

Penwortham Priory Post



Staff Changes in the English Department

Head of English Mrs Gidden has a temporary new Assistant Head as Mrs Webster will be stepping into the shoes of Mrs Robinson-Ali when she goes on maternity leave at the end of this term.

Mrs Webster was Head of English at Hodgson Academy in Poulton-Le-Fylde, where she had worked for around 12 years, but stepped down to look after her two young boys. She joined Priory 18 months ago and is reunited with Mrs Gidden.

Mrs Gidden said: "Mrs Webster did some work with my previous school when we changed examining boards to AQA in 2015; Her department was heralded as flagship for AQA and results at the time so I went there to pick her brains and she was really helpful in that transition period.

"I am excited to be working closely with Mrs Webster. We also went to the same high school, I was a year older, and I got in touch with her again at Hodgson Academy when I was looking to become Head of Department myself.

"Mrs Webster gave me advice when I applied for this role at Priory and we have always sung from the same hymn sheet. When she applied for the teaching post at Priory in 2019, I remembered the positive working experience we had, and the rest is history!"

We want an exciting curriculum and we want it to be delivered with enthusiasm. She will carry on the good work started by Mrs Robinson-Ali."

Continued overleaf...

Diary Dates

Key Dates

Did you know that the term dates for this academic year, as well as the following year, are available to view and download from our website?

www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/termdates

Year 11 Blood Brothers Online Workshop
Tues, 15 December

Year 11 Science Advent Calendars
Hand to Mr Bedford before break on Fri, 18 December

End of Autumn Term
Fri, 18 December 2020
Early lunch followed by school closure at 1.10pm

Science STEAM Competition Deadline
Fri, 8 January 2021

Learn to succeed

...Continued from front page

Mrs Webster said: "It feels an exciting opportunity for me. It's a temporary position so I have time to find my feet in the role but I am excited to have the responsibility.

"Mrs Robinson-Ali has done a fantastic job and I will be continuing her hard work.

"Anyone who knows me, knows I love a competition.

"There will be a speech competition next week which we run most years although it will be held slightly differently this year.

"There will also be a poetry competition after Christmas.

"We will try and put some trips in place, we hope to go to Clitheroe Castle in conjunction with the History curriculum, and will be continuing the Accelerated Reader scheme, it's exciting to encourage the love of reading.

"We will also be piloting a new scheme of learning. Mrs Robinson-Ali started it and I will be picking it up so it's nice we have worked together on this."

Mrs Robinson-Ali begins her maternity leave next Friday, 18 December and says she is "happy to be leaving the role in the most capable hands!"



Mrs Robinson-Ali starts her maternity leave next Friday.



Public Health
England

PHE and DfE Announcements This Week



Department
for Education

You may be aware that **Public Health England** this week agreed a 6-day window after the final day of teaching in which schools are asked to remain contactable for contact tracing where necessary. This will allow enough time for positive coronavirus (COVID-19) cases to be identified and confirmed by a test and for relevant contacts in our school to be traced and contacted. Beyond 6 days after the final day of teaching, we are not asked to play a role in any further contact tracing over the Christmas break.

You may also be aware that the **Department for Education** has informed schools that we may make Friday, 18 December one of our INSET days in order to ensure we do not need to be involved with contact tracing over Christmas Eve. However, if we choose to do this, the time must be made up at another point in the academic year or we may have to bring forward the start of term in January and return a day earlier. As a result, we can confirm that there will be **no change to our current end of term arrangements**, and we will close for the Christmas break on Friday, 18 December as planned.

Letters which included the arrangements for reporting positive cases over the Christmas period, were emailed to parents on Wednesday and can be downloaded from the school website at >> www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/letters

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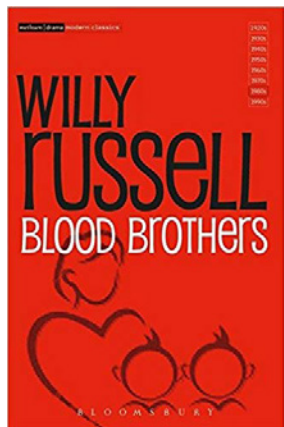
Year 11 English Literature - Blood Brothers

Head of English, Mrs Gidden, is bringing Blood Brothers to life even though pupils are unable to watch it on stage this year.

