





**DAN HOWELLS**DIRECTOR OF ASPIRE TO HE

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I am tremendously proud to be the Director of Aspire to HE. Higher education – in my case through leaving my native West Midlands to study Law at the University of Sheffield – has had a huge impact on my life. During my time at university I was supported, challenged, and consequently I grew, and I know this was only possible because I was surrounded by people, both at home and at my school, who reinforced the message that 'I could'. Our Aspire to HE team wants every young person we work with to know that they can too.

At Aspire to HE, our vision drives everything we do. Our team wants every young person in our region to be in a position to make an informed and ambitious decision about higher education and their future so that regardless of their context or their background, they have a fair and equal chance of fulfilling their potential.

Social mobility remains a key talking point for every government, and our team are not blind to the challenges many families and young people face across the Black Country, Telford and Wrekin. In addressing these challenges, our Aspire to HE Lead Teachers in schools and our college partners are essential: your knowledge of your young people, the barriers they face, and the skills and potential they possess is vital. With your support, together we can positively identify, guide and support hundreds, if not thousands, of young people in our area to be fully equipped for their futures.

On behalf of the Aspire to HE team, we look forward to working with you.



#### **HOW CAN YOU WORK WITH ASPIRE TO HE?**

#### THE PARTNERSHIP MODEL

Aspire to HE is, at its heart, a partnership. By uniting the resources and expertise of local schools, colleges, charities, businesses, and the experienced Widening Participation staff at the University of Wolverhampton ('the Hub'), we strive to create opportunities for young people who have the ability to succeed in higher education but who may lack some of the skills, aspirations or information necessary to take that step forward.

Fundamental to our efforts are our Lead Teachers, Senior Partnership Officers, and our college partners. All school- and college-based Aspire to HE staff are our eyes and ears. No one knows the young people of this region better than you. Through close, regular collaboration with our Hubbased Senior Partnership Officers, you will construct a programme of stretching and relevant activity for your pupils and students to both broaden their horizons and open access to a range of university courses and higher-level qualifications.

#### HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This brochure is designed to aid in the selection and programme-planning process. The following pages present the wide variety of activities we have organised for this academic year. All opportunities are divided into one of four categories: Core, Subject Stream, College, or Bespoke.

Your Senior Partnership Officer will liaise with you to help you access to the most beneficial interventions for your students. Together, you will ensure they get the most from Aspire to HE. Your Partnership Officer will secure your bookings onto the activities and act as the key contact point between you and the activity's provider.

For more information, or to book any of the activities listed within this brochure, please contact your Partnership Officer in the first instance, or email AspiretoHE@wlv.ac.uk

#### **COMING SOON:**

#### THE ACCESS PLATFORM

We are pleased to announce we will soon be launching the Access Platform.

A unique tool for Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG), the Access Platform enables prospective students to ask questions of current university student ambassadors and staff members online and on mobile in real time. It makes personalised higher education advice available on demand to all young people regardless of their location and background.

#### CORE PROGRAMME

The core programme includes a wide range of structured interventions available to all schools.



#### SUBJECT STREAM

The subject stream contains short-term interventions offered by our Faculties. These interventions are targeted at young people by areas of interest or aptitude.



## COLLEGE PROGRAMME

The college programme includes broadly region-specific opportunities provided by our college partners.



The bespoke programme is a menu of short-term interventions offered by our Hub team that can be tailor-made for select schools or groups of young people.





#### **KEY**



Dates for the activity



Duration of the activity



Target year group



**Number of participants** 



Location(s)

## THE ASPIRE TO HE INNOVATION AWARD

The Aspire to HE Innovation Award is a fund of up to £5,000 available to all of our partner schools. Working in collaboration with Senior Partnership Officers, Lead Teachers are invited to construct a unique plan of activities or a single intervention to raise the aspiration and attainment of young people from NCOP areas at their school.

This plan will need to be fully costed with a proven rationale and can feature work with an external organisation or organisations, last for any length of time up to December 2018 and involve any one or more year groups from Year 9 upwards.

Senior Partnership Officers will aid Lead Teachers in planning so that they can take full advantage of the resources available across the Aspire to HE network in order to maximise the impact of their initiative.



Submissions for the award will be accepted from November with Senior Partnership Officers providing criteria



Variable



Year 9 -13



Variable



Variable



#### THE BRILLIANT CLUB

The Brilliant Club is an award-winning education charity committed to increasing the number of pupils from under-represented groups who progress to university. Unique in the sector, the Brilliant Club mobilises the UK's community of university researchers to deliver vigorous academic programmes to small groups of pupils with high potential.

