

6TH FORM WORK EXPERIENCE



6TH FORM WORK EXPERIENCE.... YOUR BEST IS ABOUT TO GET EVEN BETTER.

The benefits of taking part in work experience are many. Your career aspirations have probably moved on a bit since you did work experience in year 10 or 11, so taking part in work experience post 16 can be invaluable. It allows you to put your existing skills into practice and develop new ones. It can help build your confidence and bridge the gap between school and the world of work. By developing the skills employers want, you put yourself in a strong position when it comes to finding a job/apprenticeship or applying for a place at university.

There are particular careers for which an additional period of Work experience is essential during Year 12 and 13.

Teaching

Law

Anything medical related

Veterinary

When?



As a school we suspend lessons for Year 12 students in the last week of the school year for students to undertake work experience. For academic year 2019-20 this is w/c 13th July. Students can also undertake work experience during school holidays. However, requests for time out of school to attend work experience during term time will also be considered.

Students will be responsible for arranging their own placements although Mrs Sheard can suggest employers to approach and has set up a database of opportunities on the school google drive which is updated weekly. There is no requirement for a formal contract.

JUST AS A REMINDER....

Things to consider when preparing for work experience:

- First impressions DO count. Appearance, manners, attitude, time keeping etc. are all factors that are taken into consideration.
- Dress simply but smartly. Employers want to see that you take pride in yourself.
Check with your employer to see if they have a dress code if you are unsure.
- Staff lateness and absence costs British Industry millions of pounds each year. If you think you might be late or genuinely can't make it into work let your employer know as soon as possible so that they can make the necessary arrangements for cover.



Guidance for 6th form work experience.

University admissions tutors are also impressed by those who have built up knowledge of a work related sector and whose plans include developing useful employment links whilst studying.

A good personal statement will include answers to the following:

What makes you unique, special or impressive?

What interests you about the course for which you are applying?

*How did you learn about this course/field of work?

*What is your relevant work experience?

*What are your career goals?

What skills do you have (and how can you back up your claim)?

What personal characteristics do you have (and can you provide evidence)?

*What responsibilities have you undertaken?

What difficulties have you overcome?

*Work experience will help you provide the information and evidence you need for your personal statement.



For a number of courses evidence of recent work experience in the field is an essential prerequisite for course entry. These include:

Medicine

Other health professions eg Dentistry, Physiotherapy

Veterinary

Law

Teaching

Social Care

Land based industries.

Work experience for Law

Getting work experience is crucial in today's competitive climate. It is not enough to be a purely brilliant academic. The more relevant experience you have, the better your chance of succeeding.

- It will give you an insight into the profession
- It will give you the opportunity to build up contacts
- It will help you to gain excellent references (hopefully!)



It is not easy getting legal work experience and you will need to be creative in your approach.

Places to apply:

- Firm of solicitors
- Law centres
- Citizens advice bureaux
- Voluntary work in charitable organisations.



Work experience for Veterinary

Confirmation of a period spent at a veterinary establishment is one of the conditions for entry to a Veterinary degree. It is vital if you are to have a chance of being called for an interview, and without an interview you cannot be offered a place. Some of the Veterinary schools are more specific about the nature and extent of the experience required for instance The Royal Veterinary college specifies at least 6 weeks "hands on" experience – 2 weeks or more with one veterinary practice, 2 weeks or more on a livestock farm and 2 weeks of other animal experience eg Zoo, kennels, riding school etc.



Places to apply:

- Vets
- Kennels
- Animal charities
- Woburn Safari Park
- Whipsnade Zoo
- Pet shops
- Livestock farms
- Riding stables

Be aware that until you have proved yourself you are likely to be dealing with a lot of clearing up!

Work experience for Medicine



It is important to undertake an extended period of work experience. If possible, try to get work experience that involves the gritty, unglamorous side of patient care. Hospital work experience can be applied for via the MK Hospital website <https://www.mkuhworkforce.co.uk/apprenticeship-welcome> you could also try Willen hospice <https://www.willen-hospice.org.uk/volunteer> or care homes.

Any medical contact is better than none so clerical work in a medical environment, work in hospital shop or for a medical related charity is better than no work experience at all.



You should also devote a regular period each week to a charitable organisation that cares for those in need. This will demonstrate that you have something of the dedication needed to be a good doctor.



Work experience for Teaching

Students applying for degree courses including QTS need to have at least 10 days recent (in the 12 months prior to applying) and relevant work experience in a state school.



Work experience for Physiotherapy and other Medical professions

Without work experience it is likely that your application will be automatically rejected.

It is essential that you can show recent (in the 12 months before applying) and relevant experience within the NHS. This needs to be a two week block or a regular weekly commitment over a period of months.



Useful Websites

The following websites will be useful in finding employers to approach for work experience.

<http://www.studentladder.co.uk/>

<https://successatschool.org/>