

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM AT WALSALL ACADEMY



MEET THE TEAM

Walsall Academy strongly believe that skills developed outside of the classroom are of equal importance to those gained inside. Today's world of work is an ever evolving landscape and we cannot fully comprehend the challenges this will pose to you, as students, as you leave our school and either enter the workforce or move onto further study and training. Therefore we need to help you in gaining valuable skills and experience that will allow you to adapt and thrive in this changing landscape.

Our Year 12 Work Experience programme is designed to help you to become career ready whilst also gaining an understanding of the skills you will need in order to become responsible and independent citizens when leaving us at Post 18.

The opportunities available to you whilst you study with us in Sixth Form are invaluable in supporting you and guiding you as you navigate your way to finding and securing your chosen destinations at the end of Year 13.

We have produced this guide to help you understand the support available and the steps you will need to take over the next 12 months as you move through Year 12 and into Year 13.



Mrs T Dingle
Director of Careers and Employability

In school every day 8:15 am – 5:15 pm

Contact via email tdingle@walsallacademy.com or telephone 01922 493910



Mrs N Rattenberry
Careers Co-ordinator

In school Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:15 am – 4.30 pm

Contact via email nrattenberry@walsallacademy.com or telephone 01922 493910



Mrs C Ward
Careers Co-ordinator

In school every day 9.00 am – 3.00 pm

Contact via email cward@walsallacademy.com or telephone 01922 493910

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

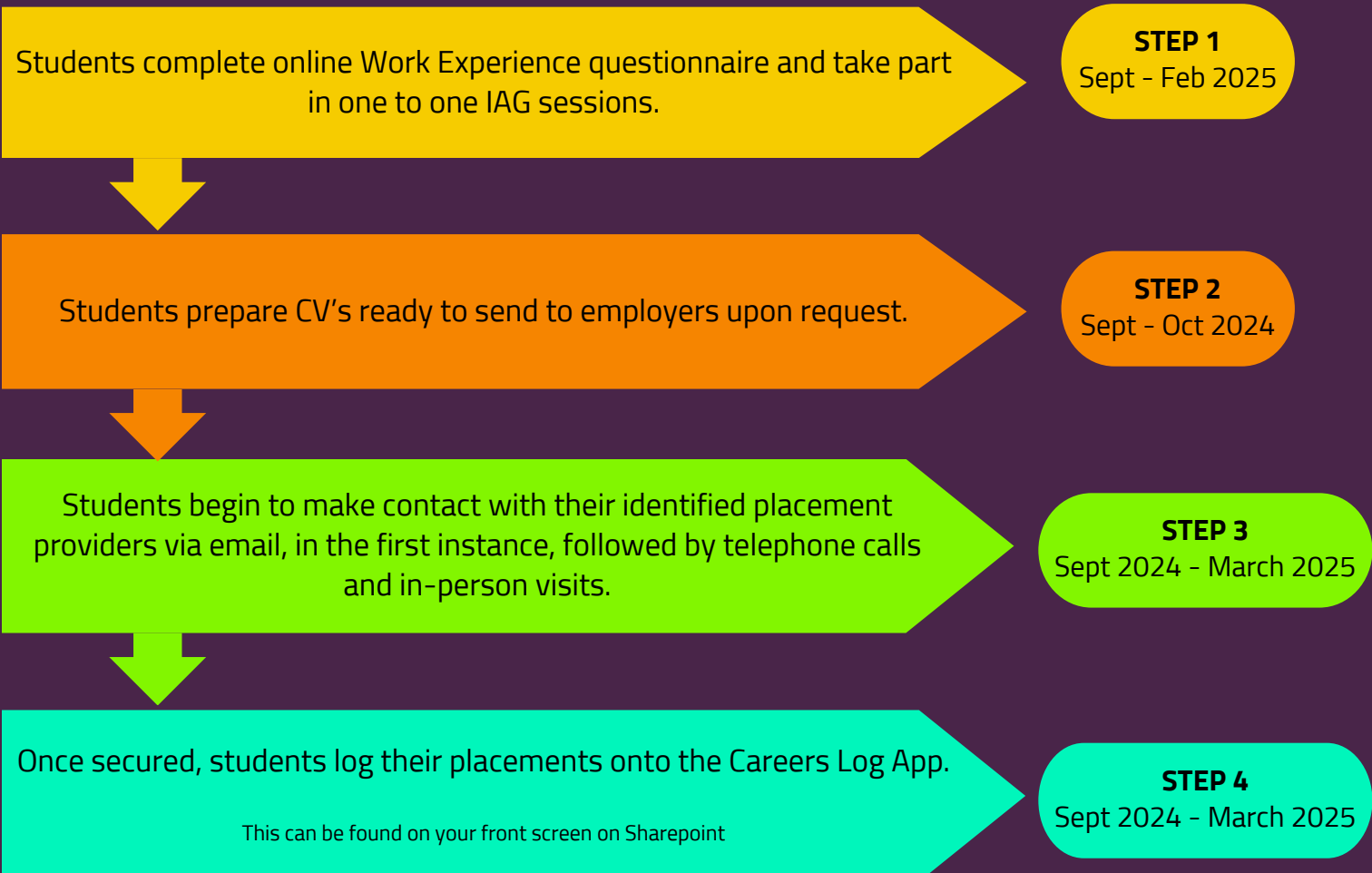
Monday 30 June – Friday 11 July 2025



All Year 12 students are required to find and secure their own work experience placements for the full two weeks.

