

Keynote Speakers Week 2014

Tolkien House met Malcolm Smith – Education coordinator at Seven Trent Water



Malcolm started his journey into his career from a teaching background. Once he left teaching he decided to still stay within the Education Sector and became an Education co-ordinator at Seven Trent Water. Malcolm gives talks at schools and academies around Birmingham inspiring students to use water resourcefully and to waste less so it lasts us longer.

"I learnt that water is valuable and we should not waste it as there may not be enough for future generations."

Tolkien Student

Chamberlain House met Jane Farrow – Research Manager at Birmingham City University



Jane Farrow left school and college with GCSE's and A-Levels, however she got accepted into University and dropped out; she didn't enjoy the course she was enrolled on. Jane had various jobs before she had her son. She needed a job that was convenient for her family life; she started working in the Admin Department at Birmingham City University. She got trained on the job, gained further qualifications and, most importantly gained experience to apply for the position of Research Manager. Jane now helps researchers to get funding to do research and work with them nationally. Jane inspires young people to work hard and start achieving towards career goal at a young age; *"know it, believe it, achieve it"*.

"Jane gave me a better understanding on how the job world works; I think I feel more protected with knowing this small but meaningful information to be used when I reach the age to gain a job."

"Jane helped me decide whether I need to go to University or not."

Chamberlain Students

Zephaniah House met Shafina Sarwar – PhD Student at University of Birmingham



Safina Sarwar was a student at a local comprehensive school and moved on to study A-Levels at college. University was always her aim; and she always had an interest in studying religion. Safina is a PhD student at the University of Birmingham researching a project that will eventually be published as a book. The project involves religious practices of Muslims in Britain. Becoming a student at the University, Safina found it difficult to adapt to her surroundings and socialising with people from different backgrounds. Safina is aiming for a career in lecturing, research or publishing.

"I have understood the barriers that one will go through when studying to achieve a job in their potential career"

"Self confidence and determination is the key to aiming high and achieving your goals"

Zephaniah Students

Benson House met Dominic Mottaram– Scheme Project Manager at Network Rail



Dominic has a BA in Geography and Transport; he graduated in Bristol and spent a year working in France after. Dominic has always had a passion for trains and wanted to work in the industry from the age of 11. He was always open to change and worked in various sectors in the industry before becoming Scheme Project Manager. Dominic enthusiastically spoke to the students of Washwood Heath Academy about how education is important to achieve career goals, and how he always pursued into something he enjoyed doing.

"I now have a better understanding of what I choose as a career when I get older is going to something I will be doing for a huge part of my life"

"I found Dominic's presentation very interesting and enjoyable"

Benson Students