



18 May 2021

Dear Year 11 students and parents/carers,

Whitstone School recognises that this year has provided challenges for everyone, not least our year 11 students, who have had to navigate all their planning for post-16 education without the opportunity to visit providers in person, experience courses or talk face to face with apprenticeship providers, colleges or employers. As such, we are pleased to be able to pass on some wonderful supportive opportunities available from SomersetWorks and the Somerset Education Business Partnership.

SomersetWorks is an organisation working with all Somerset secondary schools to support young people move from secondary education into post-16 provision (whether that is at a college, on an apprenticeship, traineeship or as part of training/employment package).

SomersetWorks are developing a wide range of resources, holiday programmes and other support, which will run from May until September and aims to help support young people leaving school and looking for opportunities to take part in enrichment, needing advice and guidance or still looking for the right opportunity for them.

Attached to this letter is a letter from Julie Young, 'Post-16 Advisor' for Somerset County Council, outlining all the opportunities that will be available including:

- Holiday programme virtual platform (including 4 areas of support and guidance)
- Somerset Works activity days
- Young Somerset activities via website
- Kilve and Charterhouse day provision
- RSPCA animal welfare – taster days
- Acts of Random Kindness (ARK) – land based day facility offering opportunities
- Hitz learning academy
- Range of information about summer youth projects
- Apprenticeships and Traineeships with Weston College amongst others

Please take the time to read all the support opportunities available to Year 11 in Somerset running until the end of August. Updates will be via their website:

<https://www.somerset-ebp.co.uk/learners/somersetworks.htm>

You may also want to take the opportunity to revisit the TalentEd academies employer information [Somerset TalentEd Academy \(somerset-ebp.co.uk\)](https://www.somerset-ebp.co.uk) or the specific area aimed at students via [Learners | Your Next Step in Education, Training or Employment \(somerset-ebp.co.uk\)](https://www.somerset-ebp.co.uk).

Please also visit the school website for links to a wide range of external careers support and links to local colleges and providers.

If you require any further information about the summer holiday programme or careers advice in general please contact myself or Mrs Bishop (our careers advisor) at school on 01749 345555.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Hooper

Post 16 Lead