This is a targeted activity for highly academic pupils who have a demonstrable ability to succeed at university but who might not be considering university application. Learning is pitched at one key stage above pupil's current year group. Through a combination of university trips, inschool tutorials and online resources, The Brilliant Club will support these pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to make the most ambitious university choices.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- Direct experience of university-style teaching, including the completion and assessment of a written assignment
- Access to university campus for a launch, midterm, and closing graduation event
- Small-group teaching and close attention from an expert in an area of study with personal insight into navigating routes into higher education
- Build written and verbal communication skills with a focus on critical thinking
- 31

Flexible - decided in consultation with your Senior Partnership Officer



7 weekly or fortnightly sessions (dependent on preference)



Highly academic pupils in Year 10



Up to 12 participants from each school



In-school activity with some campus trips

## WORLD OF WORK INSPIRATION DAYS

The event is designed to spark interest in HE at this early stage by linking to the world of work where students will be able to see a clear purpose and outcome from attending university.

Through our local Education Business Partnership, all Aspire to HE schools will have the chance to offer an enterprise challenge to their full cohort of Year 9 pupils. These challenges will focus on Advanced Manufacturing, Environmental Technologies, Business Services, Construction Technologies or Transport Technologies – all areas identified as the Local Education Partnership's key fields for employment growth in our region.

Pupils will engage with business volunteers, interact with undergraduates, and learn about all growth industries in the Black Country, Telford and Wrekin. Alongside this, they will learn about the various different routes they can take to explore these industries for their careers.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- > An overview of various pathways into a variety of careers
- Detailed information on growth areas for our region
- Contact with successful business people and undergraduates to answer any questions and address misconceptions
- > Promote interest in higher education
- Flexible decided in consultation with your Senior Partnership Officer and the Education Business Partnership
- Half-day event
- YEAR All of Year 9
- Variable
- In-school activity



## CAREER-FOCUSED MENTORING

Delivered by Spectra First, this programme will provide study support and information in a one-to-one environment. Career mentors will work with pupils to facilitate discussion and planning of their next steps. As part of this process, mentors will assist young people with identifying their career interests with a view to facilitating meetings and/or experiences with relevant employers.

Senior Partnership Officers will make connections between lead teachers and Spectra First to outline more about the programme and the expected role of the school.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- One-on-one advice and guidance
- Information relevant to a chosen career path or interests
- Access to a fully-trained role model with understanding, through experience, of the personal development process



The programme will begin in January 2018



Various, throughout Year 12



Year 12 - Targeted NCOP Learners



150 in total



In-school activity

## EASTER REVISION CLASSES

For GCSE pupils Easter is one of the most important times in the academic calendar. These GCSE revision classes will be offered across all three of the University of Wolverhampton's campuses in English, Maths and Science to support pupils in attaining the grades they need to follow the pathway of their choice.

In addition to supporting GCSE outcomes, this activity will provide learners with the opportunity to visit the University of Wolverhampton's campuses and hear from current students.

This is an intensive activity with limited spaces, so places will be strictly limited to students from NCOP postcodes who are in danger of underachievement.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- Receipt of top-up teaching for those who need it most
- Direct experience of working within a university environment



Easter 2018 - specific days TBD



3 days (one day for each subject)



**Targeted Year 11 NCOP Learners** 



120



All three University of Wolverhampton campuses (Telford, Walsall and Wolverhampton)

#### **SUMMER SCHOOLS**

Our Summer Schools will provide students with a fantastic opportunity to consider university as a viable option for their future and provide experience of all aspects of student life. Students will live away from home, meet new friends and gain an insight into potential courses and careers. The Summer School will also be an opportunity to gain practical advice on personal statements, UCAS and student finance. This will be a targeted activity focused on those students who reside in NCOP postcodes, have a low household income and no family history of higher education.



**July 2018** 



2 nights, 3 days



**Year 12 Targeted NCOP Learners** 



120



In school or University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

## **ART**

## NATIONAL ART AND DESIGN SATURDAY CLUB

The National Saturday Club offers young people the unique opportunity to study every Saturday at their local college or university for free. The Faculty of Arts will be running a Saturday Club over the 2017-18 academic year.

The programme will consist of up to 30 weeks of activity running from 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm at the University of Wolverhampton. The total cohort of 80 pupils will be split into four groups of 20 and carry out activities using a carousel model. 40 students will attend the morning session and 40 the afternoon session. There will also be sessions run at local galleries and two trips to London. The activities will be delivered by expert staff, use appropriate studios and materials and involve current students to support and engage with pupils.

Students will gain experience of a range of styles and subjects, including Fine Art, Graphic Design, Illustration, Product Design, Interiors, Fashion, Textiles, Print-making, Photography, Glass and Ceramics. Content will also cover general aspects of studying art in higher education such as the costs, requirements, and the nature of student life.

