

## Lower Sixth Careers and Work Related Learning Information 2020-2021

### Mr Walker's contact details:

**Email:** walkerb@ripogrammar.com **Telephone:** 01765 602647 extension 229

Please note that Mr Walker is based in the Careers Office (Monday to Thursday) upstairs in the Library.

**Please use the North Corridor to access the Careers Office.**

### Work Experience.

Lower Sixth work experience is intended to take place the week beginning **12<sup>th</sup> July** (this can be slightly flexible depending on individual circumstances and on the Covid-19 situation) and is an excellent opportunity for you to develop a better understanding of a possible career path as well as developing your soft skills such as communication or working as part of a team.

The deadline to confirm your placement with Mr Walker is **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March**. If your placement is confirmed after this date NYBEP may not complete the necessary health and safety checks and therefore you cannot go out on your placement. It is vitally important you stick to this deadline.

As well as speaking to Mr Walker to help you with your search for a suitable placement please log in to the NYBEP website: <https://nybep.work-experience.co.uk/> Login details: (Username: **TO BE CONFIRMED** Password: **TO BE CONFIRMED**). I will send out, via email, the login details as soon as I receive them.

This database contains a whole variety of recent work placements and contact details to help get you get started. Whilst it is appreciated that you have lots of things to do with your new academic courses it is important that you think about and actively sort out your placement as soon as possible. Sorting your placement after the Christmas holidays is often too late.

When you have confirmed your placement with an employer please email Mr Walker with the name of the employer, the address where you will be working and a telephone number. Mr Walker will then produce the required paperwork.

If you are applying for work placements and you need help with your CV please email Mr Walker.

The school pays a great deal of money for the health and safety checks for your placements. Please note, if your placement is out of county there will be an additional charge for this which your parents/guardians will be asked to pay. This varies and, if this is the case, I will let you know the cost before you apply. If you are a Pupil Premium student, there may be funds available in school to cover this cost.

### Your virtual work placement.

Many employers are beginning to offer virtual work placements because of the situation with Covid-19. Mr Walker receives many such offers and spends many hours finding fantastic virtual opportunities for you to consider. It is vitally important you check your school email accounts for his latest updates. Many virtual placements have a deadline for applications so it is important to read the fine detail of any virtual placement. Mr Walker will be publishing a revised list of virtual work placements details in the coming weeks.

### **Veterinary Students.**

All veterinary colleges understand the difficulty for aspiring young vets to gain real hands on animal work experience before applying for a veterinary degree. As a group, they have agreed on an alternative to work experience and, if you are considering a veterinary career, please email Mr Walker for details of the course you must complete **before** applying for veterinary college.

### **Post 18 Choices.**

It is important that you think carefully about your future career progression and consider apprenticeships and university courses that are available to you. If you are interesting in attend the UK University and Apprenticeship Virtual Careers Fair on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October (12-6pm), which is free of charge for students and parents, please follow the link below:

<https://www.ukuniversitysearch.com/fair-signup/virtual-fair-east-of-england-east-midlands-yorkshire-and-the-humber>

As well as speaking to Mrs Locke (Head of Careers), there is a wealth of careers information of the school website. Mrs Locke's email address is: [lockej@ripongrammar.com](mailto:lockej@ripongrammar.com). In addition to this, Whatuni and Theuniguide are excellent websites to help you decide what degree course you could follow with your A level choices. For further details go to: <https://www.whatuni.com> or <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/>

### **Start Profile-Careers Software.**

We have bought into an excellent new careers website/resource called START PROFILE. Each student has been issued with a unique username and password. For more details go to <https://www.startprofile.com>. If you require your username and password for this website please email Mr Walker.

### **Medical Students.**

If you are considering applying for a work placement at Harrogate Hospital, they have not yet confirmed if this will be possible. Any updates and application forms will be emailed to students as soon as I receive them. The advice from many medical professionals is that students should be able to demonstrate their ability to deal with members of the public. Therefore, any work experience where you have to deal with the public will be vital in your personal statement and medical interviews.

If you are considering a medical work experience further afield, there may be work experiences places available at James Cook Hospital in Middlesbrough and the Friarage in Northallerton. For further details please go to: <https://www.southtees.nhs.uk/services/therapeutic-support/work-experience/>

***Please note that due, to COVID-19, South Tees are postponing all new volunteer applications until January 2021.***

If placements do become available, an early application is recommended, as places are very limited.

### **Ways in which to broaden your knowledge and understanding.**

In addition to work experience, there are a wide range of co-curricular opportunities for you to participate in during the year. Please check your school emails regularly for any messages I may send out highlighting new opportunities.

Below are just some of the opportunities already available:

#### **Young Enterprise Company Challenge (Meet every Monday at 1pm in the cellars-Use Wednesday enrichment to complete your enterprise activities).**

This is primarily aimed at Economic and Business Studies students but other people with other talents are very welcome. This is one of the school's flagship activities and we have been very successful in the past. You must be fully committed to this activity for the whole year as it will take up a lot of your free time in and out of school. You will meet one lunch time a week as well as using time during enrichment activities on Wednesday afternoons.

For more information please go to: <https://www.young-enterprise.org.uk/what-we-do/secondary-programmes/company-programme/>

#### **The Prince's Trust (Meet every Wednesday lesson 6)**

If you wish to be part of raising money for great charity then this activity is for you. Last year the team raised well over £1000 undertaking a variety of money raising activities many of which are well established and part of the school's calendar. If you want to help young disadvantaged people, develop new skills and help your CV and personal statement then this is the activity for you. In terms of commitment, students normally use part of Wednesday enrichment and one lunch time per week to organise their money raising activities. This activity normally starts in September and ends by May.

For more information about the Prince's Trust please go to: <https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/>

#### **The Bar Mock Trial (Please sign up to another activity and just inform the Sixth Form Office when you are taking part in this activity-Normally on during societies on Wednesday afternoons)**

If you are considering a career in Law then this activity is for you. Due to Covid-19, this event is likely to be held virtually. More details to follow. You will be guided through the process by a barrister during the weeks leading up to the competition so that you are fully prepared for the event. Places are limited so an early application is advised.

For more information, please go to: <https://smartlaw.org.uk/mock-trials/bar-mock-trials-teachers>

#### **ICAEW Accountancy Challenge. (Not part of enrichment but we may need to use some Wednesday afternoon enrichments sessions to prepare for this event)**

If you are considering a career in accountancy then this is the activity for you. This is a very prestigious event and the format has changed in recent years. The first two rounds are online and, if successful, the final takes place at the Hilton Hotel in Birmingham in July. As well as developing a better understanding of working in accountancy you get the opportunity to meet some top professionals in the leading accountancy and

auditing firms in the UK. In previous years, we were very successful and reached the finals. I expect to do the same again this year!

For further details please go to: <https://careers.icaew.com/campaigns/base-competition>

**School email accounts.**

**Finally.....**

It cannot be stressed enough the importance of checking your school email accounts on daily basis. Using your mobile device is the simplest way to do this. Simply go through the school website, scroll down to the email link at the bottom of the home page and check them from there. I send out regular emails to all students highlighting the many new opportunities that arise throughout the year.

If you are interested in any of these activities please email me as soon as possible to state your interest.

**Mr R. Walker**