

ENTERPRISE ADVISER NETWORK CASE STUDY:

Marriott Hotel helps school 'check-in' Benchmarks

The Enterprise Adviser Network has enabled Goffs-Churchgate Academy (Cheshunt) to fully achieve Gatsby Benchmark 6 (Experiences of Workplaces).

Following completion of their Compass audit tool it was recognised that Students in Years 7 and 8 were not gaining encounters with employers or employees (Gatsby Benchmark 5) or taking part in workplace visits (Benchmark 6).

Stephanie Chapple, HR Assistant, for Marriott Cheshunt is the Enterprise Adviser matched to Goffs-Churchgate Academy, and was able to arrange an all-day visit for all Year 8 students to the 4-star hotel located just 2 miles from the school.

Students got a taste of the wide variety of roles available at the Marriott, with an introduction from General Manager Michael Regenhardt, followed by a behind-the-scenes tour of the property.

Throughout the day students met with staff from Sales and Events, Hospitality, HR and Chef teams to share their experiences and the opportunities available working for a multi-national hotel chain.

Top class customer service was also high on the agenda, with students immersing themselves in a series of practical hospitality challenges, from planning a fully-budgeted wedding party to setting up conference facilities for the hotel's discerning guests. Students were also provided lunch at the hotel's Iron Grill Restaurant.

One student remarked:

"This was a great day. I have learned so much about working in a hotel and all the different types of jobs that people do. It is definitely a careers option I will think more closely about."





In January 2019 the hotel's Head Chef will visit the school to provide multiple cooking sessions with the whole of Year 7. As well as providing practical cookery tips and inspiration from a professional chef, these sessions will also focus on key maths skills linked to Key Stage 3 curriculum to measure and prepare ingredients as well as considering how literacy is practised to design and present menu choices thus working towards elements of Gatsby Benchmark 4.

Sarah Baker, Vice-Principal at Goffs-Churchgate Academy said:

"We are extremely grateful for our relationship with Stephanie and the Marriott Hotel. They have provided significant support for us as a school to develop our careers programme in line with the Gatsby Benchmarks.

"The visit to the hotel not only provided memorable and meaningful encounters for our students with employees but also inspiration to know that such a large, revered employer is on their doorstep. We are very much looking forward to the sessions with the chef in school in January and hope that these sessions will demonstrate the very clear links between the curriculum and the types of skills needed in the workplace. These interventions will enable us to complete two of the benchmarks."

Stephanie Chapple, EA, said:

"We are delighted to be working with one of our local schools and the Enterprise Advisor role enables us to build a strategic relationship with Goffs-Churchgate. We recognise the recruitment challenges facing all employers in the hospitality and leisure industry and hope that providing focused and meaningful encounters for young people will open their eyes to the careers and opportunities available."

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