella Dougherty Equestrian Groom Animal Care	David Ball Head of Coaching, Team Performance & Change Admin, Business & Finance	Daniel Bendon Senior Broker Admin, Business & Finance	Tamsin Goodhew Service Coordinator at East London Rape Crisis Admin, Business & Finance
Georgina Kivelehan Entertainment Businesses Manager Admin, Business & Finance	Sonny Kurmi Chartered Financial Advisor Admin, Business & Finance	Saam Watts Account Advanced Manager Admin, Business & Finance	Carla Pilsworth Director of Income Generation, Marketing & Communications Admin, Business & Finance	Harry Wilkinson Assistant Project Manager Admin, Business & Finance
Priya Raj Operations Manager Admin, Business & Finance	Millie Slattery Human Resources Admin, Business & Finance	Charlotte Smith Recruitment Consultant Admin, Business & Finance	Jeremy Small CEO Law & Legal	Haydon Bartlett-Tasker Computer Technician Computer, Technology & Digital
Graham Holloway Founder/Managing Director Computer, Technology & Digital	Jay Duguid Plasterer - Company Director Construction & Trades	Josh Davies Production Shift Manager Manufacturing	Cate Bishton Social Media & Community Coordinator Creative & Media	Stephen Pryke Musician & Label Co-Founder Creative & Media
Luke Shimell Marketing Team Leader Creative & Media	William Smith Professional Trumpet Player Creative & Media	Nicola White-Reed Senior Designer, Product & ESG Manager Creative & Media	Cameron Lusty Freelance Scriptwriter Creative & Media	Elliott Lee Trainee Detective Constable Emergency Uniform Services

It was such a wonderful event that gave our current students an insight to what is possible

Matt Reed Metropolitan Police Constable - Forensic Collision Investigator Emergency Services	Adrian Turner Engineering & Logistics Manager Engineering & Maintenance	Frank Wray Engineering Manager Engineering & Maintenance	Laura Harpur Forensic Medicine Criminology	Nicola Davies Cardiology Advanced Nurse Practitioner Healthcare
Ellen Dear Senior Regional Therapeutic Radiographer Healthcare	Danielle Fraser Midwife Healthcare	Joshua Kiernan Doctor Healthcare	Tracy Maryan Specialist Nurse Healthcare	Ellie Ridpath Dental Nurse - Armed Forces Healthcare
Hannah Senior Health & Wellbeing Coach Healthcare	Rebecca Hope Events Manager Hospitality - Events	Nicole Watt ABCS (Able Rating Catering Service) Royal Navy	Tristan Potkins Relationship Manager Retail & Sales	Rebecca Grendon Cancer Biology PhD Student, University of Cambridge Science & Research
Karen Groot Research Manager Science & Research	Stuart Kirbyshire Pharmaceutical Stability Manager Science & Research	Naomi Wray Mathematical Physics PhD student at Cardiff University Science & Research	Laura Harpur Forensic Medicine Science & Research	Katie Denver Head of Performance & Talent Development, F1 Academy Sports & Leisure
Tasmin Gentle Sports Therapist Sports & Leisure	Georgia Brown Pastoral Care Coordinator Teaching Education	Jess Maddams SEN Maths Tutor Teaching & Education	Kerry Maddox 1:1 Teaching Assistant & MSA Teaching & Education	Cathryn Neesam Educational & Child Psychologist Teaching & Education
Danika Williams Primary Teacher - PE specialism Teaching & Education	Phil Marsh Railway Company Director Transport	Thank you to our amazing Alumni for making this happen. We could not have done it without you!		

SPECIAL MENTION - MARCH II

Our unbelievably kind Alumni, for giving up their time to support and help guide our young people navigating their next steps and future career options.

The impact that your interactions and conversations have had can never be underestimated.

Thank you.

Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

ALUMNI CAREERS EVENT 2025 - ALUMNI FEEDBACK & PHOTOS

When asked for feedback on the event, this is what our visitors had to say:

"What a day that was! Looking forward to next year. Love you all, keep making the difference to young people."

