



SOUTH SHROPSHIRE ACADEMY TRUST

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Specialist Schools
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EXCELLENCE AND DIVERSITY



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NPQH Leadership
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for Leadership of Schools
and Children's Services

12th November 2019

Yr10 Work Experience 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Church Stretton School believes that work placements are incredibly important to allow your child to have an experience of the working world and to see what life is like outside the school environment. This year work experience placements will take place in the final week of term, **13th -17th July**, to run alongside Enrichment Week.

The official launch of work experience has been delayed for Year 10's this year due to the rising costs of the essential checks carried out on placements to make sure they are safe and suitable for our students. We have entered into partnership with Education Business Links, who have qualified staff experienced in carrying out these risk assessments. Each employer visit cost £25 to the school. If the request for work experience checks comes in less than four weeks before the date of commencement there are additional costs to the school. There are also added costs for risk assessment checks out of county. **We are therefore asking parents if they could make a £10 contribution to this cost via ParentPay, to enable us to continue offering work experience placements.**

Whilst we are grateful each year for those parents who support their children in seeking a suitable placement, we feel it is vital for the pupils to make the initial contact themselves. You should start seeking a placement as soon as possible. Information is on the school website (www.churchstretton.shropshire.sch.uk) under the Curriculum area then pick the Careers section. Scroll to the bottom to find Year 10 Work Experience Information.

Once a placement has been secured your son/daughter should complete a yellow Work Experience Placement Form so insurance checks can be made and then the information be passed onto Education Business Links for the health and safety checks to take place. They will then receive final confirmation that they can attend.

We strongly recommend that students do not go back to their own primary school as it is a place they are already familiar with. A selection of placements used in recent years is the school website, along with an example template letter which can be used to send to employers. There is no guarantee that these places will be available again and early application is recommended. If an employer tells you that they cannot offer a place in work experience week but could do it during the school holidays please contact Mr Overton

It should be remembered that students must make their own transport arrangements. You may of course wish to arrange something further away from home, but parents will need to negotiate with us directly if this is the case. The deadline to allow for insurance checks on out-of-county placements is Friday 13th December 2019.

We cannot emphasise enough the impact Work Experience has on students and the contribution it makes to future job and college applications. Feedback from employers is also very useful when writing pupil references for colleges and apprenticeships in Year 11.

We would be most grateful if you could discuss the content of this letter with your child. More details will be given to students during PSHE lessons. Do not hesitate to contact Mr Overton in the first instance at school if you wish to discuss any queries you might have relating to this scheme.

Yours sincerely,

M Longhurst

L Overton

Mr M Longhurst
Assistant Headteacher

Mr L Overton
Work Experience Co-ordinator