



December 2012

Dear Parents/Year 10 Students,

WORK EXPERIENCE - JULY 15th - 24th 2013

Tarleton Academy believes that for some students work experience is a valuable opportunity, for some it reinforces their career choices – even if only to confirm what they do not want to do. For others it can be a turning point in making them realise what they need to do in their school work to make sure they secure the best possible career path. Unfortunately the recent Wolf report has convinced the government that work experience for under 16's is not worthwhile.

After careful deliberation we would like to offer your son/daughter the opportunity to take part in Work Experience during July 2013. I have found that Work Experience for the vast majority of students is extremely valuable. Students have found it very useful to include information about Work Experience when applying for college courses, apprenticeships or jobs, using the employer as a reference.

Unfortunately, the government has withdrawn funding for Work Experience placements - this funding usually pays for the Health and Safety checks and the administrative processes in securing a work experience placement. **Therefore, there will be a cost to students if they wish to go on work experience which will be £26.50*per student - this will cover the cost of Health and Safety checks and administration. Students in receipt of Free School Meals will have this cost covered by Pupil Premium funding that the school receives.** Unfortunately if the deadline for forms to be returned is not met, the cost will increase and students may not be able to secure a placement.

In order to keep the costs this low, students will have to secure 'self placements' – students will have to find a Work Experience placement themselves and bring back the relevant paperwork. Students can organise a self placement for any number of days within the dates allocated, which can **fit around any excursions or fieldwork outings they may be involved in** during that time. They will have to **make employers aware of any organised dates when securing the placement.**

For those students not involved in work experience and/or trips, a timetable focusing on core skills will be formulated in school. This will be determined nearer the time once we know the number of students involved.

The vast majority of students find a self placement by approaching a firm directly; this could be through family or friends. The employer must then be checked for Health and Safety, Insurance Cover and the suitability of the activities planned for them. This procedure can be very time consuming and you will appreciate the importance of keeping to the deadline set for the return of any paperwork.

In choosing placements, students need to be mindful of possible health problems in some environments and if they have any allergies. They must make sure they can travel to and from work for the time specified by the employer, bearing in mind the cost of the transport as well as the

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location of the work place. They must also check if any special clothing is needed and whether it will be provided by the employer or if you will provide your own.

So that we can be sure of the suitability of the placement we ask that you complete and return the enclosed medical questionnaire for work experience purposes.

Please can you also inform the school office of any updated information regarding your son/daughter's medical details and emergency contacts.

Please discuss with your son / daughter the suitability of the choices they have made before the forms are processed. Personal qualities such as punctuality, reliability, responsibility, adaptability, co-operation, good communication and presentation as well as courtesy and patience are among some of the attributes, required in the work place. It is hoped that Work Experience will help to develop these further.

If your son/daughter would like to participate in Work Experience, the relevant paperwork will need to be completed and returned, along with payment by **Friday 11th January 2013**. **Please see below for details of forms needed:**

Medical Questionnaire	to be returned by	Friday 11 th January 2013
Self Placement Forms	to be returned by	Friday 11 th January 2013
Certificate of Public Liability	to be returned by	Friday 11 th January 2013
Payment for Work Experience (£26.50) <i>(Cheques to be made payable to 'Tarleton Academy')</i>	to be received by school	Friday 11 th January 2013

Deadlines are set by Via, the external agency and need to be adhered to as they require time to complete the Health and Safety checks on the company agreeing to provide a placement for the student.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Yours sincerely,

Miss D Owen (Head of PSHE/Citizenship and Careers)

*Students on free school meals would be covered by the school.

Attachments – reply slip with payment details, self placement form, medical questionnaire

Reply Slip - Work Experience – 15th – 24th July 2013

Student name: _____ Tutor group: _____

I do / I do not wish my son/daughter to take part in work experience (delete as appropriate)

I enclose the sum of £26.50* for the cost of health and safety checks and administration.

*Students receiving free school meals will be covered by the school.

_____ **does / does not** (delete as appropriate) receives Free School Meals

Checklist. Please return the following by 11th January 2013

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Payment of £26.50* - All cheques are to be made payable to 'Tarleton Academy'

Medical Questionnaire

Self placement form

Certificate of public liability

Please return all forms to Mrs P. Langton in the main school office