Caludon Castle School Careers Newsletter

November 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Once again, we're pleased to report that over 99% of the students in last year's year 11 and year 13 managed to secure positive destinations following their summer exams. Over half of the former year 11 students are back with us in the sixth form. Of the others, the most popular destination was a local college, such as City College, followed by apprenticeships, and then other sixth forms.

We are supporting our current year 11, one-year sixth and year 13 students to make similarly positive choices. Our careers adviser, Carole Foster, offers one-to-one appointments for advice and guidance. Students can request an appointment via their tutor or via Ms Hutchinson.

We continue to send out weekly careers bulletins to students in Y10-Y13 via Firefly. These are also always available on Firefly - https://caludoncastle.fireflycloud.net/careers/newsletters - and on the school website's Careers News page. Each bulletin contains a mixture of information from colleges, universities and employers as well as organisations such as Speakers for Schools and Coventry & Warwickshire Careers Hub. Opportunities have included talks, virtual work experience, direct recruitment for apprenticeships, college and university open days, and webinars. All opportunities are linked to directly from the bulletin.

We are also pleased to tell you that the Caludon Careers Team have arranged a series of careers events this school year, to help you to support your children as they make choices about their future pathways. The first will take place on the 30th November based around the year 11 post-16 options process. Later in the year, there will be an online Apprenticeship event, an online Careers pathways event, as well as a second Careers Fair aimed more specifically at post-18 options.

Caludon Castle Sixth Form Open Event and Careers Evening

On **Thursday 30th November,** we will be holding our **post-16 options evening** in school, from **4.30pm to 6.30pm.** Students and their parents and carers will be able to talk to staff and current sixth formers about A levels and other level 3 courses offered in Caludon's sixth form.

Alongside this, on the same evening, there will be a **careers fair,** with representatives from employers, colleges, training providers and universities. **Anyone from any year** is welcome to come in to school, between 4.30 and 6.30pm, to talk to the organisations represented. The following organisations will be present:

Cardiff Metropolitan University

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY LEICESTER

jobcentreplus

DWP Department for Work and Pensions

FUTURE PRO

KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE

mgts midland group training services ltd

mtc Manufacturing Technology Centre

Y11 students who are unsure about staying on at school can discuss other possibilities with training providers and colleges. Those who know they want to stay on to sixth form can ask universities and providers of higher apprenticeships about the qualifications needed to progress afterwards.

Caludon Apprenticeship Evening

On **Monday 5th February, from 6pm to 7pm**, there will be an **online event** focused on apprenticeships. A local apprenticeship provider and a representative of ASK, the Apprenticeship Support and Knowledge team, will each give a short talk including advice on applications.
This session will be on Zoom. You will need to register first as there is a limit on numbers. Please email sthutchinsons@caludoncastle.co.uk to register your interest, and you will be sent the Zoom link via email.

If you have other requests for support with careers information and guidance, please let us know, using the same email address as above.

We look forward to seeing some of you at our event later this month.

Caludon Castle School careers team

Personal Development lessons and assemblies

Personal Development lessons take place for each tutor group four days a week, covering various aspects of PSHE and Citizenship throughout the year. This half-term is focused on careers. Every year group from 7 to 11 has two half-hour lessons each week of careers-related learning.

For year 9 and year 11, the PD sessions will help them to consider their options as they move onto GCSE courses and post-16 pathways. All year groups will be hearing from external speakers from employers and educational establishments. Assembly speakers include:
Year 7 – Integrated Project Services
Year 8 – Chantel Brooks (author), and NHS careers
Year 9 – Integrated Project Services and NWSLC (College)
Year 10 – NWSLC (College)
Year 11 – University Campus Football Business, DeMontfort University, and Galliford Try
Year 12/13 – SAE Creative, BIKAL, and University Campus Football Business

For all years, the careers programme aims to broaden their horizons and give them an idea of what is available. We are very grateful to the speakers who will attend online or in person, to help us achieve this aim.

