



BULLETIN



Our termly bulletin aims to keep parents and carers informed of all the personal development activities happening in school: student wellbeing, careers, how to support your child and how to get involved with the programme in school.

HELLO YELLOW! – WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

In October we joined mental health charity, Young Minds, in holding our Hello Yellow! event. Our staff and students came together to deliver awareness assemblies, tutorial activities and a charity bake sale. Whole school events like Hello Yellow! and Our Children's Mental Health Week in February keep the emotional wellbeing of our school community at the forefront of our thinking. Thank you to all who contributed.

Growing our specialist mental health support team

We are delighted to announce that we have been successful in securing the additional support of a Mental Health in Schools' Team (MHST) worker for 2025. This is part of a national, government-led, focus on improving the availability of specialist mental health provision for children and young people and the adults that support them. The new MHST worker will begin their partnership with our school community at the end of January 2025. This new addition to our school wellbeing provision will help to increase our capacity for meeting the needs of our students who may be struggling with their emotional wellbeing, and reduce the waiting times commonly experienced through external providers.

**Mental Health
Support Team (MHST)**



'ASPIRATIONAL FUTURES' EVENT THURS 3 OCT 24



We were delighted to be able to repeat our 'Next Steps' event and invite **parents and students in years 10-13** to attend in person.

We hosted a carousel of guest speakers from a number of Russell Group universities covering topics such as: choosing the right university, student finance, study skills, applying for medicine and dentistry etc.

For those considering an alternative to university we had speakers from apprenticeship providers as well as employers offering apprenticeship opportunities.

We encourage all our students aspiring to work in medicine and health to join our MedSoc who recently hosted Dr Claire Stansfield at their session sharing a deeper insight into the application process.

For more information speak to MedSoc presidents: Anaya Hammad and Susan Ajayi

YEAR 13 STUDENTS MOCK INTERVIEWS

We have continued to strengthen our mock interviews programme by pairing our students with those in industry from their intended future career pathways. We hosted 3 weeks of online interviews with volunteers from the Civil Service (DWP and Home Office), The Universities of Cambridge, Huddersfield and Bradford, doctors, nurses and dentists from the NHS, Amazing Apprenticeships, Lloyds Banking Group, and Openreach amongst others.

In their PD lessons students prepared, personal statements, covering letters and practiced their interview techniques including the 'STAR' method (situation, task, action, and result) and how to create an 'elevator pitch' when preparing for interview.

Feedback from the employers was fabulous with many complimenting on our students' ability to articulate themselves and their readiness for the next stage in their journey to employment.

Students found the experience worthwhile too with a number experiencing university interviews online shortly after the event.



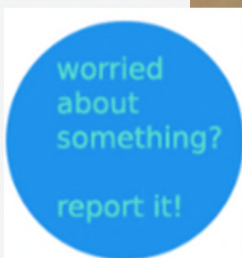


CHOOSE RESPECT ANTIBULLYING WEEK



In November, members of our Student Council delivered assemblies to mark National Anti-Bullying Week. Whilst our Crossley Heath School community is recognised as the safest secondary school in Calderdale (Calderdale eHNA Survey 2024), we know that continued education around this global and enduring social issue is essential in maintaining and building on the respect that we have for one another. Our Student Council are also working on a Kindness Charter and Action Plan that will serve to further embed our school value of kindness in all that we do. Human kindness is at the heart of community wellbeing and the more we experience acts of kindness, the more individuals within the community thrive and succeed.

If students (or parents/carers of those students) have any concerns for their wellbeing, we encourage the use of our 'report it' button. This can be found at the bottom of our school website pages.



CROSS CURRICULAR LEARNING EMERGENCY FIRST AID WORKSHOPS



During our first aid workshops students covered 4 separate life-saving activities: how to perform CPR, how to use an AED (defibrillator), how to use an autoinjector (EpiPen) and how to put someone in the recovery position.

