



Smithdon High School
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Dear students and parents

We are very excited to invite you to the first Smithdon High School Careers Fair, being held at the school on Tuesday 22 March from 5-7pm (postponed from Wednesday 8 December).

If you and/or your child wish to attend the evening, please confirm your attendance by completing this Google form <https://forms.gle/ir9nrA1zjqa8uYqe8>

As we all know, the choices our young people make for higher education and into the world of work will impact the rest of their working life. With the current retirement age at 66, rising to 67 by 2028 and projections of increasing further within their lifetime, it means we could see these young people in the workplace for over 50 years. Alongside this, the labour market is ever changing, more drastically since covid, along with the continued advances of technology and accessibility.

We believe it is vital students become aware of the choices available to them, the life and career experiences people have had and how their choices have impacted the careers they are now in, whilst also getting to know what work is available both locally and nationally.

During the evening, you are invited to attend talks from Springwood Sixth Form, The College of West Anglia and Norfolk Pathways, which cover apprenticeship and employment routes. These 15 minute talks (on a carousel rotation to allow you to attend all three if you wish) will explain the options and processes and give you an insight into the courses available and the application procedures, allowing you to prepare to support your child through this process. We ask that you pre-book these sessions via the Google form, to allow us to manage numbers. <https://forms.gle/ir9nrA1zjqa8uYqe8>

We also have over 20 confirmed local and national employers including the Army, Searles, Holkham Hall, Palm Papers, Bepak, NHS, EMCOR, among others. These employers are offering information and advice from their industries, along with first hand experiences of career routes and progression that they have taken.

We believe that this is a fantastic opportunity for all our students that whether they have completed their applications to begin to look at potential careers beyond their higher qualifications, those about to make applications in the upcoming academic year, our Year 10 students who are participating in work experience and for our younger students who are just on the first steps of considering potential careers.

These first-hand encounters with employers are proven to have a hugely positive impact on the outcomes of young people, so we would encourage you to attend and join us on the exploratory evening.

We look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Yours sincerely

Miss S Fairweather
Careers Leader

Mrs A Gibbins
Head of School