The emphasis of the Saturday Club is exploration and discovery. Its aim is to broaden pupils' horizons and fire their imaginations while helping them to build the foundation for a future portfolio. Parents and teachers frequently report that attendance leads to improved motivation and attitude back at school.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- Professional-level teaching in a variety of different media
- Information, advice and guidance on how to pursue a career in the Arts
- Knowledge and aspiration-raising trips to London and local galleries
- Membership of a cohort of fellow Arts students based across the region



30 Saturdays throughout academic year beginning 7 October



3 hours per session



All pupils aged 14-17



80 places available on an application basis



George Wallis Building, Molineux Street, City Campus North, WV1 1DT

## SOCIAL SCIENCES

#### **UNDERSTANDING CRIME**

Offered by the Faculty of Social Sciences, this project provides pupils an excellent platform from which to understand the causes and consequences of crime, as well as its effects on society.

Although the Office for National Statistics showed a 6% decline in the year ending 2016, crime continues to affect society in many different ways. Pupils will read and hear news stories of different kinds of crime – from the severe cases of terrorism, murder and manslaughter, to lesser crimes such as theft and assault in order understand how crime affects various levels of society.

The project will feature four events, each of which includes a roundtable discussion followed by a series of subject-related workshops utilising staff expertise from across the Faculty. The events will address issues such as whether businesses should be liable for criminal wrongdoing, the economic impact of crime, and the difficulties of police investigations. Real-life case studies will be used to provide context for activities, presentations and debates.

There is a widely held perception that good legal careers (such as being a solicitor, barrister or judge) are not accessible to people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Consequently this project seeks to break those perceptions by highlighting different capabilities, raising aspirations, and outlining an array of alternative crime-related professions. These include, for example, careers as probation officers, in the police force, or as court personnel.

There will be support to cover transportation costs, and lunch and refreshments will be provided.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- > An understanding of crime from a variety of different disciplinary perspectives
- Information, advice and guidance on how to pursue a career in the justice system, including in law
- Deepened subject knowledge for students and pupils with an interest in the Social Sciences



January 2018 for years 12–13 and March 2018 for years 10–11



There will be two sessions for each year grouping. Each will run from 9.45am - 3pm



Years 10-13



270 pupils year 11-13 and 270 pupils year 9-10



University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

## **MATHS**

#### MATHS HANGOUTS

Get that GCSE grade C!

Designed for students who were unsuccessful in gaining level 4 (grade C) in GCSE Mathematics and plan to retake the Foundation Tier Exam in May/June 2018, Maths Hangouts will provide distinctive mathematics revision sessions, aligned to the Foundation Tier GCSE subject specifications.

The Hangouts will feature a range of teaching styles including peer education and experiential problem-based approaches, all of which will be supported by experts in the subject.

Fifteen Hangouts will run on Saturday mornings between November 2017 and May 2018 for up to 100 students. These will then be repeated during the 2018 Easter holidays, only a few weeks before the GCSE Mathematics examination dates. It is essential that students attend all the Saturday sessions or all the sessions being held during the Easter Holidays. These sessions (guided by the Foundation Tier GCSE Mathematics subject specifications) will include readiness assurance tests, team application exercises and post-experience tests to monitor effectiveness and progress.

The programme will not teach to the exam but tutoring with regard to examination techniques will be included and embedded throughout the sessions. Travel bursaries may be available to support students with the cost of travel; please ask your Senior Partnership Officer for more information.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- > 15 weeks of exam-focused Maths teaching delivered by experts
- Experience of intensive work within a university environment



Between November 2017- May 2018



15 x 3.5 hour sessions beginning in November 2017



Maths resit students



200 (two cohorts of 100)



University of Wolverhampton City Campus

## **ENGINEERING**

## MOTO ENGINEERING IN THE WORLD

Delivered by the Faculty of Science and Engineering, and drawing on the race car development work on the University's Telford Campus, Moto Engineering and the World is a unique chance for pupils to explore all aspects of the professional racing environment, including car design, the track environment, the physical impact on the body for both the driver and the support team, and the other services and skills that enable a professional race to happen, including marketing and graphic design.

The project will begin with a five-day residential at Telford Campus which will be followed by a series of five Saturday club visits to Wolverhampton Campus. The residential will give pupils experience life in Halls of Residence, as fully enrolled students at the University of Wolverhampton, and grant access to the many facilities on site.

By exploring all aspects of professional racing, students will gain understanding of how engineering and driving are just two aspects of a complex picture that draws on the skills and expertise of many professionals – with varied subject interests – to create success.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- Pupils will experience what it is like to live and learn on a university campus working on cutting-edge technologies
- > Pupils will understand how different skills, including language skills, are important to one sector and how they provide various opportunities for a wide range of careers
- Pupils will recognise the benefits of team working and develop new relationships with peers from different schools



February half term, Easter and May half term



Five-day residential at Telford Campus, followed by a series of five Saturday Clubs



Year 10



3 cohorts of 60 pupils



University of Wolverhampton, Telford Campus and others.

## **MUSIC AND DRAMA**

## MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOPS

Musical Theatre Workshops will provide the chance for pupils to develop their performance skills in a department at the cutting edge of international musical theatre research. University of Wolverhampton staff members have professional industry experience as musical directors, choreographers, performers, dramaturgs and writers, and this is reflected in the breadth of the course.