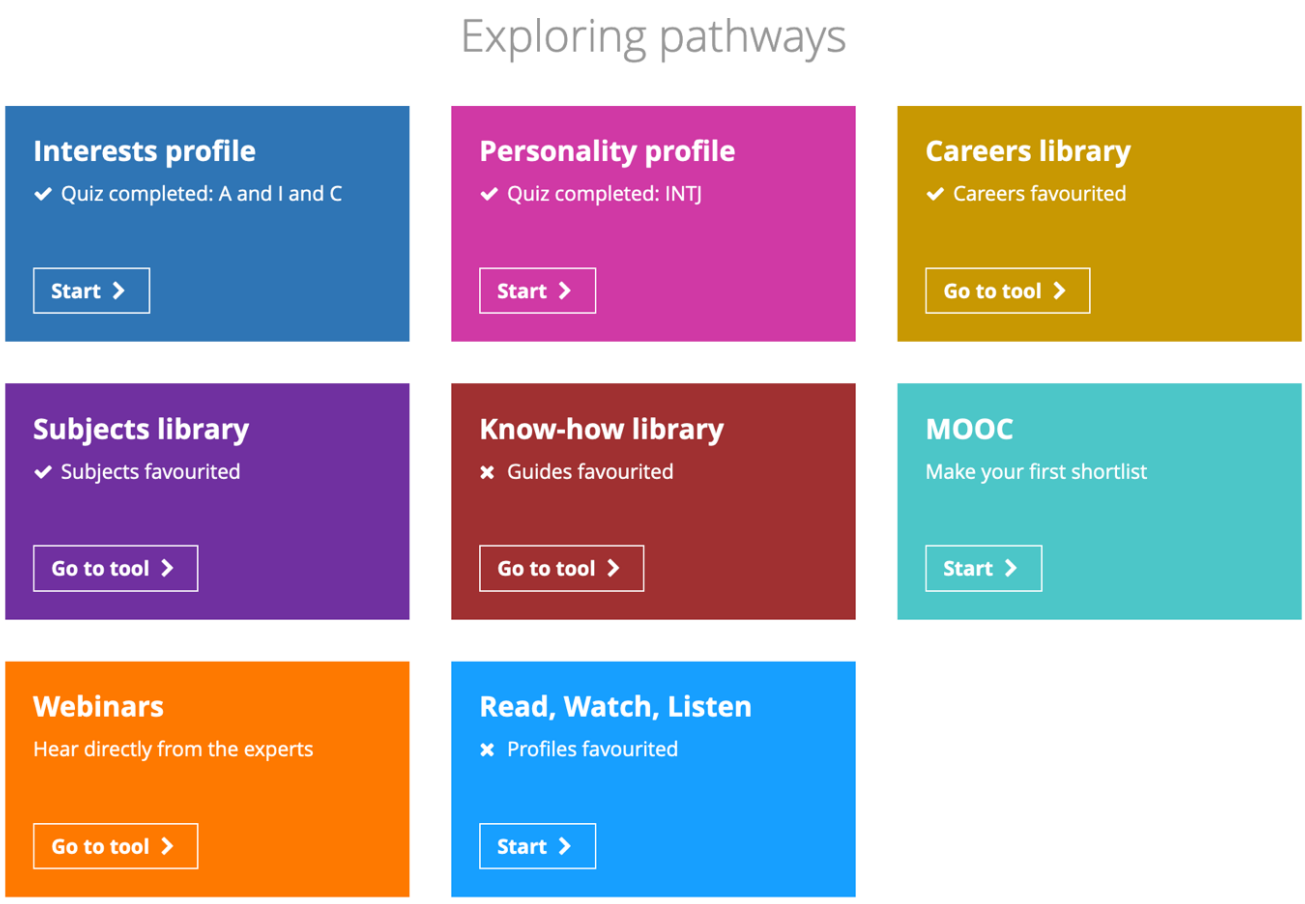
If you or your company would like to support us in future years with the PD programme or assemblies, or support us later this year with our virtual work experience day for year 10, please get in touch with Ms Hutchinson.

Unifrog

All students from years 7 to 13 have personal login details for Unifrog.

This fantastic website describes itself as 'the complete destinations platform, a one-stop-shop for careers guidance.' It claims to have the world's biggest database of post-16 and post-18 opportunities.