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a portable life saving device that can give a casualty's heart an electric shock when it has stopped beating normally in a sudden cardiac arrest. A defibrillator works by checking the casualty's heart rhythm once the defibrillator pads are placed on their chest and giving them a shock if needed. By using a defibrillator before an ambulance arrives, you can significantly increase someone's chance of survival.

We are still fundraising to purchase an AED for 24/7 community use on the moor gate. Parent Pay or via this link <https://donate.justgiving.com/charity/crossleyheathschool/donation-amount>





SUPPORTING OUR CAREERS PROGRAMME

If you or your workplace could support our careers programme in any way we would love to hear from you.

We are particularly interested in people who work in recruitment/HR to conduct some online Yr13 mock interviews.

Could you, or your place of work, host a year 12 student next March for their week of work experience?

Is your place of work local? Could they host short visits for larger groups of KS4 students to offer some insight into different working environments?

Could you come in to school to support potential enterprise events, working with students on a brief, and offering them feedback to help simulate a real life work situation?

Do you work for an organisation who provide apprenticeship opportunities and could come in to deliver an assembly about this route into employment?

Would your organisation like to exhibit at our careers fair?

YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE LAUNCH

Following National Careers Week Year 12 will take part in work experience for 1 week from the 10th-14th of March 2025.

Whilst this may feel like a long time in the future, it is wise for students to start thinking about what type of experience they would like and start to **make connections with potential hosts now.**

We are thrilled to be partnering with Lloyds Banking Group once again this year who have offered to host our students on their comprehensive work experience placement programme at Wellington Place in Leeds. Their programme gives young people the opportunity to work with staff from across the company in a range of roles from marketing to cyber security.

Lloyds application deadline:
Mon 20th January 25

Final deadline for all WEX:
Mon 3rd February 25.



If you feel you could offer any opportunities like this to our students please let us know by completing [this online form](#)





IN THE CLASSROOM

In Personal Development lessons Year 7 have completed a transition unit exploring friendships, school routines, developing aspirations and a growth mindset. In the new year they will move onto a health and wellbeing module covering puberty and managing emotions.

Year 8 have learnt about the risks associated with alcohol, nicotine and caffeine. Following this they moved on to a unit on discrimination considering prejudice in relation to our protected characteristics, as well as discussing unhelpful social stereotypes. In January, the focus will be careers and jobs of the future.

Year 9 too have been looking at the risks associated with drugs and alcohol considering the effects of peer pressure and positive role models. Following this they looked at respectful, healthy relationships, the role of family, managing family conflict and the rights of the child. To support the options process next half term the focus will be on careers and work related skills.

Year 10 started the year looking in more detail at mental health. We focused on positive coping strategies and steps we can all take to support each other, especially when affected by illness or bereavement. Following this was a unit on financial decision making and in the new year the curriculum looks at healthy relationships including those online.

We are privileged to work again this year with our local partners in public health from Branching Out and Calderdale Sexual Health. This term they have offered Year 11 sessions on the dangers of risky behaviours, with a focus on alcohol and drugs, the law around consent and where young people and their families can access support in Calderdale and Kirklees.

Over the autumn term, Years 12-13 have been looking ahead to their next chapters.

They have used a variety of sources to explore what best suits their needs and developing key employability skills, financial literacy and an awareness of one's digital footprint.

Popular again this year was the social action project in Year 12 which is all about teamwork, communication skills and raising awareness for an issue affecting our local area/community.

Next term, the Sixth Form continue to prepare for independent living looking at relationships, health and wellbeing.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR AND SUPER-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Our extra curricular programme has been flourishing in Term 1 with new clubs being added all the time. We wish to encourage all our students to take part.

It is a great way to make new friends, find a new hobby and develop some new skills.

There is something for everyone! Sports music, debating, languages, chess, art, MedSoc...Join one when the Term 2 list goes live!

The full list can be found here <https://www.crossleyheath.org.uk/student-zone/extra-curricular-activities>