During the Autumn term, all Year 12 students will take part in one to one guidance sessions with a qualified Careers Advisor where your future career decisions will be discussed. At the end of this session the advisor will help you to identify a plan of action to follow in order to secure your placements for the following year. In some cases, students wishing to pursue careers in certain sectors may be asked to consider a more long term approach or the option of completing work experience outside of school term time. This is often because the demands of the sector and the workplace require an alternative approach to block placements. If this is the case, this will be discussed with you during this meeting.

Work Experience Flow Chart and Timescale





VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Sign up here!

Speakers for Schools offer virtual high-quality work experience for every young person.

Click here to sign up for some of their fantastic opportunities!

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/vwex/>

Springpod offer experience with top employers and universities. An immersive introduction to working at some of the best employers in the world.

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

Uptree is designed to help students get work experience, find apprenticeships and other opportunities, and begin their dream career.

<https://uptree.co/events/>

For some sectors, gaining in-person experience may be difficult and therefore the links above will help students to find online opportunities that are specific to the sector they would like to work in. However, these should only be used in moderation as they are not a suitable replacement for developing employability skills. Students accessing on-line virtual WEX will also be asked to source in-person WEX placements to sit alongside this.

USEFUL WORK EXPERIENCE LINKS

<https://careers.channel4.com/4skills/work-experience>

Channel 4 Careers

<https://resources.careersandenterprise.co.uk/resources/bbc-bitesize-careers>

BBC Bitesize Careers

YEAR 12 HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY WEEK

Monday 14 July – Thursday 17 July 2025

During the last week of the Summer term, Year 12 students will have the opportunity to explore their choices at Post 18. This week will involve visits to and from Universities and Training Providers all of which will help students to make informed decisions about what to do when they leave Walsall Academy.

Those who would like to go to university can attend information sessions and workshops designed to provide support with every aspect of the UCAS process. Parents and Carers are also welcome to attend during a twilight session to be held Monday 14 July at 6:30pm

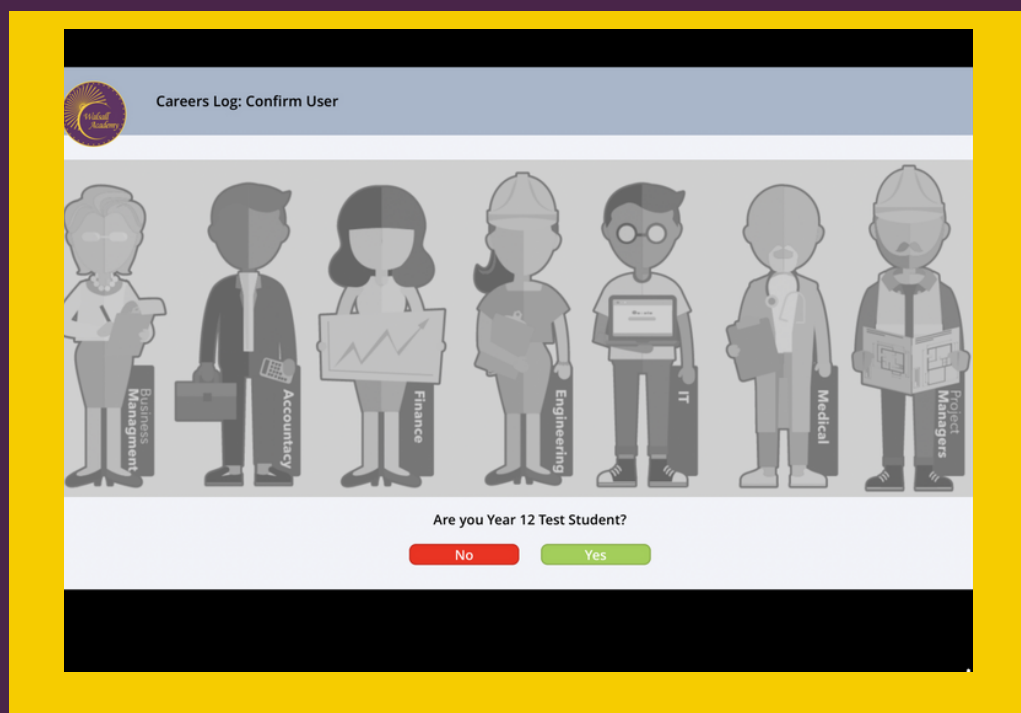
Those considering apprenticeships can attend a mock Assessment Centre as well as masterclasses aimed at improving their Job search and interview techniques.

WORK EXPERIENCE CAREERS LOG APP

All students will have access to our Careers Log app to record their planned work experiences, employer details and dates.

Please keep these up to date with all changes for Careers staff to monitor your progress.

Careers staff will need these details in order to make contact with your employers and complete the relevant checks before you take part in your placement



Your Careers Log can be found on the Home screen of your Sharepoint.

NOTICES



Important
Dates

- **Sept 2024 - One to one interviews begin**
- **28 March 2025 - All work experience placements to be secured by students**
- **30 May 2025 - All health and safety risk assessments and relevant checks to be completed by Careers staff**
- **30 June 2025 - 11 July 2025 -Year 12 Work Experience Weeks**
- **15 July 2025 - Year 12 Higher Education and Employability Week**