EMPLOYABILITY

One of the main aims of employability within the school is to help raise aspirations of the students, to provide them with as much information as possible about the various routes to employment and to help them make informed decisions over the next few years. We have a number of trips planned for the year and we start with our first two next week.

There is research that shows that children do better in school if they have work aspirations and to do this they need to know which jobs exist and what it is like to do them. The best way to find this out is to explore the various jobs that are in the market and learn directly from people who do the jobs.

The 'World of Work' programme is all about exploring work and the jobs different people do. The aim is to help the students become more aware of what work might appeal to them and skills they might need to be able to achieve that aspiration.

A useful discussion in the programme is the 'changing world of technology'. Estimates suggest that 2/3rds of today's pupils will do jobs that don't yet exist at some point in their working lives and that most of today's

teenagers may have as many as 10-15 different jobs by the time they reach the age of 40. It is a great exercise for the students to consider which jobs might or might not exist given the advances in technology.

Finally, we need to be thinking about skills, habits and qualities needed in the workplace as many employers have been vocal in their observations that today's students – many of them armed with CVs full of outstanding grades and qualifications – often lack the habits and qualities they need in the workplace.

Last year I coached a number of 6th formers to deliver and facilitate the 'World of Work' Programme into a local Primary school for the Year 6 students.

This term I have delivered the programme to the year 10 Support Group. We complete the programme in the next couple of weeks and will provide a summary for the next Chronicle.

**Christine Sanders
Leader of
Employability**

WORLD OF WORK PROGRAMME