

# CAREERS NEWSLETTER

*This newsletter includes a feature on our first Apprenticeship Workshop held in November and a spotlight on local engineering company Safran, highlighting the opportunities available there.*

## APPRENTICESHIP WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November Sixth Form students gained valuable insights into future career pathways by attending an apprenticeship event, which hosted representatives from a diverse range of employers

The event provided a unique opportunity for students to engage directly with industry professionals and learn about the varied and exciting apprenticeship opportunities available within their respective organisations.

Students interacted with representatives from companies including Ontic, the Royal Air Force, Safran Landing Systems, Kohler Mira, Barnett Waddingham the NHS (National Health Service), and Hazlewoods Accountants.



Students were invited to bring their CVs along to the event to get expertise advice and tips to make their CVs the best they can be.

The event proved to be a valuable experience, helping students explore potential career paths and understand the practical steps needed to secure an apprenticeship after completing their Sixth Form education.

*"I really enjoyed the NHS stand, the helper really helped me get an insight into apprenticeships in the NHS and the ones they offer. She also explained to me that it is helpful to get a job relevant to the sector I want to work in in order to help the application process for apprenticeships and increase my chances of getting one." Suzy Mansion, 13E*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

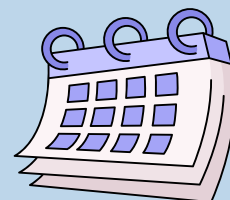
**Year 10 Practice Interview Preparation - Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January (tutor time)**

**Sixth Form Open Evening - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**Year 11 Speaker Session - Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January (during PD)**

**Year 10 Practice Interviews - Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January**

**Year 10 Work Experience deadline to enter placements on Unifrog - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January**



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## Company Spotlight: SAFRAN



Safran Landing Systems, a branch of Safran UK, located in Gloucester design, manufacture, test and repair landing gear. Our main mission is to deliver innovative, reliable, and sustainable solutions for commercial, regional, business and military aircraft.

We offer a wide range of opportunities to young people seeking apprenticeships, ranging from level 3 to level 6 (degree) within the engineering field.

- Level 3 apprenticeships combine practical, on-the-job training with classroom-based learning over typically two years and are equivalent to A-level qualifications.
- Apprentices work alongside experienced professionals, gaining hands-on experience in technical, engineering, business or digital roles while studying for nationally recognised NVQs.
- Level 6 (degree) apprenticeships are equivalent to a bachelor's degree, blending advanced academic study with on-the-job experience.
- Apprentices work on real projects within their employer's organisation while attending university.
- They graduate with a full honours degree, professional competencies and practical skills, all without incurring tuition fees, and earn a competitive salary throughout the programme.
- This pathway offers direct entry into skilled roles, industry networks and progression opportunities.

Click [here](#) to find apprenticeship opportunities at Safran.

Click [here](#) to find out more about Safran.



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Here are a few personal words from our current/ex apprentices at Safran:

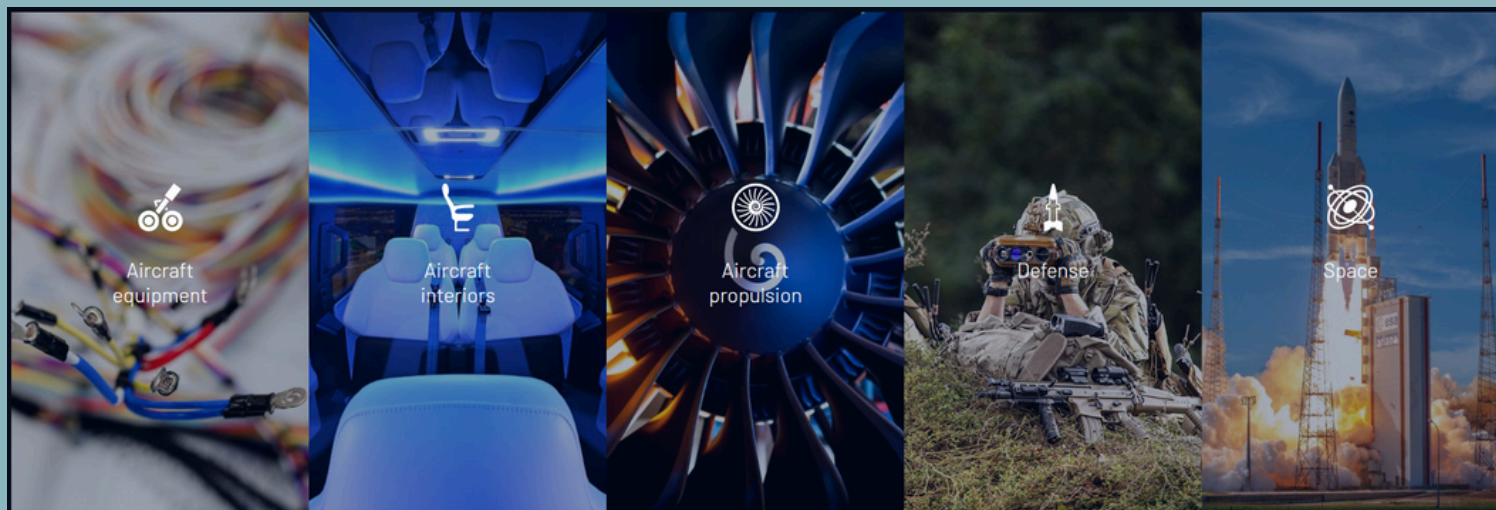
Fin Kent

*'I chose a Level 3 mechanical apprenticeship because I wanted to launch a career in engineering, receiving hands-on experience and continuing my studies at college. During the programme, I completed rotations in plating, the machine shop and heat treatment, which gave me a broad set of practical skills and helped me discover which area I enjoyed most. Once my apprenticeship finished, I took on a secondment in Research & Technology, and today I'm proud to be working as a Junior Engineer while studying for my Level 5 qualification. Next, I plan to complete a fully funded bachelor's degree, I couldn't ask for a more supportive pathway.'*

Lottie Bowen-Viner

*'I was first interested in the apprentice route when I began sixth form; I was looking into university courses when it dawned on me that a purely academic route was not something I wanted to pursue. However, I still wanted to further my knowledge in physics and maths. This caused a major disruption to my future, I began feeling trapped, thinking that university was the only path I could take. Then I came across a page titled "Apprenticeships for you". My first thought was "this is for those not wanting to do A-levels", then I scanned the word "Degree apprenticeship". As I read on, I became more and more certain this is path I wanted to take. I could not only further my studies in engineering, but have a more hands on practical experience while gaining a degree. This is was answer to my dilemma. This had lead me to becoming an Aerospace engineering degree apprentice.'*

*'Since starting at Safran in 2024, I have had opportunities to complete hands on work, experience different areas of engineering, design new landing gear parts and participate in early career STEM activities such as volunteering at RIAT air show. I have come to appreciate the various elements of the company and have grown to love my work. As for the university side of things, I feel supported by the company during my studies and I'm able to apply the knowledge I gain in lectures in practical elements at work.'*



If you have any questions or need support, please email [careers@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:careers@balcarras.gloucs.sch.uk)