



**DECEMBER 2025**

## **CAREERS NEWSLETTER**

We often find that there really is never a quiet time during our school year and our first term back has been no exception. We have been busy with exams, charity events, cross-school activities, preparing for a new programme of Personal Effectiveness ASDAN work as well as our usual lessons, careers events and inducting new students. There is honestly never a dull moment around here!

### **ARE YOU “EXAM READY”?**

**Our Year 11's are definitely on the right track...**

A massive well done to our Year 11 students! Although it can be an anxiety laden time, they have approached their mock exams with grace, maturity and a calmness, utilising all the time they had available to them. For those who don't know (and our Year 11s certainly do) grades from mock exams are used to generate applications and entry data for students preferred courses at college.

It was a pleasure to see them all giving it their best efforts and they should all be very proud. Keep up the good work year 11s. Next step for our year 11 students is to apply the marking and feedback to revision practice. Next term, the school will be preparing for the Year 10 mock exams and then ,proceeding this, preparing our students for the Year 11 summer exams.

### **STUDENT AMBASSADORS**

This December, students in each school voted for their choice of Student Ambassador. Applicants were asked to nominate themselves to be the representative of their student body at meetings on issues concerning the student. We had some lovely applications and I can now confirm that this year's student ambassadors will be...

Teaseldown School – R.B.

Brook View School – A.J.

Primrose Hill School – C.N.

### **SEND CAREERS ADVICE VISITS**

For those students in Year 10 and 11, they may have seen Ian Harden, our Essex County Council SEND Careers Advisor, attending their annual review meetings. If not, then he will be coming into our school very soon. Students can talk to him about college options related to their interests or other post-16 education, training and skills opportunities available.

**Well done to all who participated.**

**To those who were not successful this year, we will be appointing a new ambassador every year from now on.**

# Parental Engagement Activity 25.3.2026

1pm - 3pm

Once again, this March, we are planning another activity for parents to join in with their young people to complete a challenge. All parents and sibling's welcome. We would love to see as many of you as possible. Tea, Coffee, soft drinks, biscuits and prizes available. This event will be wheelchair and buggy accessible and will take place in each school offering parents the chance to see student school work, work books and school displays.

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

What better way to encourage students to take responsibility for their behaviour and actions in school, and towards each other, than by creating their own **Student Code of Conduct**. This is exactly what our students have been doing in their Preparing for PEQ lessons during the last term.

Students were asked to come up with an acronym using a range of specific words chosen by our headteacher Jodie and our school director Brett. The words were chosen to reflect the philosophy and ethos here at Exceptional Ideas Ltd. and our aims. Although we had lots of fantastic submissions of art work and ideas from across all of our schools, here is the final word chosen and what it represents. Well done to AJ for coming up with the chosen acronym:

**V – Valuable**

**I – Inspirational**

**S – Supportive**

**I – Inclusive**

**O – Open-minded**

**N – Nice**

A lot of hard work and significant student involvement contributed to this code. The students and staff have agreed a final set of values so keep an eye out on our social media to find what standards our students want to work to in the future.

