

The Heathland School Sixth Form Spotlight



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Exploring Innovation: A Journey Through LinkedIn Headquarters



Recently, I had the incredible opportunity to visit the headquarters of LinkedIn, the professional networking platform that has revolutionized the way we connect and engage in the professional world.

Nestled in the heart of Farringdon, the LinkedIn office exudes innovation and creativity from every corner.

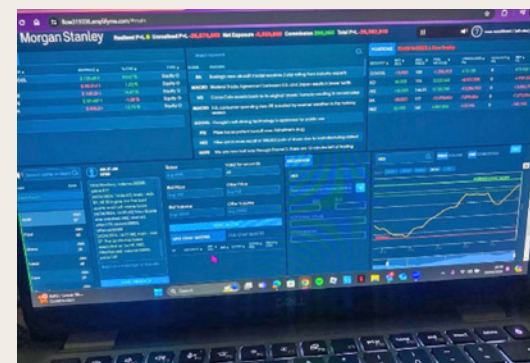
From the moment I stepped onto the campus, I was greeted by a vibrant atmosphere buzzing with energy. As I made my way through the office, I couldn't help but feel inspired by the sense of purpose and dedication that seemed to permeate every aspect of LinkedIn's culture. One of the highlights of my visit was getting a glimpse into the inner workings of LinkedIn's technology and innovation labs. Here, teams of brilliant engineers and designers are constantly pushing the boundaries of what's possible in the world of professional networking. But perhaps the most memorable part of my visit was the chance to interact with some of the incredibly talented individuals who call LinkedIn home.

Whether it was chatting with product managers about the latest features or brainstorming with designers about user experience, I was struck by the passion and enthusiasm that everyone brought

to their work. One of the many people I met was Sabrina Ben Salmi BSc FRSA an inspirational woman. Meeting her and her family was enriching and added a fresh new insight into the world of work. One of my favourite things at LinkedIn is diversity. Diversity at LinkedIn isn't just a checkbox— it celebrates it with an unwavering commitment that inspires awe. LinkedIn showcases a profound reverence for inclusivity, recognizing the huge value in every unique voice and perspective. As a Muslim woman entering the workplace at LinkedIn, it helped me embrace a warm friendly society with many multicultural backgrounds.

I gained a whole new insight into the company and now that I know how to use LinkedIn to my advantage properly I will most certainly take the most benefit from it all. So I recommend everyone to think about what they are posting and how they are connecting with others to make a network that resonates with their interests. And what will you do to take the initiative to make you stand out from the others?
Kaniz Ahammed 12 Turner

AmplifyME Finance Accelerator



I have completed the AmplifyME Finance Accelerator.

This consisted of two main activities,

including the simulation and role of an Asset Manager. It mirrored real-world investment scenarios, allowing users to make decisions on portfolio construction, risk management, and investment strategies within a simulated market environment. We then swapped and took on the role of an investment banking simulation and had to offer bids while contacting the clients, who were the users of the AmplifyME programme.

I really enjoyed the IB simulation, as it gave me a realistic, deeper understanding and insight on what investment banking is like with Morgan Stanley and UBS. This definitely made me want to pursue this field in the future.

I cannot encourage students of any age to get involved in industry based experiences to help guide your future career.

Sana Naqshband, 12 Gresham



Oxford University English Taster Day



In April, I attended The Oxford University English taster day, hosted by Oriel college!

The two-day residential allowed me to gain insight not only on the way English is taught and tested, but also to experience what living in a dorm in the college is like.

The first day consisted of me getting unbelievably lost in the beautiful city of Oxford- not that I was complaining. However, once I found the college, I was given my room and an introduction for what the next two days were going to consist of. This included: networking activities, four lectures on different sections of the English course as well as a chance to discuss applications and interviews.

After dinner on the first night, all the participants engaged in a quiz, which was super fun as one of the tasks was to write a two line poem to one of the volunteers. Afterwards, I found refuge in my room as the day was a little tough due to Ramadan, meaning my fast had ended once the activities did. However, the college was very accommodating, pushing dinner time a little later as well as providing a breakfast bag for all those fasting.

The next morning began quickly, with three back to back lectures. I found these lectures very interesting as it taught me about things I had not learnt before. I found out that English is taught completely differently in university; First, the professors went through society at the time: What were the main events? What was the life expectancy? What did people believe in, religion wise?

