

YEAR 7 GETS WORKING

Year 7 students were introduced to the world of work on their “Day to Work”, Friday 20 March. The students accompanied their parents or another trusted adult to their place of work for the day to observe and take part in working practices that they would not normally come into contact with at school. It was a valuable personal development opportunity for them and an excellent way to introduce the Work Related Learning Curriculum. The Day to Work helps students to recognise the value of the skills they are learning in the classroom as well as appreciate how hard their parents work to support them!

A small number of students who were unable to work with their parents came into school and worked in a variety of areas including the library, art and technology, performing arts, and the Misbourne cafe. Their help was really appreciated by the staff of those areas.

One student who had a particularly successful placement was Issy Hobbs of 7JEL. Issy went to work at Sign Specialists and their director, Denise Tisdale, contacted the school to say how much they had enjoyed having Issy working with them, she said Issy was *“open and confident but not overly so and asked relevant questions regarding the various processes and procedures. Her enthusiasm for her task was clear and she maintained this throughout her day.”*

Issy spent her day completing a project to create a sign for her form tutor, Miss Elliott. By doing this she followed the sign-making process through from concept to completion, raising an initial order, creating an invoice, designing the sign, selecting the most appropriate materials, directing staff and helping to make the sign and finally cleaning and wrapping the finished product.



Issy Hobbs and the sign she made on her Day to Work

All the students were asked to complete a handbook recording what they had learned and assessing whether it would have an impact on their future educational and career aspirations. There will be a small prize for the best handbook.

The fundamental aims of the day were to introduce the varied and wide skills base behind working life to students and to boost their confidence in practical and social skills and, from the positive feedback received so far, we can certainly say this was achieved.

Well done Year 7.

Mrs C Hillier

Communications and WRL Manager