



KEY STAGE 4 WORK EXPERIENCE FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Why work experience?

Work experience gives our students the chance to learn about the world of work, build valuable skills, boost their confidence and start to think about the careers and pathways that may be right for them.

This year, we are introducing a new approach to work experience for Key Stage 4, based on the latest research and the Equalex Modern Work Experience model.



The key change

There is now a requirement for schools to ensure that students in Key Stage 4 have a minimum of **five days** of workplace experiences and activities.

Rather than one traditional five-day placement, our programme provides a combination of an individual placement and a range of activities to help students both **investigate and explore** opportunities and **apply and demonstrate** their skills.



The five days at a glance

**3
DAYS**

Individual work experience placement

 28–30 June



Focus: Apply & Demonstrate

An individual three-day placement in a real workplace to put skills into practice and demonstrate the character that employers value.

**2
DAYS**

Workplace experiences and activities

 Varied according to activity.



Focus: Investigate and Explore

A range of experiences to explore different careers, industries and opportunities.



Why not a traditional five-day placement?

Research from the Careers and Enterprise Company shows that one standalone placement does not, on its own, provide everything that young people need.

By offering a combination of experiences, our students gain a broader understanding to make informed decisions about their future.



Part 1: Individual work experience (3 days – 28 to 30 June)

This placement will help students to:

- ✓ experience a real working environment
- ✓ practise professional communication
- ✓ work with others and build confidence
- ✓ develop independence and initiative
- ✓ demonstrate reliability, punctuality and organisation
- ✓ see practical applications of classroom learning



Part 2: Workplace experiences and activities (2 days)

These activities would include a mixture of:

- ✓ group visits to workplaces
- ✓ in-school employer challenges and projects
- ✓ virtual work experience (where appropriate)
- ✓ meet employers and learn about their careers
- ✓ curriculum challenges
- ✓ skills workshops

The actual activities each student would complete should relate to their interests and allow them to explore different career sectors



The aim: breadth + depth

We want every student to:

- ✓ **EXPLORE**
- ✓ **EXPERIENCE**
- ✓ **APPLY**
- ✓ **DEMONSTRATE**
- ✓ **REFLECT**



How parents and carers can help

We would be grateful for your support by:

- ✓ talking to your child about their interests
- ✓ encouraging them to be open-minded about exploring sectors
- ✓ helping them to reach out to potential placements
- ✓ reading the weekly Careers Update for opportunities
- ✓ supporting them with professional communication and attendance to visits and opportunities
- ✓ encouraging them to reflect on what they learn

Working together

If you or your employer offer work experience placements for students aged 14+ (and your child doesn't need it!), please do share it to the email address below!