Actor Michael Southern, who has played Mickey in the West End for more than 10 years, will do live reconstructions of the key scenes over Zoom for Priory's Year 11 GCSE pupils on Tuesday.



"He will act out live reconstructions of some of the key scenes and answer any questions from our pupils about the play during the session."



"Willy Russell is the patron of Michael's company so Michael knows him and knows the correct interpretation of the play."

"It's a struggle to have empathy with some characters such as Linda but the pupils will get the chance to find out why they should have sympathy with them, from the person who created them.

"It's tailor-made for GCSE pupils and it's a much improved version of just watching a production on YouTube. They will get the chance to dig into the mind of an actor."

The event will be live streamed to all Year 11 English classes on Tuesday, 15 December. The session will last for two hours.



Year 11 French Intervention Classes

There is a Year 11 French Higher Tier intervention after school on the following dates:

- Tuesday, 12th January
- Monday, 25th January
- Thursday, 11th February

This is a one hour session and attendance is vital. Please see Mrs Scully with any queries or email a.scully@priory.lancs.sch.uk

Class of 2020 GCSE Certificate Collection

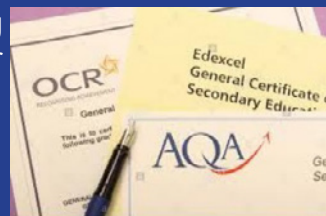
Certificates are available to collect during school hours by either the former pupil or their parent and must be signed for.*

All visitors must wear a face covering.

We would like to take this opportunity to emphasise how important it is that the exam certificates are collected, as they are very important documents that are likely to be needed throughout the future and particularly if a path to university is planned.

School is only legally obliged to keep certificates for a 12 month period, after which time they are disposed of. If copies of certificates are needed after that time, students will need to contact the appropriate examination board(s) directly and pay costs to obtain copies. As you will appreciate, these costs can mount up.

**If any other person is collecting the certificates on your behalf they must have a note, signed by the pupil, authorising your permission for school to release them.*



Masks in School

The wearing of face coverings has been mandatory in schools for a good few months now.

Pupils and staff are expected to wear masks on arrival to school, on school buses and public transport, in communal areas when not eating or drinking, between lessons and on leaving school at the end of the day.

As a school, we are having to provide masks repeatedly to many pupils who have forgotten or misplaced them. As the cost of providing masks in this manner is mounting up, we now must charge a small fee for them.

If a pupil arrives in school without a mask they should see their Head of Year who will provide a disposable mask and may also contact their parent/carer. For the safety of all pupils and staff, repeated offenders will be sent home at the Head of Year's discretion after three instances without a mask.

Masks will be charged at 50p each.

This does not apply to those who are exempt from wearing face coverings for medical reasons. Any family requiring support should contact their child's Head of Year. Staff contact details are available at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/parents/staff-contact-list

We will continue to educate and remind our young people of their responsibility in keeping all those that they may come into contact with, both at school and in our local community, safe, and we thank you for your continued support in doing this with your own daughters and sons too.

*Thank you for your support,
Heads of year*



Quick Draw Rewards

Each week, teachers will nominate individuals who have particularly impressed them with their effort, attitude and engagement with their learning - giving a brief reason why. Teachers will let all pupils know if they have a nomination. Heads of Year will then draw a name at random from the list, one per year group. The lucky pupils will then be contacted by Miss Thornton to receive a £5 voucher.



Randomly chosen winners from last week were:

Year 7 - Kai W - Nominated by Mr Taylor for excellent demonstration of home-learning.

Year 8 - Connor McG - Nominated by Mrs Isherwood for excellent word count in AR.

Year 9 - Hakeem V-C - Nominated by Miss Ackers for excellent effort in History.

Year 10 - Leah M - Nominated by Miss Thornton for excellent effort in Isolation.

