



The Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School

# Wider Learning in the Sixth Form



All things  
for Christ



[www.wiseman.ealing.sch.uk](http://www.wiseman.ealing.sch.uk)



Aspiration | Ambition | Adventure | Achievement

# Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School Sixth Form

At Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School we believe that learning transcends the boundaries of the traditional classroom.



Education should never be passive and students must actively seek opportunities for enrichment. They need to embrace challenge, to strive for excellence in a known field, and to attempt new and exciting experiences. Our students may do this, secure in the knowledge that they have the full support of a caring community. At Cardinal Wiseman we recognise our students' enthusiasm and value their contribution to our success.

## UCAS and Careers Conference 2023

At the end of June Year 12 students enjoyed a week long UCAS and Careers Conference.

This annual event is always popular with students. This year they had an opportunity to listen to presentations and inspirational talks, they met our ex-students completing Degree Apprenticeships with various companies and a large group of ex-students who have just completed their first year at university. For the Meet the Professionals sessions we had 10 separate mini talks. We also took the whole year group to Central London, where they completed University Monopoly Challenge, travelling across London to different universities and other important landmarks in the capital. On Friday we all visited the Step Up Expo at the Kensington Olympia. We were



amazed at the variety of different companies represented, as well as over 150 universities.



## What an exciting day at Sky Studios

In November, the whole Year 12 BTEC Media class travelled on the Sky Shuttle Bus to the Sky Studios in Osterley.

They took part in a massive event organised by the team from NCS as part of their Changemakers Programme. The main theme of the day was employability. As well as listening to a number of guest speakers, students took part in the careers carousel and received a behind the scenes tour of Sky's state of the art campus and production space and even headed to the Sky Up Academy Studios for some recording sessions. It was a fantastic day for all.

## Russell Group University Projects

Every year a number of our students participate in the STEM Potential (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) programme run by the Imperial College, Pathways to Law at LSE and the K+ Programme at King's College London.

As part of these programmes students are provided with mentors and workshops to boost their applications to elite universities.

Imperial College  
London

KING'S  
College  
LONDON

## Trip to the Imperial College



The week beginning on 7th November 2022 was a National Engineering Week and as part of the celebrations a group of our Y12 and Y13 A Level Physics and Maths students attended an event at the Imperial College, University of London.

We were invited by the Mechanical Engineering Department to see presentations by their 2nd year undergraduate students. We were all really impressed by the quality of the presentations and the amount of preparation that went into the research by the undergraduates. Our students had a very challenging experience in terms of the Maths and Physics involved.

I believe the biggest benefit for them (whether they realised it or not) was that they could see the depth of the answers they would need to go into when faced by questions in the university interview, the strength of simple graphs and diagrams and

bringing Maths and Physics theory into everything they talk about; even if they do not quite have the answer, but they can show what they would consider when trying to get the solution. Our students had made some comments about the event:

*"The trip was amazing, the Imperial College students were very welcoming and kind and explained their presentations wonderfully."*

*"I enjoyed all of the presentations even if some of the maths and physics involved were outside my level of knowledge."*

*"My overall view of the trip was that the topics introduced and explained were very diverse and fascinating because of how broad mechanical engineering is".*

Our students were wonderful ambassadors of the school. They were engaged and asking a lot of good questions. We have already received an invitation to visit in November 2023.

## Visit by Sir Win Bischoff



**In February 2023, it was a real privilege to welcome Sir Win Bischoff.**

During a career lasting more than half a century, he led some of the City of London and Wall Street's most prestigious financial institutions, helping guide them through the financial crisis. He was a Chairman of JP Morgan, previously Chair of Lloyds Group, Citigroup, Schrodgers and Chair of the Financial Reporting Council UK. Sir Win gave students an overview of what a career in a field of Corporate Finance and Banking could offer them. This talk was well attended by Economics students from Wiseman as well as other schools that form part of our Emmaus Partnership.

## Extended Project Qualification

**As Year 12 students finished their AS exams and returned to school in June, we launched our next Extended Project Qualification**

At their first meeting students learned about the value of undertaking this research based Level 3 qualification that is entered on UCAS application and worth UCAS points.

EPQ offers our students a chance to develop and improve their own learning and performance as critical, reflective and independent learners, while they develop and apply decision-making and problem-solving skills. As part of the project they have to extend their planning, research, critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evaluation and presentation skills.

It offers a perfect bridge between the end of Year 13 and starting university degree programmes, as students can use their EPQ experiences to support their aspirations for higher education and career development. Most of all, EPQ is an excellent opportunity to show a passion for learning.

We are delighted to see a high number of students taking up the challenge again this year. All the initial ideas and proposed areas of research look very exciting. We wish everyone enjoyable reading and researching their topics. Good luck!



## School Community

Sixth Form students volunteer in many areas of the school.

Some students help as Tutor Buddies where they assist with homework but also help with any worries or problems the younger students may have. Others are involved with Maths Mentoring.

'Becoming a tutor 'Buddy' allowed me to build a rapport with younger students and it was immensely satisfying to see them blossom in confidence throughout the year.'

### **A Sixth Form Tutor Buddy**

'I really enjoyed these teaching opportunities as they helped to improve my confidence and showed me I can explain things clearly and concisely.'

### **A Sixth Form Maths Mentor**

## From September 2024 we will be offering:-

- visiting speakers
- cultural opportunities
- masterclasses
- clubs
- life skills
- out of school activities
- community service
- sporting activities
- work experience



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## Wiseman Career Lectures

September 2023 saw the start of our new Wiseman Career Lectures series. Every Monday we host representatives from various professions, all shedding light on their careers and sharing words of wisdom and tips on how to prepare for the future. Sessions are held after school in the main hall and are open to all year groups.

It is really wonderful to see all sessions so far well attended by students from Sixth Form as well as younger members of our community. They learn about the industry and various pathways into it. We have already seen sessions delivered by a solicitor, managing director of Bank of America, ex MP and



Mental Health practitioner. There are more talks in the pipeline, ranging from Accountancy, BAE Systems Digital Intelligence, Primary Teaching and Marketing to Biomedical Engineering and Sky Sport TV. We are also having two sessions delivered by ASK, part of Education Development Trust, on apprenticeships. Full schedule of all the talks is available on our school website in the Enrichment section. We encourage all students to attend at least three sessions per terms.

## Degree Apprenticeships



Every year we invite representatives from ASK (Apprenticeships Skills and Knowledge), part of the Education Development Trust, to deliver two workshops, one in October giving an overview of the apprenticeships and how to start the application process and a second one in February offering a very practical session putting students through the assessment day group tasks and interviews.

We are really excited that as a result of this initiative, more and more of our 6th Form students apply and secure places on various Degree Apprenticeships. We now have two students completing Chartered Accountancy and Management

Apprenticeships, one with Sky News Finance Department and one with EY. There is a group completing Engineering Degree Apprenticeships with various companies such as Mace, Barhale, Taylor Woodrow, Tfl and Skanska. Quantity Surveying and Project Management within the construction industry is equally popular, especially with more girls joining the industry in Mace, Careys, Arcadis and Taylor & Townsend.

All of the Apprentices regularly visit school to give talks and share their experiences of the application process and the work and study they are doing and spreading awareness of the incredible opportunities Degree Apprenticeships offer



## Visit to Worley Engineering

In March we visited Worley engineering company based in Brentford. They specialise in Energy, Chemicals and Resources. Our young budding engineers were put through their paces in a competition to build best prototype of an offshore wind turbine. It was harder than it looked but definitely a lot of fun.