Alongside a director, musical director and/or choreographer, students will participate in theatre exploring and performing the work from of Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic (BAME) composers in the industry such as In the Heights, Hamilton and The Colour Purple.

The workshops are designed to help increase the number of BAME students from the Black Country and wider area that study musical theatre at university through providing role models for BAME students as directors, musical directors and choreographers.

The workshops are specifically aimed at BAME students and focus on musicals that include BAME lived experience.



The workshop can be offered during any period between November 2017 and May 2018. Participants will be invited to showcase their work at the Arena Theatre in June 2018.









## **HEALTH SCIENCES**

#### PUBLIC HEALTH IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS, MAKE IT YOURS

There are many misconceptions around public health and the careers available in this field of work. This project will create multiple, high-quality and exciting experiences for young people in which they will examine public health principles and career opportunities so that they are more likely to explore this as an attractive area for study in higher education and an area for future employment.

Delivered by the Faculty of Education, Health and Wellbeing, this programme of activities will introduce young people to the history and current practices in public health and explore career options open to those with an interest in the health and caring professions.

Particularly relevant to young people studying Health and Social Care, or considering careers in nursing or other aspects of the NHS, this activity will be delivered by academic staff from the University, in partnership with teachers and public health practitioners. Its main goal is to aid young people in exploring how public health features in their lives, how its messages are communicated, and how people can be motivated to change their health practices.

Including employer visits and considering new and radical ideas to tackle local health problems, sessions will provide insight into the public health training programmes and research opportunities available. The series will conclude with a symposium and a networking event/expo.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- > An understanding and experiences of routes into public health professions
- Direct contact with public health practitioners and researchers
- Insight into the design and operation of a public health campaign
- > An understanding of how to build on interest in public health



Autumn/Spring 2017-18



Half Day



Years 9-10 focus on BAME learners in schools

Year 12 we would focus on Health & Social Care learners in colleges



240 students max



University of Wolverhampton, City Campus and employer visits into schools/colleges

## **HISTORY**

## RACE, IMMIGRATION AND WOLVERHAMPTON: BECOMING A HISTORIAN

This one-hour workshop, delivered by the University's History department and an archivist, offers pupils a chance to reflect on an important era in the region's past.

The history of Wolverhampton is a history of migration but it is often a history that goes untold. In this workshop we will offer students a space to engage in original, innovative research to uncover our local migration story.

Through the exploration of a rich collection of over 2,000 historic photographs and memorabilia relating to Punjabi migration to Wolverhampton from 1960 to 1989, the workshop invites students to take a leading role in the analysis of rarely accessed historical sources. They will be invited to consider what can be seen in the photographs, what is hidden, and how we begin to undertake source analysis on archived material that has been largely untouched.

After the source analysis, the workshop will focus on questions of research methods and the understanding of national identity within the discipline of history.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- Exposure to original archival material
- > Work with experts in the field
- Introduction to new source-reading methodologies
- Deepened knowledge of local development



Sessions will be available from January 2018 - June 2018 on request.



1 hour



Years 9-13. We are particularly interested in granting BAME students access to this material.



Maximum of one class group per session



In-school activity

## **SCIENCE**

#### SCIENTISTS IN THE NHS -THEIR ROLE IN PATIENT DIAGNOSIS AND CARE

Have you ever wondered what happens to your blood sample, urine sample or tissue biopsy after is has been collected? Who prepares and analyses the specimen and who provides the information required to make a diagnosis?

As part of this project, students will be given the opportunity to visit an NHS pathology department, speak with scientists and learn about the range of diagnosis and care careers and the different routes, in terms of qualifications and experience, to attain these careers. Students will learn first-hand the services offered by pathology departments and why they are so important in a healthcare setting. It will also allow students to identify the practical applications of the scientific subjects they are studying at school.

Within small groups, students will be given the task of designing a poster that explains to other young people 'What happens in pathology?' Each group will be assigned a mentor from the participating laboratory staff who will support them with this phase of the project. The exercise will draw upon the knowledge students have obtained while visiting the pathology laboratory and support further research into the topic area. The mentors from the pathology department will provide advice for students using a number of methods.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- > Understanding of the applications of science in an NHS setting
- Direct work with scientists in the NHS for advice and mentoring
- > Visit to a functioning laboratory



Between January and March 2018



Variable



Year 10



40



Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust Pathology Department for an introduction session, in-school activities and a conference on campus at the end of the study



# SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

#### STEM GCSE CONFERENCES

This project from the School of Sciences will bring exciting and accessible science study to pupils who may not be considering triple Science GCSEs or Science A Levels, or who would not normally aspire to a career in the sciences.

STEM Conferences will feature an eclectic range of activities to inspire interest and knowledge of the sciences. Each conference will have an inspirational speaker with a distinguished career who is also one of our alumni or honorary graduates, male and female role models at different stages of their careers across the science subjects, and a question-and-answer session with invited speakers and science role models.