"It was great to meet so many students! One thought we had was that engaging with the sixth formers was very different to the Year 8s - it was easier to talk to the older students about their career plans, but probably better to talk more generally about how you decided to do what you do with the younger ones."



"Students were all polite and asked some very good questions!"

"I think overall it went really well. Students were quite nervous at first but when they started talking they seemed to relax into it. Organisation and layout was great."



"It was really good, really exciting. Conversations were much more engaging this year."



"I had about a dozen students very interested in Rail which was great. Three were already volunteering at heritage railways which pretty much guarantees a job interview. The volunteering aspect is vital today in the highly competitive search for a job."

"Student engagement was fantastic, as was the layout and the way in which the day was run."

"It was really well laid out, enough space for each table, really good."

"It was laid out really well! Thought having the varying age groups was a great idea, also a challenge for myself. It was really good to see Miss B, Miss Charter, Ms White, Mr Sheridan & Turner again."

ALUMNI CAREERS EVENT 2025 - ALUMNI FEEDBACK & PHOTOS

When asked for feedback on the event, this is what our visitors had to say:



"It was really valuable and it was a privilege to be asked to contribute."

"Great organisation, layout good, engagement varied."

"A great experience for the students having to speak and interact with professionals."

"Another brilliant year of incredible student engagement, organisation and pride from the teachers."

"Year 11-13 very engaged, asking valuable questions."

"Student engagement was very good, the layout was very useful to allow for communication with other healthcare jobs situated near me."

"It was all great! Really enjoyed it - the students were so engaged. they did so well just coming up and talking to us!"



"The layout was excellent and the food was great. Student engagement could've probably been a little better."

"Good layout. Working out how to engage or start a conversations with the shy ones or if they don't know where to go (first or at all) is tricky so something to get the conversation started could be good for some."

"Overall it was really good and I wish I'd had something like this when I was at school - it was great to see how passionate the teachers and support staff were and how much they encouraged the students to get involved."

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ALUMNI CAREERS EVENT 2025 - STUDENT FEEDBACK

What did you enjoy most about the event?

"Talking to the Doctor."

"Getting advice from people with experience in fields I want to go into."

"Hearing about different pathways people took."

"Speaking to all the different careers"

"Speaking to people at universities I want to go to."

"Listening to the train man."

"There was a wide variety of career paths."

"The ex-students were enthusiastic and it was nice to see."

"Hearing peoples' stories."

"Talking to people and learning about each job."

"There was a wide variety of jobs to learn about."

"The opportunity to meet so many people."

"It was amazing to talk to people who actually attended Fearnhill and have gone through the same process. I really enjoyed talking to the doctor and hope to get some work experience out of it!"

"Learning about different job opportunities."

"The variety of job titles."

"Talking to my grit coach about what she earns and if she likes it."

"I enjoyed talking to the ex football player who played for Luton and Watford Academy."

"I enjoyed asking about what they did for GCSES and then seeing what job they do now."

"Finding out about other career paths."

"Talking to people in the trades."

"Learning about careers in designing."

"Speaking to Harry was the best bit. He made me realise that there are lots of paths to go down, I just need to find the right one for me."

"Asking questions I can apply to my own future."

"The wide range of careers that were displayed."

"The thing I enjoyed about the event is how much info we could get from the careers we were interested in and how open the people were."

"Talking to the people about their school experiences."

"Speaking to Laura about forensics."

"Finding out about veterinary opportunities."

"Talking to people with jobs that I find interesting and finding out more about them."

"Being able to talk to different people and get lots of advice on my future career. I think we should have the whole hour next time as I did not have enough time and had to stay the extra half an hour so I could speak to everyone I wanted to."

"Talking to the screenwriter about creative writing and him encouraging us to keep up with our own."

"Getting to speak to a wide range of people and understand what their jobs are like and how I can get into them and begin studying for them."

SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

We are pleased to welcome Jo Bains, our SfYP advisor, back after a short break. She has been missed and we look forward to her returning to the fold!

Jo will continue 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.

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 form Tutor on the morning of their meeting to ensure they don't forget!

Services for
Young People

6TH FORM PREFECTS 2025

The prefect team has now been announced and we are pleased to introduce the new line-up!