Year 11 - Olivia S - Nominated by Mrs Elliott for excellent engagement and contributions.

*Miss Thornton
English Teacher and Specialist Leader for Education*

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THE GREAT READING RACE



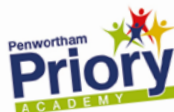
On Your Mark,
Get Set...
READ!

setting off on:

Mon, 14 Dec - Thurs, 17 Dec

Will your class win the milk and cookies?
It's a class effort!

Classes compete against each other to read the most words throughout the week. The winning class (one per year group) gets to enjoy milk and cookies during their AR session in the next term.



English Department

Competition Time!

As customary at the end of each term, the English department set in motion two exciting competitions that aim to create a buzz across the school.

Both running over the week, Great Reading Race is a class effort encouraging pupils to read as many words as possible, whilst Get Caught Reading means that pupils need to be spotted by staff indulging in their books outside lesson time - which could be before/after school or during break/lunch.

Will you get
caught reading?

Running Mon, 14 Dec - Thurs, 17 Dec

You could win a £20 Amazon voucher!



Pupils who are spotted reading a book outside lesson time will have their name entered into a draw to win a voucher. Will you get 'caught'?



Winners announced in next week's newsletter!

You don't need to wait until then to
pick up a book...

*Put down your phone
And find a cosy little nook,
Where you can sit for a bit
and read a good book!*

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There's no stopping Leon as he continues his charity work



Handicapped
Children's
Action Group

The Year 8 young carer is in the midst of fundraising for Handicapped Children's Action Group (HCAG), a charity that has recently supported his brother.

Leon's brother, Lewis, has complex needs and has endured a particularly difficult time during lockdown. Missing school for nearly 7 months has impacted on Lewis which has unfortunately led to him developing a new seizure condition.

Mum said, "We thought how can we cheer Lewis up and rebuild his confidence going back outdoors so we applied to a charity for a special needs adapted bike and it's just been granted! We are over the moon. It should arrive next month."

To show his gratitude to the charity, Leon delivered 100 leaflets to his neighbourhood last weekend after the family decorated their house with Christmas lights. The leaflets explained Leon's intention to give something back to the charity and asked them to donate what they could. So far he's raised a whopping £150!

With the support of Mrs Bailey, Head of Year 8, Leon is continuing his fundraising quest by planning his own quiz in school which he hopes pupils in Year 7, 8 & 9 will get involved with.

Pupils are asked to pay a small fee to enter the competition and there will be a prize for the winner. Details to follow!



you can't buy
HAPPINESS
but you can buy
BOOKS
and that's kind of
the same thing

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YOUNG ACHIEVER (UNDER 21 YEARS)



Phoebe Bolton
Preston Hockey Club



Nathan Holmes
Preston Swimming Club



Leon Parker-Livesey
Preston Pirates
BMX Club



Jaz Greenwood
City of Preston
Gymnastics Club

Congratulations to Year 11 pupil, Leon as he was crowned the Young Achiever (under 21 years) at the **Preston Sports Awards** last Friday for 'Outstanding Achievement in BMX Racing'.

At the live-streamed online event, Leon was one of four shortlisted candidates up for the award and, unbeknown, was also competing against another Priory pupil, Phoebe.

The GLL Preston Sports Awards, organised by UCLan, are now in their 15th Year and were due to take place in March. Hosted by ITV Granada's Paul Crone, there were 13 categories up for grabs.

A keen BMX biker from a young age, Leon has risen through the ranks at Preston Pirates BMX Club to become North Region and British Champion. In addition, Leon qualified to represent Great Britain at the World Series BMX racing which was due to take place in Huston, Texas, this spring. Leon is always supportive towards his team mates and younger riders and became a mentor at Preston Pirates before he was invited to train with the National Skills Development programme as part of British cycling.

Despite the lack of competition this year, Leon continues to train both on and off the track, in all weathers, to maintain his skills and fitness in preparation for future events and races. Leon's ultimate goal is to gain a place on the BMX GB Team and compete in the 2024 Olympics.

