

External engagement, employer engagement and work experience strategy

External & employer engagement

St Cuthbert's Catholic High School is an outstanding all boys' non selective school located in the West end of Newcastle upon Tyne in the North East of England. 'Work hard and become a leader' (Proverbs 12 verse 24) is our mantra and since 1881 we have been empowering young men to take their place in society. The school prides itself on encouraging boys to aspire to excellence and leadership in everything they do. A challenging curriculum sits alongside stimulating and enriching extra-curricular activities. Our students are curious, confident, conscientious and successful communicators. The school ranks amongst the highest attaining state schools in the country with a reputation for outstanding results. As such employers and Universities are keen to engage with us. As Careers leader Mrs Garay is the key contact and her details are available on the school website.

Work experience strategy

All boys in Year 12 can undertake a work experience placement at any point throughout their first year and dates arranged are to fit with the company's business needs e.g. accountancy firms will avoid March as it nears the end of the tax year. Students are encouraged to arrange their own placements but Mrs Garay will assist in arranging a placement for them. A work experience request form is completed, highlighting the sector they aspire to work in and every effort is made to match this to a meaningful placement.

Any younger student can request work experience and consideration is given to all such requests. Parental engagement offering placements is strongly encouraged.

Under health and safety law, every employer must ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of all their employees, irrespective of age. As part of this, there are certain considerations that need to be made for young people.

Under the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, employers have a responsibility to ensure that young people employed by you are not exposed to risk due to:

- lack of experience;
- being unaware of existing or potential risks;
- lack of maturity.

Employers must consider:

- the layout of the workplace;
- the physical, biological and chemical agents they will be exposed to;
- how they will handle work equipment;
- how the work and processes are organised;
- the extent of health and safety training needed;
- risks from particular agents, processes and work.

Work experience placements are sought from an ever growing database of employer contacts demonstrated in the *Who we work with* section.