Head Students - Riley & Anna

Deputy Head Students - Mary, Kenzie, Emily & Daniel



There are 4 House Captain vacancies and we will let you know as soon as these positions have been filled!

Mr Marlow said of the candidates:

"Mr Spencer and I met with the 9 candidates for prefect roles last week. They were all fantastic, making it really difficult for us to choose the team. All spoke clearly in the interviews and had great ideas, as well as a realistic sense of what they could bring to the positions. Above all, they were very positive about their experiences at Fearnhill School, with thought provoking ideas for improvements. They are all excellent representatives for our community and we look forward to working with them."

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK 2025

Congratulations to the following students for correctly answering the National Careers Week Quiz questions...

1. Who sang the song 'Happy Working Song'?

Answer: Amy Adams

2. Before becoming one of the UK's biggest artists, who worked in an oil refinery as an engineering apprenticeship, and later in quality assurance?

Answer: Stormzy



1st - Rhys 12HLR 2nd - Riley 9P 3rd - Maison 9P 4th - Phoenix 9P 5th - Lyra 9P

CAREER MYTH BUSTING



THE MYTH:

International trade means lots of travel.

THE FACT:

Roles in Customs and International Trade Compliance are usually office-based, concentrated around transport hubs like ports, airports and rail terminals. However, as many companies in this arena have international operations, for people that do want to explore the world, overseas work opportunities are often available.

CAREERS QUOTE

Inspirational quotes from the latest crop of NatWest Group graduates. Some wise words of advice that make great discussion starters.



DON'T BE AFRAID TO ADMIT THAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND/KNOW SOMETHING - EVERYONE HAD TO START SOMEWHERE, BUT SOMETIMES PEOPLE FORGET THAT AS THEY PROGRESS THROUGH THEIR CAREER!

JESS PARMEE, IMPLEMENTATION ANALYST (GRADUATE)

#NCW2025

National Careers Week
NCW

Headline Partner
NatWest
Thrive

Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2025 - WHO INSPIRES YOU?



We asked...

Famous or non-famous... any female who you would describe as a role model/someone you admire/someone you aspire to be.

It can be a family member, friend, teacher, celebrity or someone from the history books who you would say inspires you.



You said...

"My friend Bella because she keeps going even though life is difficult for her and she still supports me in everything." Dylan 11H

"My mum because she is kind to everyone." Emma 8N

"Lori, because she shows all sides of dance."
Freya 8N

"Mrs Kendall."
Ezaldeen 8N

"My mum because she is very kind." Lily 8N

"My mum." Kenzo 8N

"My mum." Jack 8N

"Ashley Trevino, she ignores the haters and reacts with her fans." Lucy 8N

"Sapphire and Gracie inspire me to be a good friend." Laura 8N

"My mum & my sister." Ezaldeen 8N

"2 people on earth inspire me a lot, Miss Balchin and my mother - she is hardworking, supportive, good sense of humour, good listener, generous. The fact she always puts us first is so heartwarming." Alvin 10N

"Sarina Wiegman (England women's football manager) who won the euros with the England women's team."
Reuben 8N

"My mum because she manages to look after 3 people while looking after herself as well." Sam 8N

"My sister." Honey 8N

"My mum because she is so ill and going through a lot and still works as hard as she can to put a smile on my face. She is so kind to everyone she meets and also makes sure I have everything I need. When I grow up I want to be just like her and as caring." Camelia 10N

"My mum and my auntie." Nathan 8N

"My family and friends because they help me with everything and always make sure I am ok." Daisy 8N