## CHARITY WORK AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

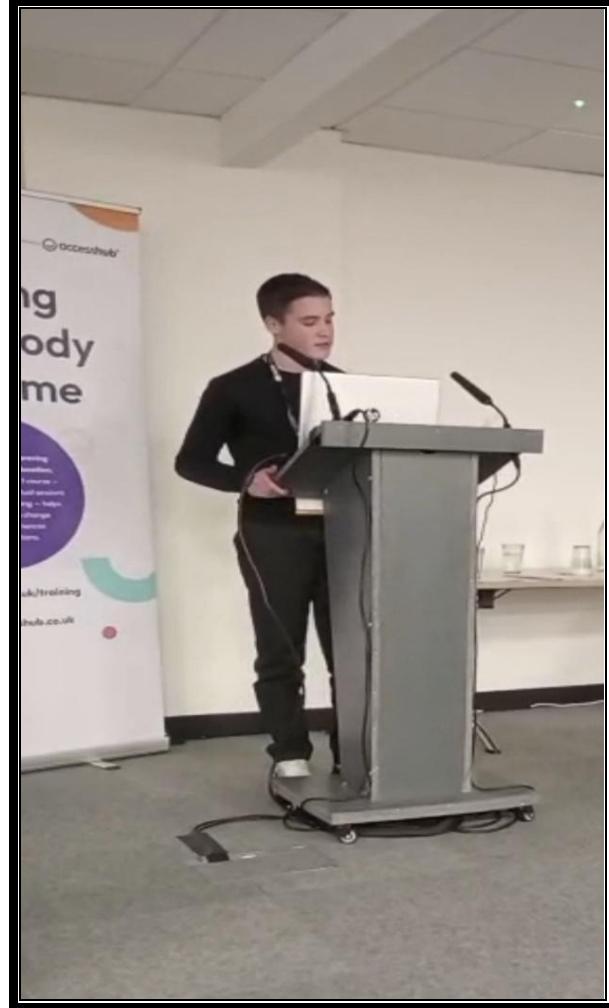
Students across all schools were set the task of completing an enterprise event to raise money for the charities of their choosing as part of another activity to prepare for the Personal Effectiveness Qualification. Students and staff baked cakes and dog biscuits, held a raffle with some excellent prizes being donated and one student, HD even shaved his head all in the name of charity. A total of **£1741** was raised for Cancer Research, SSAFA – a charity supporting veterans and RSPCA

Danaher Animal Home. A brilliant job achievement and many, many thanks to the families and wider communities who supported this event.

We have also been collecting food items for the Trussell Trust through Wethersfield Church, who very kindly invited Brook View School to decorate one of their Church Christmas Trees this year.

## Teaseldown Student speaks at national conference

One of our students, RB who is a current ambassador for the Multi Schools Council, was recently invited to speak to participants from all over the country at a national SEND conference in London. R spoke confidently and completely openly about his own mental health journey highlighting how his SEND diagnoses prevented him from being diagnosed with a mental health condition that required urgent support. He also discussed the importance of greater access to mental health services that should be available in a more time appropriate way. R expressed that the right support needs to be available at the right time but that it is also important to try to manage your own recovery and to take steps to improve your mental health. Needless to say, we are all extremely proud of him, he did a fantastic job. Well done, RB!



## College research and applications



After researching, investigating and completing visits to a wide range of post-16 providers, our Year 11 students have been busy this last half term making their applications to college and for their next steps. This year we have had applications submitted at a range of levels for Art and Design, Carpentry, Computing and Bespoke provision. Next up, we will be ensuring that all of our students are fully prepared to achieve the qualifications they need and confirming that each one has the support they need to be ready to transfer to a new learning environment.

## Our day with The Army

We were recently lucky enough to spend the day with the Catering Production Team - 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, The Parachute Regiment. I have been informed by so many of the students that this was the best careers event we have done, but I think the credit should really lie with the army team who treated us to the most incredible and informative day. Most importantly students got to learn about the life of a soldier out in the field, as well as learn about the team of people who feed them, wherever they are in the world and just how hot and uncomfortable that work can be sometimes! Students learnt about the wide range of different roles there are in the armed forces and the differing destinations that each of the soldiers had the chance to visit. Students were also shown the full kit that a soldier is required to carry when they are out, and how they use this to keep themselves safe and healthy.

We really cannot thank them enough. We met officers and soldiers from all over the base, who came to visit us to see what we were doing and to enjoy the food!



**Key dates:**

**Careers event 3:** Tuesday 03.02.2026 It's a mystery! Student arranged event as part of Personal Effective Qualification.

**Year 11 study leave starts:** Monday 20.04.2026

**Careers Event 4:** Wednesday 25.03.2026 Parental Engagement Activity in schools.

**Next newsletter: April 2026**