As well as the chance to meet past and current scientists, the conferences will include hands-on masterclasses developed by research students and delivered in smaller groups in our dedicated, state-of-the-art STEM outreach laboratory on a range of topical issues, including: food science, the use of forensics to solve crimes, the chemistry of pizza, the chemistry of curry, the physics and chemistry of mobile phones, anthropology, recreational drugs, infertility, brain tumours, and cancer biology, to name a few.

#### **OUTCOMES**

- > Educating pupils and increasing their understanding of scientific research
- > Encouraging dialogue between PhD students working in science and potential scientists
- Raising the awareness and profile of science and other STEM subjects
- Raising awareness of what can be achieved by exposing pupils to a range of inspiring young role models in higher education



There will be three Conferences and Outreach activities:

- 1. Autumn term 2017 (to be held in December 2017)
- 2. Spring term 2018 (to be held in March 2018)
- 3. Summer term (to be held in June 2018)



Conferences will be a maximum of 2 hours 30 mins



Year 9



120 pupils each term (360 pupils per academic year)



University of Wolverhampton, STEM lab



#### CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COLLEGE

City of Wolverhampton College has three campuses across Wolverhampton, as well as campuses in Telford and Worcester. The college offers full-time courses, part-time courses, higher education qualifications including HNCs, HNDs and Foundations Degrees and apprenticeships.

The college, in partnership with Aspire to HE, has a range of activities and events with a particular focus on engaging with our local schools, the college's current students and wider community to raise awareness of higher education opportunities. School activities focus on encouraging students to set long-term goals, increasing aspirations, promoting knowledge about progression pathways, developing the skills needed for studying at higher education level and exploring new careers that they may not have thought about.

Pupil region(s) of preference for activities: Walsall and Wolverhampton

#### **OPEN EVENTS**

This is an opportunity to experience the college environment, speak to tutors and meet existing students to find out what life at college and studying a higher level qualification is really like as well as getting careers advice and information about the application process and financial support.

#### THE SKILLS & APPRENTICESHIP SHOW

The Skills & Apprenticeship Show at Dunstall Racecourse on 27 March 2018 is the opportunity for young people to meet employers, get careers advice, speak to current college and university students, discover different universities, as well as taking part in fun and exciting have-a-go activities.

#### 'HAVE A GO' TASTER SESSIONS

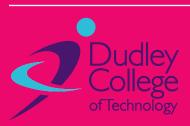
Students are invited to take part in practical and interesting sessions to discover careers opportunities and qualifications. These sessions are open to students from Year 9 to Year 13 and will run throughout the year.

## ASSEMBLIES, CAREERS GUIDANCE AND WORKSHOPS IN SCHOOLS

The college runs a range of activities aimed at young people to raise aspirations and encourage them to think positively about their future career goals. For students who know what career they want to go into, the activities help them think about the different pathways available. For students unsure about what they want to do, these events help develop ideas and encourage them to think positively about higher education. Communication, teamwork and research skills will be highly developed within these sessions as well as positive action and positive thinking.

#### A-LEVEL SUBJECT CONFERENCE

The conference is aimed at sixth-form students from schools across Wolverhampton looking at their next step to higher education, giving them an insight in to courses available and career opportunities. The conference will provide guidance on writing a CV, personal statement and interview tips. Featuring will be an engaging mix of motivational speakers, guest speakers from subject areas, hints and tips from industry professionals, HE jargon busters, subject specific mini lectures and application support.



#### **DUDLEY COLLEGE**

Dudley College provides a range of education and training programmes across the West Midlands enrolling some12,000 students each year across four thousand academic and technical programmes, on both a full and part-time basis.

As part of our Aspire to HE activity we have a huge range of activities planned for our current learners and those in our feeder schools. These include trips and visits to a range of Universities, a series of workshops to help students achieve the very best A-level grades and a mentoring programme to support learners through the higher education application process. For pupils in our feeder schools we are offering workshops to help them make good choices about their progression pathways on leaving school with a clear understanding as to how they could move into university-level study after college.

Pupil region(s) of preference for activities: Sandwell and Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton as these are the areas many of our current learners on further education and undergraduate level programmes come from.

#### OPEN DAYS AND COLLEGE VISITS

We can accommodate groups both large and small who might want to visit the college to see how we can support learners into further education and beyond on to higher level programmes either at the college or with other Higher Education Institutions. We offer a range of workshops in over 25 curriculum areas, including Public Services, Music Technology, Engineering and Construction. We are able to design bespoke programmes to suit teachers' aims.

#### STUDY SKILLS AND ACE YOUR EXAMS

We offer whole day workshops for cohorts of learners who are preparing for GCSE or A-level examinations – to best prepare them to ace their exams. With interactive sessions, designed to build, study skills and exam confidence, we aim to ensure learners have a range of techniques to help them achieve the best examination outcomes they are capable of.