Then, after we learnt about society, we looked at how literature was impacted. For example, John Donne wrote his First anniversary poem, connecting the universe to how lost he felt. The professor taught us that during this time, information about the universe was changing due to new discoveries proving old theories wrong, making John Donne feel unstable about what we do know and what we do not, hence the poem about feeling lost. Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed my stay, so a huge thank you to Oriel College, Oxford for inviting me to participate. English at Oxford is truly the next step from English literature at A level. An additional thank you to The Heathland School Sixth Form for letting me attend!

Sana Roen 12 Adam

Virtual Talk Reflection: Exploring the Profound Role of a Social Worker

Social Work: Who Are Informal Carers & Role Of The Social Worker? Solent

Social Work: Informal Carers - Who Are They & What is the Role of The Social Worker? With Marietjie Joubert From Solent University (KS5)

I had the privilege of attending an incredibly enlightening virtual talk today on the indispensable role of social workers in our communities.

Hosted by Marietjie Joubert, a Senior Lecturer at Southampton Solent University, the session delved deep into the multifaceted responsibilities and profound impact social workers have on individuals, families, and society at large.

Throughout the discussion, it became abundantly clear that social workers are the unsung heroes of our society, Here are some key takeaways that resonated with me: Advocacy and Empowerment: Social workers serve as powerful advocates for marginalized populations Holistic Support: One of the most admirable aspects of the social work profession is its holistic approach to addressing the myriad challenges individuals face. Cultural Competence: Effective social work requires a deep understanding and appreciation of diverse cultural backgrounds. As I reflect on the insights shared during this virtual talk, I am reminded of the immense dedication and compassion embodied by social workers worldwide. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to have participated in this enlightening discussion and look forward to continuing to support and uplift the vital work of social workers in our communities.

Kaniz Ahammed 12 Turner

Sana attends Smart Start Week!

I am super happy to announce that I have been accepted to Allen & Overy Smart Start week.

Taking place across 8 live webinars throughout June 2024. Smart Applications includes: - A&O insight sessions with volunteers from across the firm, support for University and Apprenticeship applications, the opportunity to have individual feedback on an online mock interview and information on how to prepare. I am super grateful and cannot wait to make the most of this opportunity!

Sana Roen 12 Adam

ALLEN & OVERY



Work experience at Reed Smith LLP:

– a work experience insight day

I visited Reed Smith LLP in London for a work experience insight day through Speakers for schools.

The day began with a zoom call with one of Reed Smith's partners, Ghautam, who shared his valuable knowledge and information about life as a solicitor.

It was a very informative Q&A as it made me feel much better about my own journey to eventually be a solicitor. Gautam explained that the UK is a forward moving place, and that anybody has potential to work in the legal field, as long as they have the resilience and determination to get them there.

Next, we had several fast paced meetings with people who worked in the firm- in the legal and non-legal side. This was interesting as I gained an insight into advertising a firm, marketing, what working in Human Resources consists of. The paralegals and trainee solicitors shared their valuable experience, back from when they were in our shoes, which helped me understand the process of obtaining the goal.

At the end of the day, there was a talk from the graduate recruitment team, talking us through the exact dos and don'ts of applications. One of the biggest pieces of advice they gave was not to use AI for the application - as it does not give the correct answer. There were an abundance of accidental mistake examples which gave us a look into why our applications should be in our own words and this was very useful.

Additionally, there was a pitch I had to make- which was terrifying- about a product chosen by the firm. It was an experience that forced me to use my



communication skills effectively. I found that I could sum up a pretty good argument under pressure for sure! There was also team work- we had a big debate on - "Tiktok, beneficial or detrimental" and luckily I was on the detrimental side. Once again, I had to think about every possible argument that could absolutely destroy the other side- which I love doing!

Overall, the day was a very fascinating one, in which I have understood exactly what route to take to eventually lead me to law. Everybody at the firm was very pleasant and accommodating, making the whole atmosphere a very welcoming place to work. A huge thank you to Speakers for Schools for making this day possible, I feel much more prepared for future applications - including the ones to Reed Smith. An additional thank you to The Heathland School Sixth Form for letting me attend!

Sana Roeen 12 Adam



I was given the privilege to go to Reed Smith LLP on behalf of Speakers for Schools.

