

FUTURES NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN EDITION



This term has been busy and exciting for everyone at Gospel Oak. Our students have taken part in lots of activities to help them think about their future and explore different career paths.

We started with a very successful Futures Fair, where employers, colleges, and training providers came in to talk to students about the opportunities available after Year 11. The Sandwell College T Level Bus was a big hit, giving students a clear idea of what apprenticeships are really like.

During our College and Training Provider Assembly Week, students heard helpful talks about courses, careers, and the different routes they can take. Royal Navy came in school to run a STEM (Science, technology, engineering and Maths) event. Some of our SEND students also visited West Bromwich Albion for the annual SEND Careers Fair, where they met supportive employers and learned about careers designed to meet their needs.

This newsletter shares all of these highlights and shows how our students are preparing for their futures with confidence and curiosity.



☀ Futures Fair A Day of Discovery and Development

Gospel Oak hosted its Futures Fair — an exciting mix of inspiration and real-world opportunity. More than 30 local employers, universities, and training providers came to share their knowledge, giving students the chance to discover future careers in areas like healthcare, law, public services, engineering, media, and finance. It was a day filled with new ideas, helpful conversations, and a clearer sense of what the future could look like.



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🚢 Royal Navy STEM & Careers Visit

Year 10 students took part in a hands-on workshop with the Royal Navy, linking STEM subjects to exciting real-life careers. They discovered roles in engineering, technology, logistics, and learned how science and maths are used in the Navy every day.



**SANDWELL
COLLEGE**
A CAREERS COLLEGE

Sandwell College came along to the school as part of T Level Week, bringing an interactive bus filled with hands-on activities. Students had the chance to try tasks linked to Health, Business, and Early Years, helping them understand what studying a T Level is really like. The team from Sandwell College also delivered a short talk, explaining the different T Level pathways and how they prepare young people for future careers. The visit gave students a fun and engaging way to explore their next steps and learn more about the exciting opportunities available to them.



Year 11 students had the chance to visit the Think Sandwell SEND Careers Event at The Hawthorns, a day designed to help young people explore future pathways in a supportive and accessible environment. They met a wide range of employers, training providers, and organisations who shared information about jobs, courses, and opportunities tailored to different needs. The event gave our students the confidence to ask questions, try activities, and discover new ideas about their future. It was an inspiring and positive experience that helped them see the many possibilities open to them.

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One-to-one Connexions interviews are now well underway with our Year 13 and Year 11 one-to-one careers interviews. These sessions are really important, as they give students the chance to receive impartial careers advice and guidance from our wonderful advisor, Danielle.

If any parents would like to get in touch with Danielle, please feel free to send her an email : Danielle_Wells@sandwell.gov.uk

Looking Ahead: What's Coming Up in Our Futures Programme for 2026

Our Futures Programme continues to grow, offering students exciting opportunities to explore their next steps. In 2026, we will be running our Mock Interview Day with Year 10's and 12's, giving students the chance to practise real interview skills with employers.

Year 8 and Year 9 students will take part in an Aspire to HE 6 weeks program with Wolverhampton University looking at skills such as communication, .

Year 10 students will be offered a wonderful opportunity to visit Cambridge University, helping them see what higher education can offer.

Year 7 will also begin our ever popular Morgan Stanley project, developing key skills through real-world challenges. This is just a snapshot of what's ahead for 2026, with even more exciting Futures opportunities still to come.

A reminder that Work Experience will run from

29th June – 3rd July for Year 10,

6th July – 10th July for Year 12.

All forms must be returned by Friday 27 March 2026.