

Reflections on this half term

As we reach the end of this half term, it has been truly impressive to see how mature and thoughtful our Year 9 students have been in approaching the GCSE options process. Selecting subjects that will shape their future is no small task, yet they have engaged with the process in a responsible and considered manner. From attending subject presentations to asking insightful questions about potential career pathways, their commitment to making informed choices has been evident throughout. It has been particularly encouraging to see students weighing up their strengths, interests, and long-term goals with such a level-headed approach.

What stands out most is the depth of reflection many students have shown when discussing their options. Rather than simply following friends or picking subjects based on familiarity, they have taken the time to explore how their choices align with future aspirations. Many have sought advice from teachers and family members, demonstrating their willingness to think critically about their next steps. This level of maturity bodes well for their transition into Key Stage 4, and we are confident that they will continue to embrace new challenges with the same sense of purpose and determination.

Useful Links

[Kooth- Online support and counselling](#)

[TSAT Mental Health & Wellbeing](#)

Learning

Year 9 students have truly excelled this half term, earning an incredible 25,000 positives for their hard work, dedication, and positive attitude in lessons. This is a testament to their commitment to learning and the effort they are putting into their studies each day. Walking around the school, it has been fantastic to see students fully engaged, asking thoughtful questions, and challenging themselves to achieve their best. Whether it's tackling complex maths problems, demonstrating creativity in English, or showing resilience in science experiments, their enthusiasm for learning is clear. This outstanding approach will undoubtedly set them up for continued success as they move forward in their academic journey.

Attendance

Attendance plays a crucial role in academic success, and it is fantastic to see that a large proportion of Year 9 students have maintained an attendance rate of 96% or higher this half term. Their commitment to being in school every day is truly commendable and will undoubtedly support their learning and progress. Additionally, lateness has significantly reduced over the last half term showing that students are making a conscious effort to arrive on time and start their lessons ready to learn. This improvement reflects their growing sense of responsibility and dedication, and we encourage all students to keep up this excellent effort as we move into the next half term.

LEADERS, LEADERS, LEADERS

It has been fantastic to see so many Year 9 students stepping up and embracing leadership opportunities within the year group. Whether becoming LORIC Leaders, Student Council Representatives, or Subject Leaders, Year 9's have shown great enthusiasm, responsibility, and a desire to make a positive impact on the school community. Their willingness to take on these roles demonstrates their growing confidence and leadership skills, setting a great example for their peers. We are incredibly proud of their contributions so far and look forward to seeing them continue to thrive in these positions. Well done for all who have been involved. It's lovely to see students wearing their pin badges around school with pride.

Virtual Work Experience

We're excited to announce our virtual work experience opportunities with Experian, taking place in May for students in year groups 7-9 (First Step) and 10-13 (Next Step). Our events take place outside of school hours, making them easily accessible for all students.

FIRST STEP (suitable for Year 9 students)

Tuesday 13th May at 4.30pm (virtual session hosted on MS Teams)- Links below

["Free Skins or Fake Wins? Exposing Fake Gaming Giveaways!"](#)

- A 45-minute briefing with the Experian team
- Complete the career challenge at their own pace
- Certification awarded on completion
- [Register now!](#) (students)
- for more information, please contact Sarah Dempsey our careers advisor sdempsey@bradfield.sheffield.sch.uk