

Work and Vocational Experiences

The Government's Programme of Study for 16 - 19 year olds requires that all post 16 provisions offer the following:

- A higher level of study than the students' prior attainment.
- An experience of vocational opportunities.
- Further study Maths and English to improve students' functional understanding.
- An opportunity of a work experience placement or other work related learning.

At Abbey Hill Academy Sixth Form, all students have access to appropriate work experience which is relevant and meaningful. This experience will include:

Pathway 1 and 2 (Groups 1, 2 and 3) - Supported Work Experience Programme

Students will complete, over one half term period, an enterprising project, where goods are sold in-house, at the local market and North Tees Hospital. This enables us to see what skills and abilities could be utilised in the labour market. Following the project, students' then take part in a supported work placement in a vocational area that they wish to pursue.

Pathway 3 and 4 (Groups 4 to 7) – Work Experience

Students' are taken off time timetable and are engaged on a full time placement with a local business or within Horizons Academy Trust, with the support of our Work Experience Team. Over the past 12 months the work placements have been supported by the following organisations.

Tesco - The Shaw Trust - Premier Inn - The Stottie Company - Marks and Spencer's - Little Sprouts Café - Daisy Chain - Envy Hair Salon - Preston Primary School - Thornaby Pavilion - Billingham Forum – Stockton Riverside College – Preston Park Museum – One Life Centre

Volunteering

In addition to a focused work experience placement students also have the opportunity to volunteer through the John Muir Award. Over the past few years, students have worked with Tees Valley Wildlife, Environmental City, Natural England, Stillington Wildlife Rangers, Daisy Chain and RSPB Saltholme. The Sixth Form also promote the summer programmes of the National Citizen Service. During the last academic year a number of students successfully completed the programme and achieved the **V Inspired Award**.

