

5 July 2022

Health, Wellbeing and Safety Week: 11th -15th July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Next week, students will be taking part in a themed community week around Health, Wellbeing and Safety. As part of this, students will be taking part in a number of activities including:

Student Learning

Students will be learning about a variety of topics next week around health, wellbeing and safety. This includes, for example, learning about the impact of drugs in Science and financial wellbeing in Maths. They will also be working on a practical work-based project in their vocational lessons. This includes developing a community garden at the back of the site, as well as offering an open salon and car clinic. Some students will be offering opportunities for their parents or carers to come into the Academy to experience the Salon or car checks from our Motor Vehicle students. This will be at prearranged times of the school day. We also have a company working with Animal Care and Science during the week, involving bringing some unusual animals for students to learn about. Finally, students will be able to take part in an Enterprise activity and sports sessions at the end of the week. We hope this opportunity to learn more about ways to keep safe and well will be of benefit to all students.

Speakers

During the week we will have various speakers in to talk to our young people on key issues affecting them, their peers and their community. This includes talks from Cornerhouse, a workshop from an Anti-bullying / Anti-violence charity, a workshop from Remedi (who do work around healthy relationships and domestic abuse) and a talk from Refresh. We hope students will find these useful. We will continue to provide additional support to any student affected by the issues raised in these talks. Please note, we also have a further programme of speakers and talks planned in the Autumn which will we share details of as the new term begins.

Careers Fair

On Thursday 14th July (12.45 onwards) we will have a mini careers fair in the Academy. This will include representation from some of our Post-16 providers. Students will have the opportunity to visit this and find out more. If you would like to come in to speak to these providers, or chat with our Careers / post-16 team, please confirm with your child's tutor as we can accommodate parents as well as student groups. We will be providing refreshments during this session.

Work Experience

This the first year, post-Covid, we have started to offer opportunities for Work Experience for Year 11s. As mentioned in a previous letter, running Work Experience has been challenging in the last couple of years. Many providers we have used in the past are no longer accepting work

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placements. We have managed to build up relationships with some new businesses and are able to offer, alongside some student-sought arrangements, around 30 placements next week. Please note that all placements, including with family members, have to be risk assessed by our staff – as such, any non-risk assessed placements will not be authorised by the school. We will run a second period of work experience in the Autumn for those who have not been placed this week.

Students on work experience will need parental consent letters completing which should have gone home with your child. These will need to be back before the end of the week. Students will also be spoken to around working times and aspects such as transport arrangements. Students will need to wear appropriate clothing for the business they are placed with. Students should maintain good attendance, punctuality and behaviour throughout their placement. If they do not attend, they will need to be back in school or their marks will be unauthorised. Work experience is a massively beneficial process for young people. In some cases, it can support their career choices and confirm that a particular industry is one they want to be in. In other cases, it can confirm that particular roles are not for them. Either way, we would encourage you to support your child in attending and taking part in the opportunities on offer.

If you have any questions on Work Experience, please contact Mrs Baker on 07479916252.

We hope students will have a really positive week next week and a range of experiences to reflect upon.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Boyton

Vice Principal | Aspire Academy