The students are introduced to Unifrog within the Personal Development careers programme, but can also access it on any internet-connected device, wherever they are. The system allows them to explore pathways in a variety of ways, such as by matching careers to their personality or searching by the subjects they are interested in. Once they have found a career of interest, they can read or watch a video about day-to-day life in that career, the potential for income, and whether the career sector is currently growing or shrinking.



Unifrog also allows users to search for opportunities including overall college courses, apprenticeships and universities. It provides templates to help them record their activities and skills, and then turn these into high quality applications. All of this is done in a secure password-protected environment, and can be shared with their tutor or with any other member of staff they choose.

If you are helping your son or daughter in their search for a future career, please encourage them to log on to Unifrog with you, and see what this website has to offer.



Geneticist

Geneticists study genes, which contain the information controlling what a living organism is like.

Read the profile ›



Palaeontologist

Palaeontologists study the fossils of plants and animals.

Read the profile ›

Coventry College

Coventry College consolidated all their courses onto their City College site just over a year ago. They offer an extensive range of courses, and you can see this range for yourself at their next **Open Event** on November 30th, from 5pm to 7pm. You can register for this event here: https://www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/open-events/register/

Their **website** has a page set up directly for parents and carers: https://www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/support/parents-carers/ which includes email and phone contacts if you have any questions.

There is a downloadable **Parents and Carers Guide**, available here: https://www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/download/7706/

WCG

The Warwickshire College Group is comprised of several colleges in the South Warwickshire area and beyond. Each one has a different range of courses and specialisms, from level 1 courses up to degree level.

The colleges are each offering open events in January, as shown below:

- **Royal Leamington Spa College - Tuesday 16 January, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Warwick Trident College - Thursday 18 January, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Moreton Morrell College - Saturday 20 January, 10 am - 1 pm**
- **Rugby College - Tuesday 23 January, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Evesham New College - Thursday 25 January, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Pershore College - Saturday 27 January, 10 am - 1 pm**
  You can book for any of these events here.

There will be further events in April 2024, which are not yet open for booking

- **Moreton Morrell College - Saturday 16 March, 10 am - 1 pm**
- **Royal Leamington Spa College - Tuesday 19 March, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Warwick Trident College - Thursday 21 March, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Rugby College - Tuesday 9 April, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Evesham New College - Thursday 11 April, 5.30 - 8 pm**
- **Pershore College - Saturday 13 April, 10 am - 1 pm**

Routes into STEM Virtual Experience 2023/24

Routes into STEM virtual experience provides an exciting opportunity to explore the various routes you can take towards your STEM career. This course is designed to enable young people to work through activities and projects at their own pace, tour a variety of institutions virtually and also have access to live career sessions and mentor panels with STEM employers.

Who is it for?

- Students in **Year 9 or 10 / S3 or S4 / equivalent** who are interested in exploring a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
- All you need is an interest in STEM and curiosity about the future. The course is open to all academic abilities

What's involved?

- Approximately 20 hours of study virtually at a pace that suits you
- Exploring different Routes into a STEM career including College Courses, University Courses, and Apprenticeships and learning from industry what is involved in a STEM career as well as enhancing your skills
- Live interactive sessions over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school, allowing you to listen and ask questions to STEM students and professionals
- Getting to work on a project set by a STEM company to look further at a career area that interests you

What do you get out of it?

- Find out about different Routes into a STEM career from industry experts, college and university leaders, as well as young people who are currently on that path
- Engage in projects and activities that will enhance your problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity and innovation skills and inspire you to find career motivation. Projects include a Biopharm challenge from GSK, a Design challenge from Balfour Beatty, an RSC Chemistry challenge and many more exciting challenges in all areas of STEM.
- Create your own personalised action plan to see your own Route into STEM
- Learn about your career skills and how you could write about this in your CV/ Personal Statement or Application form
- Receive an Industrial Cadets Bronze Award showing all that you have achieved on the course

EDT Industrial Cadets www.etrust.org.uk

When is it?

This experience runs from 2 October 2023 until 2 August 2024 **with live sessions running throughout the duration, over the half-term breaks, school holidays and after school**

Cost

£75

If cost is a barrier, fully funded places are available, please indicate your interest on the application form

How to apply?

