

## WORK EXPERIENCE

At Thomas Mills High School, a two-week programme of Work Experience exists in Year 10 in the second half of the summer term. Sixth Form students are also encouraged to consider the possibility of arranging Work Experience for themselves either during holiday periods or in the penultimate week of the year. If timetables permit work experience may be undertaken at other times or the year. Special arrangements may be made for additional placements during Year 11 for some pupils for whom it is thought appropriate.

The Careers and Work Experience Team assists and supports students with their application and liaises with employers, parents and students.

The purpose of Work Experience for the under 16s is NOT to sample a particular job but to gain a general insight into the world beyond school. It is recognised, however, that motivation is higher where there is a particular interest and we maintain a policy of encouraging pupils to find their own placements.

To make the experience as valid as possible we discourage pupils from taking placements within an already familiar organisation (working with family or where they have a weekend job)

We are very keen that Work Experience should be a positive learning activity for all concerned – pupils, employers and staff. Please feel involved, it is a perfect opportunity to see the pupils in a different light and to make useful contacts with organisations in the community.