



22nd October 2025

Oriel High School Careers

Dear parents/carers,

It has been a busy start to the academic year, with careers related trips and visiting speakers. We have taken trips to the local colleges, STEM visits, Engineering for girls and Dare to Dream assemblies. Next month promises even more, with a trips to Boeing, M+C Saatchi advertising, Plumpton College, First Central and a trip for all year 11s to the Excel centre to the London School and College Leavers Show on 18th November, where all year 11 can explore future pathways post 16, including apprenticeships. I am hopeful this will be an excellent opportunity for students to network with companies who offer apprenticeships and find out more about this very attractive pathway to employment and further qualifications.

Year 10

Wex 2026 has been launched to year 10 pupils in an assembly last week and details have been sent home to all parents. Although not until July next year, we need to start the process early as finding a placement can be difficult at times. This year marks a change in the WEX, as Oriel follows government guidance and adopts the new framework of ensuring students have one week of experience in the workplace before the end of year 11. Therefore, the dates for the WEX in summer 2026 will be 13th-17th July.

Year 8s

A reminder that our Gatwick STEM centre visits continue on Monday after half term, with our next group of students being taken out for the morning. Students should register as normal with their mentor and be in full school uniform. Students are to head to reception and the corridor leading to the main hall to meet with me at 8:30, ready for departure at 08:35.

Date	Class	Date	Class
29 th September	8a/Ma1	12 th January	8b/Ma2
3 rd November	8a/Ma2	14 th January	8b/Ma3
1 st December	8a/Ma3	11 th February	8c/Ma1
17 th December	8b/Ma1	16 th March	8c/Ma2
		TBC	8c/Ma3

Girls in Aviation

I have 4 places available for girls in year 10 or 11 to accompany me on a trip to Boeing training centre. The places are for females interested in aviation and the day will involve different tasks and workshops, including a simulator opportunity, cabin crew trainer tasks and model making. Girls were notified of this in mentor time and the response was fantastic, securing my 4 students within the first couple of periods.

College trips

We have run two college trips so far this term, taking students to learn about future pathways at East Surrey and Crawley College. I may run another in January depending upon demand and pupil results in their upcoming mocks. **The next will be to Plumpton in November and anyone who would like to attend should see me to sign up.** The trip will showcase the wide variety of opportunities the college has to offer in diverse subjects from land-based courses, mechanics, animal management, equine studies to viticulture. If your child has an interest in animals or anything land based, this is a fantastic college to consider for their next steps.

Year 11 Trip to the London School and College Leaver Festival 18th November

All year 11s will be taken to the Excel centre in London for a large careers and pathways show. There will be stalls from lots of different companies highlighting their careers opportunities, including apprenticeships. There will also be lots of universities and colleges present, some of whom are specialists in certain fields of industry. This will be a great opportunity for students to network and engage with employers and colleges alike, and learn more about future potential pathways, hopefully inspiring them to strive to work even harder!

Due to the ever-increasing costs associated with coach hire, it has become necessary to ask for a voluntary contribution from parents, with the school taking on the rest of the cost. We think that this event is important to expand our student's horizons and see what is on offer outside of Crawley, but without the support of parents, a trip like this would become unviable in the current climate. The contribution will be set at £5 for parents, which we hope you will agree presents great value when investing in your child, to explore potential future pathways.

Students will need to register for tickets and can do so with this link. Please ensure they register before the day:

- <https://registration.allintheloop.net/register/user/individual-registration-nas-nscf-excel-2025-a294>

Students will then receive a QR code which is their entry ticket and can also be scanned at stalls, for the information to be sent directly to them via email. This will help them in ensuring they do not forget important conversations. More information will be sent separately to year 11 parents.

Oriel Careers Fair

After the success of our inaugural event last year, we are aiming to hoist our second event this year in December. The fair will give students from year 10-13 a chance to explore opportunities for post 16 and 18, whether that be with companies offering apprenticeships, or with colleges or local universities. We are still on the lookout for companies to join us to make this the highlight careers event it was last year, so if your company would be able to join us, please do get in contact with us. The event is great for networking with local businesses and in reaching future employees. Companies who work with us report increased interest in roles and take up of positions from Oriel, so we know that this event works well at building brand and opportunity awareness.

New Partnership

You will be pleased to know we are in the early stages of developing a new partnership with a multinational company. We hope this will lead to new engagement opportunities for our students in all year groups. Watch out for the big announcement in the near future.

Owen Svoboda

Director of Learning, Careers Leader

Telephone: 01293 880350 | Facsimile: 01293 880351

Student Absence Telephone: 01293 880363 (24 hours)

Email: office@oriel.w-sussex.sch.uk | Website: www.oriel.w-sussex.sch.uk





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GATSBY BENCHMARKS

What are they?



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Every school and college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by pupils, parents, teachers and employers.	Every pupil, and their parents, should have access to good quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities. They will need the support of an informed advisor to make best use of available information.	Pupils have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each pupil. A school's careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout.	All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. For example, STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide-range of future career paths.	Every pupil should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.	Every pupil should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing, and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.	All pupils should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges and in the workplace.	Every pupil should have opportunities for guidance. Interviews with a career adviser, who could be internal or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all pupils but should be timed to meet their individual needs.