

Blackfen School for Girls

November 2024

Careers Newsletter



National Grid – Year 12/13 London Power Tunnels STEM Workshop

We were delighted to welcome a representative from Connectr on behalf of National Grid to deliver a workshop to encourage students to think about career options in the energy industry by building awareness about the wide range of job types, skills, and careers in STEM.



The learning objectives of the workshop were:

- To explain how National grid achieves its core purpose and aims through contributing to the energy sector, and the role that LPT plays within this.
- To evaluate a range of activities which are being undertaken to help the UK reach its Net Zero target, including the role of National Grid.
- To analyse the relationship between Net Zero and the Job Market, and consider how this might impact your own decisions in the future.
- To develop your teamwork, problem solving, and speaking skills to create a group presentation on the strategy that the UK could use to reach Net Zero.
- This is a fantastic opportunity for students to hear directly from Market Insight and create connections between the knowledge they're developing in their subjects with possible career opportunities.

The session concluded with students developing a group presentation, students were tasked by National Grid to set up a brand-new department to deliver a large-scale green energy project.

Students in groups had to pitch their project, achieve the funding needed and use persuasive language to articulate rationale and reasoning in favour of them. All students took part in this challenge and produced some excellent ideas and work to persuade their audience to invest in their project!

Our Year12/13 students found this workshop to be informative, beneficial and gave them a better understanding of careers in this industry.



Group presentation winners

Year 8 STEM Careers Day

Careers day for Year 8 was to help students explore their STEM knowledge and different careers within the world of work. Students took part in a practical session with 'The Royal Navy'.

The Royal Navy session got students to take part in a mock humanitarian session where they had to build a satellite tower to help an island where a hurricane had destroyed all their power cables. They had to use ropes, nuts, bolts and a wheel to build a tower almost 2 metres tall.

The day also included access to Unifrog an online careers platform. Unifrog helped students to find out what career sectors they may be interested in and what type of characteristics as a person they are. This will help them to make important decisions in the future.

They also got the opportunity to make Vision Boards. Vision boards are a collage of images that can represent their future goals and dreams. They had to visualise what they would like to be doing in 2034, 10 years away! It was good to identify where they see themselves in the future.

Finally, they completed a sustainability session where they had to plan who they would take to an uninhabited island and how they would be able to live sustainably on the island. It was good to draw the island before and after they had planned it.

Overall year 8 careers day was enjoyed by everyone!



I enjoyed the Royal Navy session best as it helped me to use my problem solving skills and teamworking skills to get the best results. I learned about all the different careers in the Royal Navy which were interesting to find out about. There were also prizes for the students who worked well as part of a team during the careers day - Daniela, Year 8



One of the winning groups



Best Teamwork and Best Build

Save the date! Annual Careers Fair Tuesday 4th March 2025

We will be holding our Annual Careers Fair on Tuesday 4th March from 3.15pm until 6.00pm in the Performance Space. We would like to see as many parents/carers and students attend as we expect this evening to be interesting and informative with many representatives attending. Further details to follow.



More information on Careers and Work Experience, including the school Careers Policy, is available on the school website under Policies and Curriculum.



Why not try some virtual work experience?

From work experience to university course taster experiences, the Springpod platform is the destination for young people to explore, interact and learn about the world of work and university before they apply.

<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience>



Year 10 Work Experience 14th – 18th July 2025

All students have now been visited in form time by Mrs Smith to show them how to input their placement details using Unifrog. We already have 39 students who have secured a Work Experience placement and have input the details on to Unifrog!

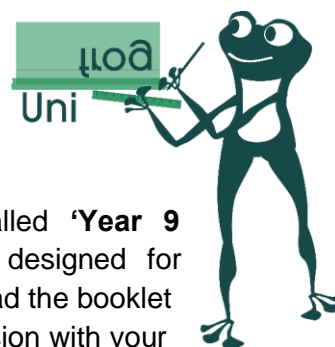
The information letter was emailed to parent/carers by Edulink on 8th October and has been emailed again on 27th November. The letter details how the Work Experience Programme will run this year. We will be using Unifrog to input the placement information with no paperwork to return. Details of how to login to Unifrog were also in the letter. Your child would have received an email from Unifrog to their school email account. I would urge you to remind them to open this email and set their password with Unifrog as they will need this to input the details of their work experience placement.