Mum said, "Leon is maintaining his commitment which is admirable. I was delighted he gained this award".

To see the Young Achiever Award announcement take to look at >> <https://youtu.be/NghFNn7sADE> (two minutes)



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Louise Hawkins - Class of 2010

Whilst at Priory, Louise took part in an experimental education programme and recently her mum got in touch to update us with how things have turned out since she left us a decade ago.

After leaving school in the summer of 2010, Louise announced she was going to South Africa as a volunteer for three weeks. The courageous teenager went alone after booking through an agency and met up with other volunteers whilst she was there. Aged just 17, Louise arranged everything herself including visas, travel arrangements and all other necessities.



Louise and Rachel Ferris at Featherdale Sydney Wildlife Park

On her return, along with Rachel Ferris (also a former pupil in the same class), Louise decided to spend a year in Australia, again planning and organising everything without assistance. Both girls thoroughly enjoyed the trip which has enabled them to develop into confident and outgoing young women.



Once safely back in the UK, Louise was taken on as an apprentice at an up and coming marketing agency in Manchester.

Louise's mum said, *"Interestingly she was chosen for the position instead of a university graduate who also applied as the owners were impressed with her travels and independence. Whilst still on her year-long apprenticeship programme, Louise's wages were increased to £18,000 even though she was still in training as the owners were so impressed with her work."*

Louise continues to rise through the ranks and was recently promoted to junior manager and is very highly thought of in the organisation.

Mum tells us, "Louise certainly thrived on the teaching programme at Priory."

"Thanks to everyone at the school who helped Louise become the person she is today. I hope her story might inspire others to plan adventures, especially after the year we've had!"



Louise at a monkey sanctuary in South Africa where she worked as a volunteer - wearing her Priory hoodie!

You can still access
support over the
holiday period

kooth

We're online every day
including **Christmas Day**
Sign up for free at **Kooth.com**



Christmas At Priory

Christmas decorations were put up in Priory's reception area some weeks ago but nothing's going to beat this year's effort from the Science department. What do you think of their 'Chemis-Tree'?



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**Lancashire
Constabulary**
police and communities together

Lancashire Constabulary Road Safety Partnership Regarding E-Scooters

E-Scooters have been in the news over the past months as an eco-friendly method of transport and it is inevitable that some students will receive one of these as a Christmas present.

Currently it is illegal to ride an e-scooter on a public road or pavement in Lancashire. They are classed as a motor vehicle and subject to the same legal requirements such as MOT, tax, licensing and insurance.

The poster below explains in more detail about why they cannot be ridden on the public highway and so should not be ridden to school.



Why am I being given this flyer?

Because it's currently against the law to ride an e-scooter on a public road or pavement.

Lancashire Road Safety Partnership
www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk

 Lancs Road Safety
 @LancsRoadSafety

We understand that buying an e-scooter can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is **on private land**.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEVs), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as:

- **MOT**
- **Licensing**
- **Tax**
- **Insurance**

As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and don't always have visible rear lights, they can't be used legally on the roads.

What happens if I've been stopped by Lancashire Police?

Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and Lancashire Police understand the public's support for environmentally friendly modes of transport. We want to work with the public to make sure the roads are safe for everyone.

The UK Government is currently taking part in 'Future Transport Zone' trials for e-scooter hire, with a view to making them legal to use on the roads.

All local authorities can apply to take part, but at the moment, Lancashire are NOT part of the trials.

Section 59 of the Police Reform Act allows police to give road users a warning if they are reported to have used their vehicle in a manner which causes alarm, distress or annoyance. Lancashire Police also have the powers to seize vehicles - please make sure you keep your e-scooter on private land so this doesn't happen to you.



Competition Time!

The Science department is setting you a challenge!

As we continue to be spending more time at home why not start thinking about future careers in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Maths) while you enjoy a good film!

We are asking students to choose a character from a film or TV show that has a career in STEAM and explore how they are portrayed.