#### SUBJECT SPECIALIST TALKS

Our subject teachers can visit your school to talk about their specialist skill areas. Accompanied by current learners or previous graduates, we provide examples of young people who have moved into higher education. Where possible we bring an exstudent from your own institution to act as a role model for your existing learners and to provide an authentic voice of someone who has overcome the same barriers to progression that your students face.



#### HALESOWEN COLLEGE

Halesowen College is a tertiary college located in the Metropolitan Borough of Dudley, eight miles west of Birmingham. It currently operates from three sites close to the centre of Halesowen. The college serves the local population from surrounding townships in the boroughs of Dudley and Sandwell plus a significant number from West Birmingham. Students can choose to study over 40 A Levels and over 30 vocational courses. For school partners, the activities at Halesowen focus on exploring post-16 options and how these choices will support further study and career aspirations.

Pupil region(s) of preference for activities: Sandwell and Dudley

#### VISIT TO KEELE UNIVERSITY

The aim of the visit is to raise awareness of Higher Education, increasing confidence, motivation and aspirations of students. During the visit, students will undertake taster lectures, a campus tour and hear talks from student ambassadors on student finance and student life.

#### UNIVERSITY ACCESS PROJECT (UAP)

The aim of the UAP is to increase and develop students' awareness and understanding of

transitions to post-16 education and higher education. Students will complete taster sessions at both Halesowen College and the University of Wolverhampton to allow them to sample different teaching environments. A key part of the project is engaging with parents and guardians.

### HIGHER EDUCATION AND APPRENTICESHIP FAIR

Students will be invited to visit the Higher Education and Apprenticeship Fair where they can talk to a range of universities and other providers from all around the UK. Students will also have the opportunity to engage with former Halesowen College students who have progressed to higher education will discuss their journey and experiences to date.

## CAREERS AND ADVICE AND GUIDANCE SUPPORT

Careers is a highly valued service at the college and has received national recognition with the Gold Quality Award for Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance. The college can support schools through delivering training sessions to staff to support progression to higher education.



#### SANDWELL COLLEGE

Sandwell College has two modern campuses at the heart of the regenerated West Bromwich town centre. Our objective is to give young people the best possible transition from school to college and get them into top universities and careers. We are strongly committed to creating opportunities for our adult learners by working closely with local and regional businesses, both large and small, to help them develop a skilled workforce.

Our Aspire to HE activities cover a wide range and we have a packed forthcoming programme planned for students and school pupils. We will be delivering Theatre in Education careers performance modules in schools and running Discovery Days at the College for schools to get involved in.

Students will benefit from visits to university open events and HE roadshows. Higher education information evenings will emphasise the benefits of HE to parents and dispel the myths and misconceptions.

Careers Guidance Sessions will promote progression to Level 3 and university-level qualifications, while our **Bright Futures** events in Spring 2018 will aim to address barriers to HE with sessions focused on finance, study skills and

independent living.

**Guest Speakers** will use practical and interactive sessions to challenge misconceptions, while inspirational talks from successful students will offer a series of perspectives and educational experiences.

Masterclass Revision and result-boosting sessions will break down study techniques of top students to provide students with a 'how to do it' road map to success.

'Ace Your Exams' seminars can help you outline the critical exam skills that allow students to excel in the exam room, and cover the techniques and strategies to help with memorisation and recall of information.



#### **TELFORD COLLEGE**

Telford College is a new organisation that combines the technical expertise from the Telford College of Arts and Technology (TCAT) with the academic know-how of New College Telford. The college has recently rebranded to showcase its new direction and opportunities to students.

Telford College has over 8,000 students covering post-16 academic and technical courses, higher education, employer engagement and apprenticeships. The student body covers schools leavers, adults and business employees who are based on Haybridge Road Campus and King Street Campus in Wellington, Telford.

Having worked hard to build a foundation for Aspire to HE during spring/summer term 2017, Telford College plan to build on this success by offering aspiration-raising activities to NCOP students from schools and colleges across Telford and Wrekin.

Activities scheduled to take place include, campus visits to universities, Maths and English workshops and information evenings designed to offer help and support for parents and guardians.

The Aspire to HE team are also working to develop a programme of resources that can be delivered in PSHE sessions across the borough under the banner of 'Passport to Success'.

Pupil region(s) of preference for activities: Telford

#### PASSPORT TO SUCCESS

Passport to Success is a suite of resources designed to be delivered within PSHE/tutorial sessions to promote aspirational thinking and challenge student's misconceptions about university/higher education.

NCOP students from across Telford and Wrekin who take part in this programme will be offered free tickets and transport to and from Aspire to HE events, which will included Maths and English Workshops, mentoring and university campus visits.



## WALSALL COLLEGE

Walsall College offers a range of qualifications including full-time, part-time, professional, higher education and apprenticeships across its five state-of-the-art campuses. Students can also study right up to Degree Level 6 in a range of subjects.

