

Work Experience Week

When is it?

Monday, 4 July to Friday, 8 July 2022

Overview of Work Experience Week for Students in Year 10

The Open Academy curriculum strives to provide all students with aspirational, achievable and current information, advice, guidance and experiences which allow them to make informed choices about their next steps. Participating in Work Experience Week encourages students to develop an insight into what a future career might look like but is also important as it promotes awareness of professional working environments more generally. We therefore encourage our students to identify, secure and complete a Work Experience placement. All prospective placements will be fully checked by our partners at Norfolk County Council and all students will be visited by a member of Open Academy staff during the week.

Open Academy students have enjoyed participating in work experience week for over ten years and one of the main benefits is that it gives a young person the opportunity to experience the 'world of work' and the chance to meet new adults in a different and exciting environment. It is not necessary or essential to have a work placement that matches a preferred career path as the overall aim is to prepare students more fully for the transition from school to work or higher education, something which is more important than ever following the impact of the pandemic. It is also a valuable opportunity for students to understand the ways in which their classroom education is adaptable and utilised in the workplace. Many Open Academy students have benefitted hugely from work experience, returning to school with greater confidence, motivation and self-esteem, and occasionally even the offer of a part-time job or apprenticeship at post 16.