Choose one character and film from the list on the poster, or use your own idea. Using a mind map explore the following questions about your character:

- What role does the character play in the film or show's plot?
- What's good or helpful about the character's look, personality and role in the film?
- What's negative or unhelpful?
- What do you think this film has to say about people with a STEM background or career?
- Did you notice that most STEM characters in films were white, male and able-bodied? Other than those above can you think of any who didn't fit this stereotype?

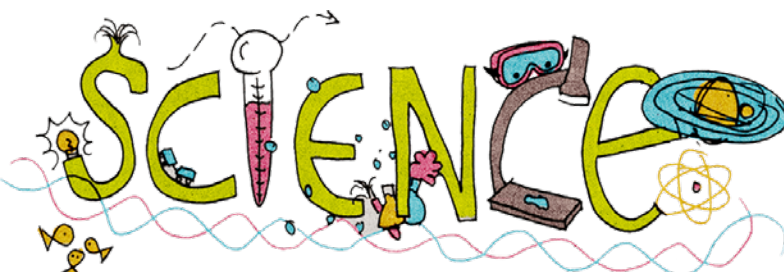
For all details see poster>>

Parents, please check the film/TV choice is age appropriate.

Please return your finished mind map to a member of the Science department by *Fri, 8 January* - that's the end of our first week back after the Christmas break.

There's rewards for the best entries!

Mrs Massey
Assistant Head of
Science



A Future STEM 2 STEM Stereotypes



Briefing
What do the movies have to say – good and bad – about people in STEM careers?

YOUR TASK
Discuss and present back your ideas about how a film portrays a character with a STEM career.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- Choose one character and film from the list below, or use your own idea.

Clarissa Mullery – *Silent Witness*

Clarissa is the forensic examiner that the investigators rely on to solve the crimes.

Emmett Brown – *Back to the Future*

An inventor, Emmett creates the DeLorean car-based time machine.

Tony Stark – *Iron Man*

An engineering genius, Tony creates the Iron Man suit.

Amelia Brand – *Interstellar*

A botanist, Amelia is the chief scientist on the expedition through the wormhole.

Mark Watney – *The Martian*

Mark is a botanist who is part of the Ares III team, presumed dead after a violent storm on Mars. Watney is forced to use his ingenuity and wit to survive until he can be rescued.

Q – *Skyfall*

MI6's tech expert, Q hacks Silva's laptop but lets it take over MI6's servers.

Ryan Stone – *Gravity*

Ryan is a medical engineer who must get back to Earth from the ruined ISS.

Bruce Banner – *Avengers*

A nuclear physicist, Bruce is turned into the Hulk by the Gamma Bomb test.

Jillian Holtzman – *Ghostbusters (2016)*

A nuclear engineer, Jillian started Ghostbusters.

Grace Augustine – *Avatar*

An expert on plants from other planets, Grace runs the avatar programme.

Shuri – *Black Panther*

Shuri is the tech genius that runs the innovations lab and creates the amazing crime fighting tech.

- Using a mind map explore the following questions about your character:

- What role does the character play in the film or show's plot?
- What's good or helpful about the character's look, personality and role in the film?
- What's negative or unhelpful?
- What do you think this film has to say about people with a STEM background or career?
- Did you notice that most STEM characters in films were white, male and able-bodied? Other than those above can you think of any who didn't fit this stereotype?

- If you have extra time, search fandom <http://fandom.wikia.com/topics/movies> to find out more about the character.



- 'La voyage dans la lune' (A trip to the moon) was the first science fiction film, made in 1902! You can find it in full on YouTube.

- Armageddon (1998) is considered by many to be one of the worst ever movies for getting science and

technology wrong. It's so bad, NASA were once said to use it in training, to see if trainees could spot the apparent 168 inaccuracies it contains.

- A page of the Script from 'The Martian' actually travelled on NASA's Orion Space flight!

Learn to succeed

Word of the Week

Every week teachers will introduce a new word to pupils in their Learning For Life 'Challenge Day' lesson.

Teachers will clearly explain the literacy tip of the week and will reference the Word of the Week in their lessons. Pupils will be challenged about them in curriculum time. Achievement points are awarded for correct use of Word of the Week.