To apply, please visit our website **here** or **scan the QR code!**

What previous students have said

"This experience has shown me just how varied STEM is. I know that I can have a career that suits me, no matter my academic merit or personal qualities. I've also heard a lot from people who study and work in STEM, and it has been inspiring and encouraging to hear about their positive experiences and ambitions for the future. Industrial Cadets has also taught me key skills such as problem-solving and communication, which I am eager to apply to my future education and career."

"I've always loved STEM things but I always worried about not being able to make it, but now getting a STEM career seems more achievable."

"Before, I was fixed on a regular plan to go into 6th form, go to you university, and move forward without looking for any non-linear pathway. Routes into STEM has shown me that many of those who end up in STEM careers have not pursued that linear pathway, and this has made me more open to options such as apprenticeships, which I had never considered previously"

94% of students felt confident about making future career choices following their course

99% of students felt they know more about the STEM careers opportunities available to them

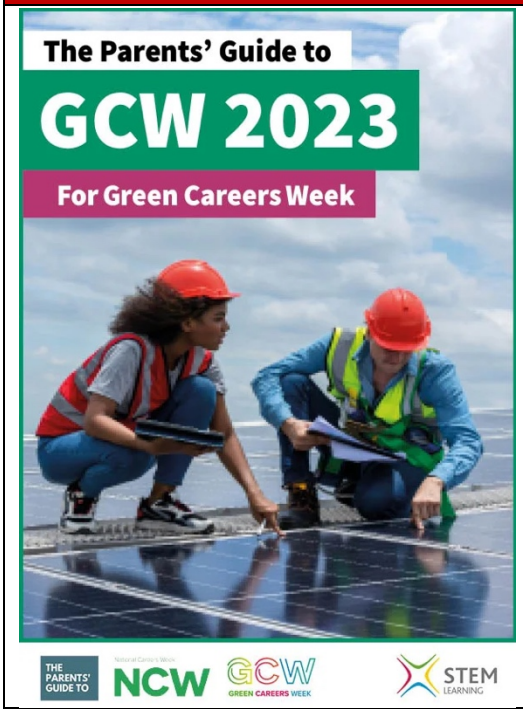
EDT Industrial Cadets www.etrust.org.uk

CareerMag for Inclusion, for parents

The latest issue of Career Mag focuses on Inclusion, and is now available for parents online here.



The Parents' Guide To...



"The Parents' Guide to" is a website offering books on a wide range of careers and other topics. Although most of these have to be paid for, this special edition giving advice on Green Careers is free to download from https://www.theparentsguideto.co.uk/whats-next

See the website for other helpful books including:

The Parents' Guide to Apprenticeships
The Parents' Guide to University
The Parents' Guide to Post-18 Options.

Where to find advice and guidance

There are so many useful-looking websites about careers, it can be difficult to know where to start. We have listed some of the most useful websites below.

Recruitment and other local opportunities:
Careers Hub Coventry & Warwickshire, on Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/CareersHubCW

I don't know what to do, I need some ideas:
Unifrog – www.unifrog.org
National Careers Service - https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/
Prospects - https://www.prospects.ac.uk/
ICould - https://icould.com/

Apprenticeships:
Amazing Apprenticeships - https://amazingapprenticeships.com/
Apprenticeships - https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/#
Find and apply for an apprenticeship - https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship
Find an apprenticeship - https://www.findapprenticeships.co.uk/

Local Colleges:
Coventry College - https://www.coventrycollege.ac.uk/
Warwickshire College Group - https://wcg.ac.uk/
North Warwickshire & South Leicestershire College - https://www.nwslc.ac.uk/
BOA - https://www.boa-academy.co.uk/

University:
UCAS - https://www.ucas.com/
Discover Uni - https://discoveruni.gov.uk/
What Uni ? - https://www.whatuni.com/
Unifrog - www.unifrog.org
Plan My Gap Year - https://www.planmygapyear.co.uk/
Apply to Uni - https://www.applytouni.com/
The Student Room - https://www.thestudentroom.co.uk/