This consisted of me understanding what the law firm was and what people did as their job. I also got an insight on what vacation scheme application is and what we should do to stand out in order to secure a training application with the firm after we have our degree.

Throughout the day I was able to meet a variety of people. I met lawyers, secretaries also known as executive assistants and trainee solicitors. I was able to ask numerous questions and understand how they were able to get to their position.

I understood that even if we are rejected many times in applying to firms it doesn't mean we should give up, rather it's a chance for us to improve and learn and do even better in our next application.

This opportunity made me realise becoming a solicitor is hard work but it's worth it, as a lot of the workers truly enjoy their job and it's something I believe I will enjoy too. The event was really helpful as I got to gain more knowledge and insight.

I'm really glad I was able to attend to this event and want to say a big thank you to the host, Carole Mehigan and all the workers that took their time in meeting us.

Sabirin Adow 12 Hogarth

Graduation from Brilliant Club!

I am thrilled to announce that I have officially graduated from the Brilliant Club, receiving a first in my dissertation!!!

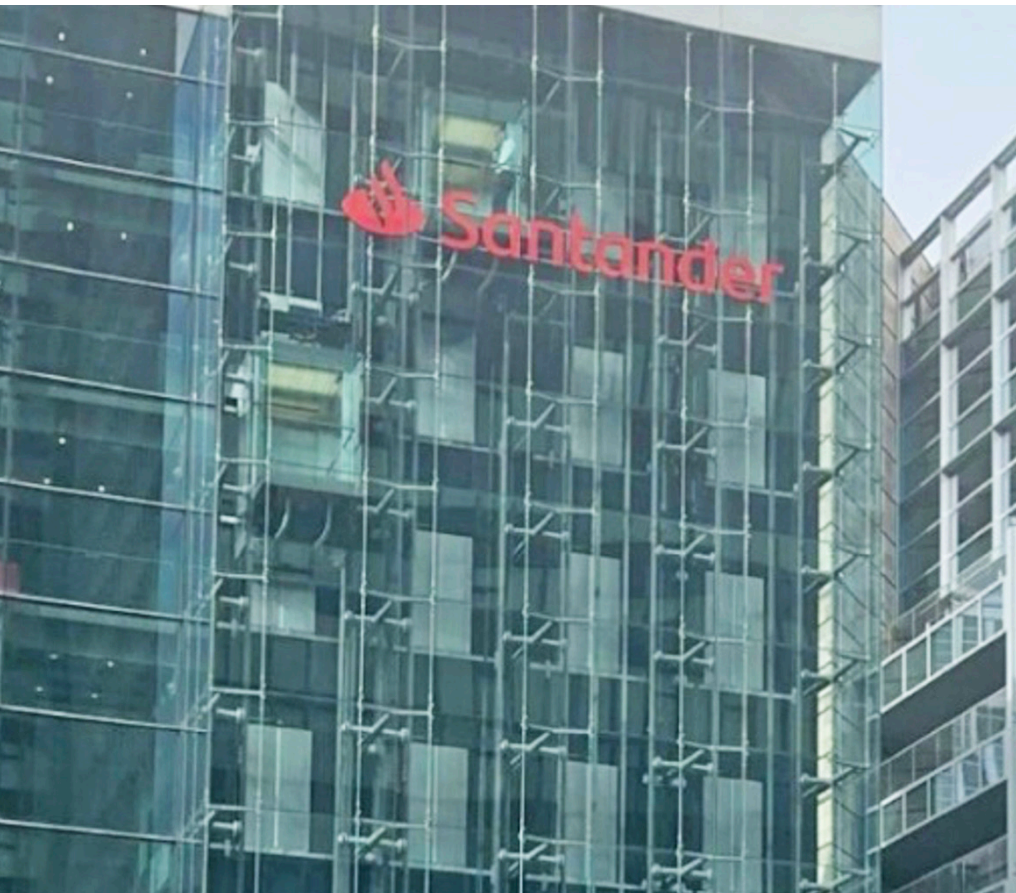
I am ecstatic with the outcome and feel much more confident referencing my sources as well as learning how to think critically about different situations and topics. We graduated today at Oxford University, hosted by Brasenose College. Everyone was very welcoming and the ceremony was wonderful. Walking up the stage with my peers really symbolised just how far we had come since the school tutorials. A special thank you to Abigail L. For teaching us the topic so thoroughly, as well as to The Heathland School Sixth Form for giving me a place on the programme!