Pupils: Make sure you have checked through your work to ensure you have applied the literacy tip correctly.

Word of the Week:

Investment

Noun

The act of putting money or time in to something in order to gain a profit/ benefit. E.g. *I have invested my time into my school work so that I do well in my assessment*

Etymology

French *investir* or Latin *investire*, from *in-* 'into, upon'



Literacy tip of the week...

Many

Use **many** with plural nouns

Alex doesn't have **many** friends.

Much

Use **much** with collective nouns and singular nouns

Samuel doesn't have **much** money.

Try to use these two words correctly!

Synonym of the week...

What is a synonym?

A **synonym** is a word that has a very similar or the same meaning as another word.

So synonyms for 'tired' include 'depleted' and 'weary'

TASK:

Find synonyms for the word:

Smart

Your vocabulary is so important! Make sure you have one!

Annual Pupil Admissions Consultation

CONSULTATION



Penwortham Priory Academy is consulting on its admissions policy for 2022 onwards and has commenced a 6 week consultation period from 27 November 2020 to 7 January 2021.

If you would like to submit a comment, please email enquiries@priory.lancs.sch.uk and include the subject line of 'Annual Pupil Admissions Consultation'. All responses received will be considered by the Governing Body once the consultation has closed on 7 January.

The proposed policy is available to view and download from the school's website at www.priory.lancs.sch.uk/about-priory/admissions/annual-pupil-admissions-consultation

Learn to succeed

NHS Work Experience Programme (Year 10 & 11)



The NHS Healthcare Career Live Virtual Work Experience Programme is now available to support aspiring healthcare students with work experience opportunities during the pandemic. Students have access to their own specific work experience programme that will be highly relevant to the following healthcare careers:

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedics
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Radiographers
- Art, drama and music therapists
- Dietitians
- Operating Department Practitioners
- Radiographers
- Podiatrists
- Osteopaths
- Orthoptists
- Prosthetists and orthotics
- Speech and language therapists

To find out more or to register for the programme go to: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/nhs-healthcare-careers-virtual-work-experience/> and <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

Places are limited and therefore they will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. Places are just £10 a day to cover administrative costs. Pupils from disadvantaged families can attend for free. Students will receive certificates upon completion of the course.



ALLIED
HEALTHCARE
MENTOR

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MENTOR HELPLINE

Send A Message
GENERAL ENQUIRIES

Live Virtual NHS Healthcare Careers Work Experience Programme

Take your first step towards a healthcare career with the U.K's only LIVE Virtual Work Experience Programme created and delivered by healthcare professionals.



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ALLIED HEALTHCARE MENTOR

Help With Your Journey Into Healthcare

Allied Healthcare Mentor is part of the 'Your Medic Family' group. We are here to support you and help you on your journey to becoming a successful healthcare professional!

You can select from one day or a full 6 months work experience where you will follow a patient's journey from admission to discharge in the high fidelity simulation suite, designed to provide you with an immersive experience.

Explore Healthcare Careers

Becoming a part of the Allied Healthcare Family will give you access to a range of resources to help you make an informed decision about your future healthcare career. The first place to start is with the UK's only LIVE VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME, specifically for aspiring Allied Healthcare Careers.

What Is Allied Healthcare Mentor?

Allied Healthcare Mentor is part of Your Medic Family, a non-profit national healthcare organisation. Run by healthcare professionals we are committed to mentoring and providing aspiring healthcare students with opportunities to help them get a head start on their careers.

[JOIN THE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME](#)

You can register for just £10 a session and save £10 if you opt for the full 6 month programme.

The work experience programme is specific for students interested in

- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Paramedics
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Radiographers
- Art, Drama and music Therapists
- Dieticians
- Operating Department Practitioners
- Radiographers
- Podiatrists
- Osteopaths
- Orthoptists
- Prosthetists and Orthotics
- Speech and Language Therapists
- Physicians Associate

No work experience day is the same and you will also be awarded certificates for attending each day.

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