

Dear Parent/Carer

October 2016

Work Experience 2017

Each year, at the end of the summer term (10th- 21st July 2017), all Year 10 students participate in a two-week work experience programme.

This is a valuable experience which aims to allow students to develop an awareness of the world of work, to experience some of the pressures and to be able to manage a transition, post education, more easily. Whilst on the placement students can expect to experience and develop a variety of occupational skills, particularly the ability to work as a part of a team, communicate effectively and self-motivate.

As a school, we are committed to delivering education which is of a high standard and see work experience as a way to make the curriculum more meaningful, allowing the students to use classroom-based learning in a work-based environment.

Obtaining Placements

Some placements are currently organised centrally through Opportunities Sheffield who allocate them to schools. However, places through this scheme are limited and not exclusive to Silverdale, rather being shared between schools throughout Sheffield.

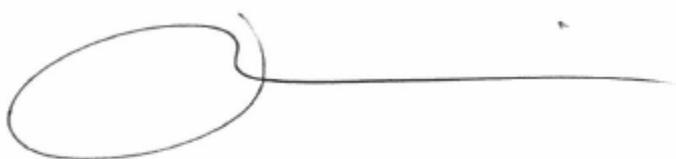
As such, it is preferable for students to obtain their own work experience to ensure that they are able to take part in a work experience which is relevant to their preferred future career. This is particularly important for students who wish to work in a specialised area or one in great demand, such as the police force, law, medical professions and veterinary professions. Previous years have shown that several other schools undertake work experience in the same weeks as Silverdale and an early application is essential to gain placements in some fields.

Students who have found their own placement must fill out the consent form attached to this letter and return it to their form tutor as soon as possible. **The closing date is February 2017 half-term** to ensure that health and safety and insurance checks can be completed.

Any students who are struggling to find a placement are encouraged to visit the careers office where we will do our best to help find a placement - in previous years 100% of the cohort has taken part in the programme, a trend we wish to continue.

Over the coming weeks and months students will be engaged in further preparation and I am sure they will have your support and find the whole experience enjoyable and educationally valuable.

Yours sincerely



Miss T Shirtcliffe
Head of PHSE and Careers