We are offering a broad range of exciting activities through our Aspire to HE programme that are aimed at inspiring current students and local school pupils and raising awareness of higher education opportunities.

#### HE FAIR

Attended by many universities from around the country, this is a great opportunity for students to explore the courses available at various universities, discuss entry requirements and access literature.

#### COOKING ON A BUDGET

University is about more than just gaining a degree, it is also about independence, making new friends and budgeting. This interactive workshop will equip sixth-form students with skills to ensure that beans on toast and pot noodles are not on their university menu!

#### LIVING ON A BUDGET

Budgeting can be difficult and is harder still when you first attempt is miles away from home. During this two-hour workshop, students will be put through their paces, working in groups to learn and develop key skills that will see them through their university years in credit.

#### THEATRE WORKSHOP

Gazebo Theatre Company have created a bespoke production designed to introduce students to university. During this interactive workshop, your students will explore the life of a university student, the ways you can access higher education and combat the misconceptions attached to university-level study.

#### **HUMAN GUINEA PIG SHOW**

Join Medical Mavericks for their careers stage show that introduces students to the amazing world of Healthcare Science careers in the NHS.

#### I CAN DO THAT! (AMBASSADOR TALKS)

Our Aspire Ambassadors are available to visit schools and share their inspirational story as they journeyed through education into employment.

#### POSITIVELY MAD REVISION SESSIONS

Small group sessions will support students to attain the qualifications to enable them to progress on to higher education courses.

One to one guidance and mentoring sessions are also available to NCOP students on request.

## APPLICATION SUPPORT SESSIONS

The Aspire to HE Hub team are able to work with Year 13 pupils at the crucial application stage to ensure that their application is the best it can be and provide advice if necessary on institution or subject choice, we can also support students who need advice or assistance regarding student finance.



Autumn term, on request



Variable dependent on needs



Year 13 - Targeted NCOP Learners



1-2-1 or in groups dependent on schools' needs



In school or University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

#### **CPD**

Aspire to HE is committed to offering support to you in your role in school. To facilitate and promote progression to HE for our target learners, we will shortly be consulting with staff to develop a menu of opportunities for development. CPD is a bespoke service available on request with tailored advice and guidance for teachers available at school and regional level. Previous topics for CPD have covered UCAS application form support, personal statement writing, information on apprenticeships and alternative routes into higher education.



Determined by schools' needs



Variable dependent on needs



All teachers within the consortium



Variable dependent on needs



In school or University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

## INFORMATION ADVICE AND GUIDANCE SESSIONS

Our experienced staff are able to offer HE-related IAG sessions to all learners from Year 9 upwards. These sessions have been tailored and are appropriate to given year groups and key stages. There are a range of sessions to choose from that can be used as standalone sessions of approximately one hour, or that can be combined to offer a half or full day in school, or form a part of a campus visit. The sessions are designed to raise aspirations and inform progression and can be used to compliment your existing Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) strategy. We are also able to offer one-to-one impartial guidance sessions to targeted NCOP pupils as required.

Example sessions include: Careers, Courses and Qualification, Student Finance, Introduction to HE and Apprenticeships. Sessions can be tailored to meet the needs of your students.



Variable - Decided in consultation with vour Senior Partnership Officer



Variable between (1 hour and 1 day)



Years 9-13 - All learners



Variable



In school or University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

#### SUPPORT FOR LOOKED-AFTER CHILDREN

We have commissioned Creating Chances Trust, an experienced charity who currently works on improving the educational outcomes of looked-after children to work with schools to offer a support service for those pupils in Years 9-13 who are currently on track academically to progress to HE regardless of postcode.

The charity offers 'bespoke' support for individual young people to match their personal interests and educational needs – anything that helps motivate and enthuse a young person to engage with the education system, to develop long term goals and to stay on track for HE is available.

Examples include:

- Cultural experiences
- > Theatre visits
- Sports opportunities
- City visits
- Sessions to build confidence, self-respect, personal and social skills
- Work-based professional taster days
- Targeted extra education or training
- Professional mentoring

The charity has an extensive network of supporters. Working with designated teachers and virtual schools we will endeavor to seek out and secure any diverse, exciting or life-enhancing opportunities that may appeal to our children in care. The trust will make contact with schools directly.

If interested please pass on the name of your designated teacher to your Senior Partnership Officer.



Variable



Variable



Year 9-13



Variable



Variable

## YEAR 13 TARGETED SUPPORT PROGRAMME

This programme is targeted at those pupils in Year 13 who are not considering applying to HE and currently do not have an alternative destination in mind. Students will be identified early on the autumn term and will begin a short programme which includes campus visits, goal-mapping sessions, subject information talks and appropriate one-to-one application support. There will also be the opportunity for students to be allocated a career-focused mentor as outlined above. Schools are encouraged to identify these students early on and provide details to allocated Senior Partnership Officers.



