



Calday Grange Grammar School

Careers Week

18th - 22nd March 2024



National Careers Week

NCW

Caldy Grange Grammar School is thrilled to announce its upcoming Careers Week, a comprehensive programme designed to support and inspire our students from Year 9 to Year 13 as they explore future career paths and further educational opportunities. This special week is packed with a variety of engaging activities tailored to each year group, ensuring that every student gains valuable insights and experiences to help guide their future choices.

Careers Week at Caldy Grange Grammar School promises to be an enlightening and empowering experience for all our students. We strongly encourage every student to participate actively in the planned activities. This is a unique opportunity to learn, explore, and prepare for the exciting futures that lie ahead.

We look forward to seeing our students engage with the opportunities this week presents and take positive steps towards their future career and educational goals.

Year 10 Mock Interviews - Tuesday 19th March

A key highlight of the week is the Year 10 Mock Job Interviews. This invaluable experience offers our Year 10 students the opportunity to undergo a realistic job interview process, helping them develop essential skills such as communication, confidence, and professionalism.

Students will receive constructive feedback from their interviewers, providing them with a solid foundation to build upon as they prepare for their future careers.



Year 12 UCAS Day - Wednesday 20th March

For our Year 12 students, the UCAS Day is an indispensable part of the Careers Week. This day is dedicated to guiding students through the UCAS application process, offering expert advice on choosing the right course and university, writing a compelling personal statement, and understanding the nuances of the university application process.

It's a crucial step for students as they consider their options for higher education.

Careers Fair - Thursday 21st March

We are also excited to host our biggest Careers Fair to date, open to students from Year 9 to Year 13.

The fair will feature a wide range of exhibitors, including universities, apprenticeship providers, and industry professionals, offering students the chance to gather information, ask questions, and gain a deeper understanding of the various career paths and educational opportunities available to them.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to explore their interests and start planning their futures with a more informed perspective.

Schedule:

Period 2 (09:40 - 10:40) - Year 11

Break/Form (10:40 - 11:30) - Year 9

Period 3 (11:30 - 12:30) - Year 13

Period 4 (13:20 - 14:20) - Year 12

Period 5 (14:20 - 15:20) - Year 10



Dragons' Den - Friday 22nd March

The week will culminate in the Live final of the Dragons' Den House Competition. This competition is a fantastic chance for our students to showcase their entrepreneurial spirit, creativity and business acumen.

Teams from different houses will pitch their innovative ideas to a panel of 'Dragons', competing for the coveted title and prizes. It's a fun and inspiring way to end the Careers Week, celebrating the talents and ambitions of our students.

Meet the Dragons



Alan Thompson is the founder and Managing Director of hi-impact - an EdTech Company that is based on the Wirral but works nationally and internationally to support schools, trusts, Local Authorities and Governments that are looking to maximise the use of technology in their schools.

After his time at Calday Grammar School, Alan graduated as a teacher and worked in the UK and Canada in both Primary and Secondary schools. For the last 15 years Alan has led hi-impact from 1 member of staff to 50 and is proud to be the leading provider of technology services in the area.



Paula Basnett stands out as a pivotal figure in Wirral's business scene, celebrated for her dedication to business development and economic prosperity. Her active role in launching successful initiatives and fostering a culture of collaboration has significantly contributed to the region's growth.

Leading the Wirral Chamber with a focus on excellence, Paula ensures the delivery of outstanding services to its members, promoting a thriving business environment. Her visionary leadership and commitment to partnership underscore her influence, marking her as a key driver of Wirral's economic advancement and an inspirational leader in the business community.



Adrian Hall has 40 years experience as a software engineer and business leader. Adrian was born on the Wirral and, after leaving Calday Grammar School in 1980, he worked for various IT companies before starting several businesses in the Mobile Games sector.

In 2010 he became a co founder of Playdemic which produced the BAFTA award winning hit mobile game Golf Clash. Playdemic was acquired by Electronic Arts in 2020 and Adrian is now the CTO of a new startup company ForthStar.



Mark Palios played more than 400 games and uniquely combined his sports career with academia and professional achievements, earning a BSc in Psychology from Manchester University and qualifying as a Chartered Accountant. He retired to become a partner at Ernst & Young in 1986, later leading corporate recovery at Coopers & Lybrand and becoming a pioneer in business regeneration for PwC.

As CEO of The FA, he addressed financial issues, reformed the disciplinary system, and supported the Women's Game and coaching changes. Post-FA, Mark established FTI's European practice and served as a media commentator and in various sporting roles, including governance and finance committees across football, judo, and cricket. He acquired and revitalised Tranmere Rovers FC, leading to significant on and off-field success.



Jill Jones became a Chartered Accountant in 1987 with Deloitte Haskins and Sells, rose through the ranks in their Chester office, experiencing a merger, demerger, and rebranding, to eventually lead as the office managing partner.

She progressed to regional managing partner, then ascended to the National Leadership Team and the Main Board, culminating in her role as COO. By her retirement in 2020, she was part of RSM, the 7th largest firm both in the UK and globally.

Currently, she leverages her extensive and varied expertise as a non-executive director for three commercial and three non-profit entities.

Useful Websites

National Careers Week website - <https://ncw2024.co.uk/>

The Parents' Guide to National Careers Week 2024 - https://www.theparentsguideto.co.uk/_files/ugd/a0f9e4_d1f-79c7a82084723b0c0edc38aa1fb6d.pdf

Army Careers Tool Kit - <https://jobs.army.mod.uk/base/careers-toolkit/>

BBC Bitesize - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z7kx47h#zqtykhv>

National Careers Advice Service Support - <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/national-careers-week>

National Careers Week activities and resources - <https://ncw2020.co.uk/activities/>