"My mum." Gracie 8N

"My mum because of how brave she is." Jacob 8N

"My mum and my nan." Daisy-Mai 10N

Special shout out

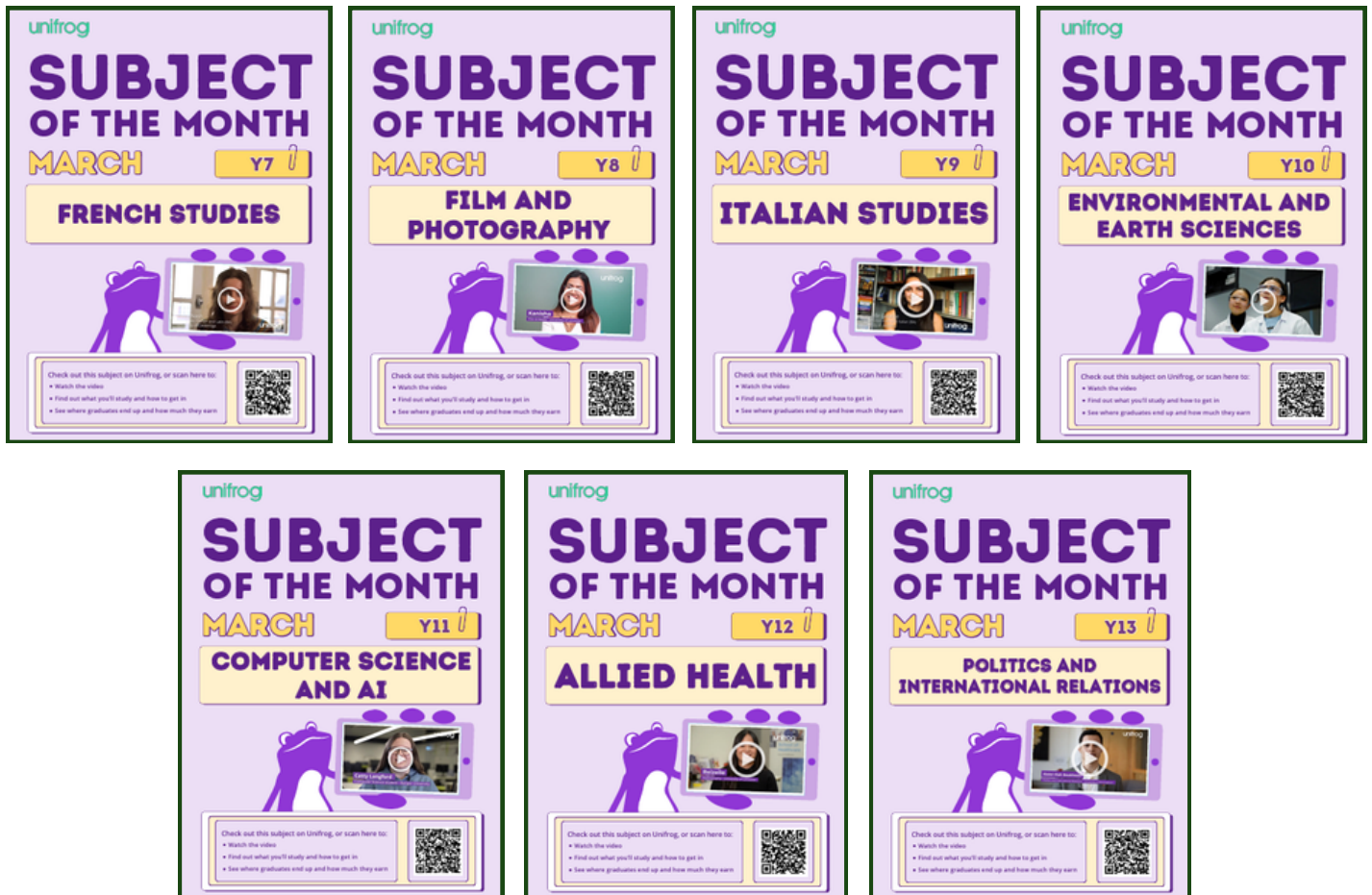
With National Careers Week and International Women's Day, there have been so many inspiring females to celebrate, too many to mention, BUT I wanted to give a heartfelt shout out to Carla Pilsworth, nee Poole, who was in my first ever form group in my first year of teaching (I still have the scars!)

Carla currently does amazing work raising money for our local Garden House Hospice. Her enthusiasm, determination and selflessness have always been just some of her attributes and certainly lend themselves to the personal qualities needed for this role. However, for the energy, drive and passion that Carla has, and gives everyday to support people in need in our community - I would like to say a heartfelt 'thank you' for all you do. You certainly are an inspirational female.

See page 5 for more inspirational women.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2025 - WHO INSPIRES YOU?