Sana Roeen, 12 Adam



Work experience at Santander

I had the amazing opportunity to have a week's worth of work experience at Santander.



To kick off the week, on day one we had an introduction by Charles Shepherd who is a General Counsel, and we learned how lawyers work in a bank.

We then got introduced to our independent task that we would be working on for the week to present on the final day. After this, we had a talk by Drew Gibson and Emily Spelman about culture and life at Santander.

We then had a talk about artificial intelligence (AI). On day two, we started off the day by talking to a couple of trainees about paths to becoming lawyers, for example, discussing university, SQE, and training contracts. We then had a taster of life as a trainee at Santander, and my group dived into competitive law. After this, we had a talk about fraud. Also, we had another talk about litigation with Felicity Dart.

On day three, we spent the day with the corporate governance team, and we got to

go up to the sixth floor where the meetings take place, and we got to be part of a meeting which should actually take place in the past, and we were just re-enacting it.

On day four, the final day, we had a talk about data protection with, where we delved into the information we share online and whether or not it is safe to share it, as some information such as your email address should be data protected. We then had a talk about the values of Santander, as they call it, O-shaped lawyer.

After this, we presented our independent task that we had been given at the beginning of the week, which was a case study about personal data breach. We then had our final talk with Raj J. about HR and how to write and structure our CVs, and how to perform well in an interview.

I would like to thank Santander for providing this amazing opportunity for us, and I would also like to thank The Sutton Trust for giving me this opportunity.
Banee Khurana, 12 Banks

Reflecting on the Future:

University of Exeter's Insightful Virtual Event on Degree Apprenticeships



Careers Insight Week

Degree Apprenticeships

As the end of Year 12 almost comes near I think we all have had that one question, what will I do in the future?

Reflecting on various choices after A-Levels made me wonder about Apprenticeships. Recently, I had the privilege of attending an enlightening virtual event hosted by the prestigious University of Exeter, delving deep into the realm of Degree Apprenticeships.

The event showed the University of Exeter's commitment to innovation and academic excellence, offering attendees a comprehensive understanding of the evolving landscape of Degree Apprenticeships.

Ruchika Lavhale a Software Engineering Degree Apprentice at J.P. Morgan, talks about learning with hands-on experience.

Degree Apprenticeships offer students a unique opportunity to cultivate both theoretical knowledge and practical skills, making them highly sought after in today's competitive job market.

What stood out for me in the talk was how a comprehensive approach ensures that students from all backgrounds have the opportunity to pursue their academic and career aspirations, regardless of their chosen path.

Grateful to the University of Exeter for providing me with the opportunity to participate in this insightful event.
Kaniz Ahammed 12 Turner

Work experience at Smiths Group plc

During the May Half Term holiday I had the privilege of a 3-day work experience placement at Smiths Group plc, collaborating with in-house lawyers in the corporation.

If I am honest, before the work experience, I did not know much about how work life is different as an in-house solicitor working commercially. However, after all the insightful information given to us throughout the 3 days, I can proudly say I know a lot more than I did before.

Day 1:

- Spent in Arbor (headquarters of Smiths Group plc)
- Introduction with an ice breaker task
- Insightful information given out by specialists in Ethics and Compliance, Mergers and Acquisitions, and Intellectual Property law

Day 2:

- Arrived at the Smiths Detection site (Hemel Hempstead)
- Site tour
- Insightful information given out by specialists in Contract, Employment, and Litigation law
- Project planning

Day 3:

- Back at Arbor
- Interview skills workshop
- CV skills workshop
- Presentation practice and feedback
- Different routes into law

For the group presentation, we were each given a scenario regarding the LCD (Lightweight chemical detector) and had to solve all the problems arising from each scenario. I was given a scenario regarding Intellectual property and presented the solutions to the problems in front of the legal team. We were all given positive feedback.

I would like to thank The Sutton Trust and Smiths Group plc for the work experience.

Suki Singh, 12 Sheridan



Term dates 2024

Summer term dates 2024

Tues 16th Apr 2024 – Fri 26th Jul 2024

Half Term - Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024

Inset Day - Wednesday 3rd July 2024

Autumn term dates 2024

Monday 2 September – Friday 20 December 2024

INSET days 2nd and 3rd September – no pupils in school

INSET day 23rd October

Half Term: Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024



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