Throughout Year 13 as required



Variable based on activity



**Year 13 - Targeted NCOP Learners** 



100 max - 3 per school (negotiable)



In school or University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

# UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON CAMPUS VISITS

Campus visits are available across all year groups from Years 9-13 and will be tailored accordingly. Campus visits for younger students provide an opportunity to see first-hand that university is accessible and dispel any myths that 'it is not for them'. Fun interactive sessions are offered which introduce the idea of university and the courses that are available. For older students it is an opportunity to refine ideas on subject choice and receive more specific information on application and funding. Campus visits can be offered across all of our campuses at dates that are mutually convenient for the school and university. We would not want to exclude students from this activity; however would expect that approximately 75% of attendees are from NCOP postcodes.



Variable



1 day



Years 9-13 All learners



Maximum of 100 pupils per day



In school or University of Wolverhampton, City Campus

#### **SUMMARY OF AVAILABLE ACTIVITIES**

All opportunities are divided into one of four categories: Core, Subject Streams, College, or Bespoke. Your Senior Partnership Officer will liaise

with you to help you access to the most beneficial interventions for your students.

#### **CORE PROGRAMME**

Activity Name	Dates	Year Group	Special Criteria
The Aspire to HE Innovation Award	Applications from November 2017	Year 9-13	
The Brilliant Club	7 weekly or fortnightly sessions	Year 10	Highly academic pupils
World of Work Inspiration Days	Variable	Year 9	
Career Focused Mentoring	Programme begins January 2018	Year 12	Targeted NCOP Learners
Easter Revision Classes	Easter 2018 - specific dates TBD	Year 11	Targeted NCOP Learners
Summer Schools	July 2018	Year 12	Targeted NCOP Learners

#### **SUBJECT STREAM**

Activity Name	Dates	Year Group	Special Criteria
National Art and Design Saturday Club	30 Saturdays throughout academic year starting 7 October 2017	All pupils aged 14-17	
Understanding Crime	January 2018 for years 12-13 March 2018 for years 10-11	Years 10-13	
Maths Hangouts	November 2017 - May 2018	Maths resit students	
Moto Engineering in the World	February half term, Easter half term and May half term	Year 10	
Musical Theatre Workshops	Between November 2017 and May 2018	Year 12 and 13	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Students
Public Health is Everyone's Business	Autumn/Spring 2017-18	Years 9-10 and Year 12	BAME Learners in years 9-10 Health and Social Care Learners in Year 12
Race Immigration and Wolverhampton	January - June 2018	Years 9-13	BAME learners given priority access
Scientists in the NHS	January - March 2018	Year 10	
STEM GCSE Conferences	Autumn and Winter 2017 and Spring 2018	Year 9	

#### COLLEGE PROGRAMME

Activity Name	Region	College	Special Criteria
Ace Your Exams Seminar	Sandwell College		
A-Level Subject Conference	Walsall and Wolverhampton	City of Wolverhampton College	Sixth form students
Assemblies, Careers Guidance and Workshops in Schools	Walsall and Wolverhampton	City of Wolverhampton College	
Careers and Advice for Guidance Support	Sandwell and Dudley	Halesowen College	
Careers Guidance Sessions		Sandwell College	
Cooking on a Budget		Walsall College	
Guest Speakers		Sandwell College	
'Have a Go' Taster Sessions	Walsall and Wolverhampton	City of Wolverhampton College	
HE Fair		Walsall College	
HE and Apprenticeship Fair	Sandwell and Dudley	Halesowen College	
Human Guinea Pig Show		Walsall College	
I Can Do That (Ambassador Talks)		Walsall College	
Living on a Budget		Walsall College	
Masterclass Revision		Sandwell College	
Open Days and College Visits	Sandwell and Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton	Dudley College	
Open Events	Walsall and Wolverhampton	City of Wolverhampton College	
Passport to Success	Telford and Wrekin	Telford College	NCOP students
Positively Mad Revision Sessions		Walsall College	
Study Skills and Ace Your Exams	Sandwell and Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton	Dudley College	Pupils preparing for GCSE or A-Level exams
Subject Specialist Talks	Sandwell and Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton	Dudley College	
The Skills and Apprenticeship Show	Walsall and Wolverhampton	City of Wolverhampton College	
Theatre Workshop		Walsall College	
University Access Project (UAP)	Sandwell and Dudley	Halesowen College	
Visit to Keele University	Sandwell and Dudley	Halesowen College	

#### BESPOKE

Activity Name	Dates	Year Group	Special Criteria
Application Support Sessions	Autumn term on request	Year 13	Targeted NCOP Learners
CPD	Determined by school's needs	All teachers within consortium	
Information Advice and Guidance Sessions	Variable	Years 9-13	
Support for Looked After Children	Variable	Years 9-13	
Year 13 Targeted Support Programme	Throughout Year 13 as required	Year 13	Targeted NCOP activity
University of Wolverhampton Campus Visits	Variable	Years 9-13	Students from NCOP postcodes where possible











#### **CONTACT US**



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