Introducing Unifrog's 'Career of the Month' and 'Subject of the Month'
Students watch a video interview with a professional or university
student and answer reflection questions.



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. Yosha is at Kings College London, in their 3rd Year. Click [here](#) for Yosha's story.

MEDIC
MENTOR
YOUR MEDIC FAMILY



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VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

During PSHE lessons, Year 10 students are learning the importance of gaining virtual work experience and preparing for the world of work.

Over the coming editions we will continue to cover details of 15 good work qualities to help impress employers!



Problem-solving Skills

Most jobs require you to tackle and resolve problems as you face them during your workday. Even if the job you're applying for is administrative or process-driven with set procedures to follow, it's still important that an employer has confidence in your ability to apply these procedures effectively to solve problems. In many jobs, you may face new problems that don't have a set, defined solution. To help with these situations, employers look for an ability to approach problems objectively and work logically to find a solution.

What Are Critical Thinking Skills & How Are They Used?

Critical thinking skills help you make effective decisions and quickly understand a situation or problem using all available facts. In the workplace, you can use critical thinking skills to define a problem, determine the consequences of choices, identify solutions and lead a team in the right direction or decide to change the way something is done. Critical thinking skills are essential in every industry at every career level, from entry-level associates to top executives. In this article, we discuss what critical thinking is, the skills you need for critical thinking and how you can improve your critical thinking skills.

What is Critical Thinking?

Critical thinking is the act of analysing facts to understand a problem or topic thoroughly. Critical thinking is important when identifying a problem or issue, coming up with a solution and then implementing it. You can also use it to remain objective on a problem and rely solely on the information you have.

Employees with critical thinking skills are important because they help their businesses run smoothly. This can help the business save money and enhance the customer experience. If you have developed good critical thinking skills, you can:

- Solve complex problems for your team, customers or clients
- Develop solutions that serve the best interests of all parties where applicable
- Create new ideas that improve functionality, productivity and efficiency
- Prevent future problems with new policies and procedures

Many areas of improvement like process inefficiencies, management and finances can be improved by using critical thought. Because of this, employers value and seek out candidates who have demonstrated strong critical thinking skills.

Examples of critical thinking skills

There are several various critical thinking skills to master, including:

- Observation
- Analysis
- Inference
- Communication
- Problem-solving
- Conflict resolution
- Adaptability
- Research



Keep checking your school emails Year 10, this is where we will send any information you may need.



KEY WORD/PHRASE OF THE FORTNIGHT

TRAINEE



A PERSON WHO IS
BEING TRAINED FOR
A JOB.

OBSCURE / OBSOLETE JOB TITLES



an administrative official serving the king or a lesser lord in a variety of roles.

APPRENTICESHIP FAQs

Vehicles and transport apprenticeships help you choose your best route to keep the country moving

Vehicles and transport play a critical role in our everyday lives, connecting communities and supporting the economy, so everyone working within the supply chain plays a big role. Without this important sector, the country would quite literally come to a standstill.

Any questions please [contact us](#).



[Sport & Fitness
Apprenticeships](#)

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EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

spectris

Easter STEM Work Experience
with Spectris PLC **Wednesday,
16th of April from 9am - 3pm**

[Register HERE](#)

A very rare and unique opportunity to hear from
one of the largest Science and Engineering firms in the world.
During the day you will take part in case studies around STEM topics,
a live lab tour at one of their sites as well as meeting with top scientists and
engineers who work at the company.

*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.*

*A few of these opportunities
are listed here.*



LLOYDS BANKING GROUP

*Banking & Finance Event with Lloyds Banking
Group - Virtual Insight Evening*

*An event designed to help students get into
the Banking & Finance Sector & Easter Work
Experience!*

Tuesday, 1st April 2025, 5:00pm - 6:00pm

[Register HERE](#)



Open events dates

Wednesday 30th April

Wednesday 25th June

*If you are unable to make these dates but
want to know more about what it's like to
study at NHC, check out our virtual campus
tours and get in touch via:*

online form: www.nhc.ac.uk/openevents

email: enquiries@nhc.ac.uk

call: 01462 424242.