Placements are quite limited this year so I would ask students to make every effort to find their own placement early. If you have been offered a placement but still need confirmation please chase the employer.

The Programme is designed to give young people a better insight into the world of work and to acquaint them with the key skills necessary to succeed in adult working life. Therefore, the placement may not be directly linked with your child's career ideas. Taking part in the Programme is an excellent opportunity for your child to learn and develop many transferable skills that will benefit them in the future.

Please can I remind you that all placements must be finalised by **Monday 17th March 2025**.

Year 9 preparation for Key Stage 4 Course Selection

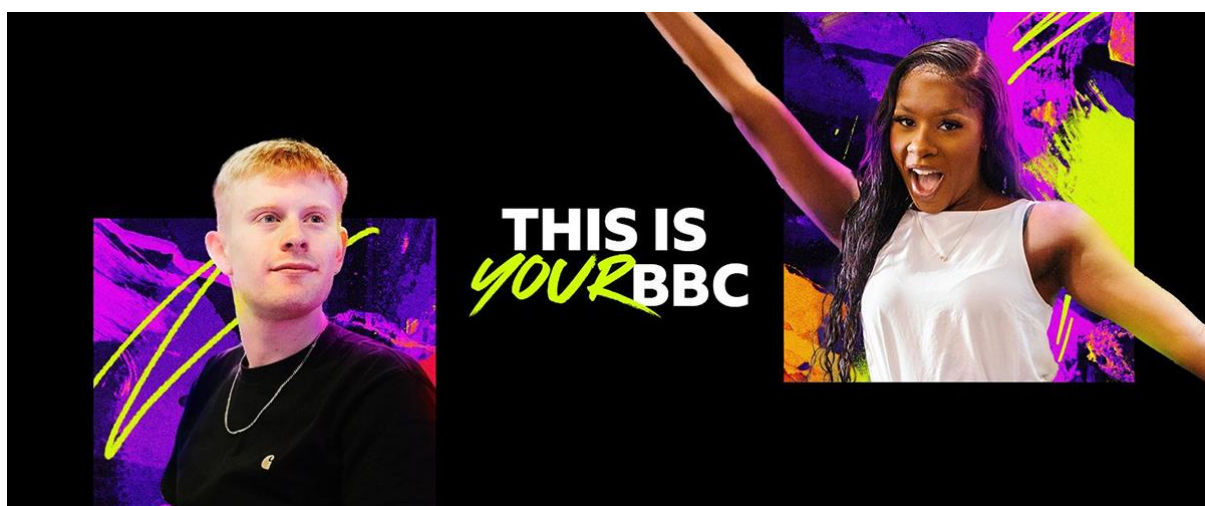


Students will shortly be issued with a guidance booklet called '**Year 9 preparation for Key Stage 4 course selection**', which is designed for completion at home with input from parents and carers. Please read the booklet carefully, as there are specific sections to be completed in discussion with your young person. The purpose of the booklet is to guide students, with parental support, to reflect on their personal character traits and qualities and their academic strengths and learning journey. Developing a clear and honest understanding of these two areas is the starting point for choosing Key Stage 4 subjects and is most successful when supported by family adults.

All students can login to Unifrog to complete the booklet from home or during form time. Instructions for Unifrog have been emailed home and students can login from <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in> using their school email address and creating their own password. No logins or passwords are issued from school.

Key Stage 4 course selection at Blackfen School is always a guided process. We recognise that these choices will influence, to some extent, the courses selected by students for study in Key Stage 5 and then the kind of training and education they select at the end of Year 13, so your input is much appreciated at this time. Please complete the booklet with your child and then sign on **page 1** of the booklet to confirm that you have read and discussed the content of these pages with your young person.

Year 9 students must bring the completed booklet to their group careers interviews (January – March 2025), as well as to other meetings with senior staff in school. The booklet should be completed by Wednesday 12th March 2025.



BBC Apprenticeships - Applications are live for 2025!

The BBC's award-winning apprenticeship schemes could be your chance to start an exciting career across a wide range of jobs in the media industry.

With opportunities across the UK, in the areas of business; digital, data and technology; engineering and operations; journalism; and production, there's a place for you, with us, at the BBC.

Vacancies for all our schemes can be found on the [**BBC Early Careers Page**](#).

Salaries for our Level 3 - 6 apprenticeships start at £21,840. If you're working in London there will be an additional payment of £5,318 to help manage the higher living costs of living in the capital.

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