



ISSUE NUMBER 3 • DECEMBER 2024

TOWNLEY *Careers Newsletter*

FROM THE TOWNLEY CAREERS TEAM

WELCOME BACK!

In this edition of the careers newsletter, we feature a few trips students from sixth form have been on visiting offices and expanding their horizons to support their career paths. The career prefects have also shared their advice for all year groups regarding careers and what we recommend you should be doing!

“I DON’T KNOW WHAT I WANT TO DO!”

~YU SHEN 13.5 SILVER TIE FOR CAREERS

If you are in a position where you are unsure of what you want to do in the future, don't be stressed out as I was in the same position too. My biggest advice would be to constantly take advantage of work experiences whether it be the ones Mrs Williams posts, ones posted on career newsletters or ones you find yourself. If there is a work experience that sparks any form of interest, go and apply for it! You will never know if you like it or not without actually taking part. For example, I took part in the Burson work experience program which specialised in marketing and they explained how they help their clients advertise their products whether it be to tug on the customer's heartstring or use a catchy phrase to entice more customers to buy the product. The main thing to keep in mind is that everyone is different so don't go and compare yourself to others who seem to have it all planned out. Go at your own pace and soon you'll have your dream career!

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ALUMNI BIOGRAPHIES

Here are some of our alumni's stories:

Imaani Tejan-Cole

Since leaving Townley 2017 having been here since 2010, I have completed my BSc Human Resource Degree (with a 1-year industrial placement) at Aston University and completed my Level 7 CIPD Diploma in Strategic People Management. I am also a content creator on both Instagram and TikTok, creating HR and career content for young professionals finding their feet in the HR and corporate space. I currently work as a HR Business Partner at National Grid. I joined as a HR Graduate on the 18-month Graduate Scheme in September 2021 and have since remained at the company. I also completed my Level 7 CIPD Diploma in Strategic People Management whilst on the HR Graduate scheme.

Bethan Burke

I was at Townley for all of secondary and sixth form, leaving in 2016. I loved Townley, and I wouldn't be where I am without it. I studied History at Warwick, and then a Master in International Development and Politics. Since then, I've had the chance to work with the UN, and some charities on women's and health issues.

I work in public affairs a Dentons Global Advisors which is an exciting role in politics I didn't even know existed! I've worked in energy, sustainability, retail and human rights.

Hannah Pereira

Since leaving Townley in 2016, I studied at the University of Southampton and graduated in 2019 with a BSc in Physiotherapy. I worked for 2 years in a smaller hospital in Hampshire, including working through the COVID-19 pandemic. To progress my career, I moved up to the West Midlands in 2021 and have been working at two of the major trauma centres based here.

I'm currently a senior physiotherapist working at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham. My role is rotational around different departments, such as neural critical care and major trauma; this is to gain further experience before I choose area to specialise in.

Notably, I am due to present at a national conference later this year.



“Since leaving Townley in 2017 having been here since 2010, I have completed my BSc Human Resource Degree (with a 1-year industrial placement) at Aston University and completed my Level 7 CIPD Diploma in Strategic People Management.”

IMAANI TEJAN-COLE

TRIP TO KINETIC

In November, Townley participated in Advertising Unlocked 2024, the advertising industry's largest open-day, joining media agency Kinetic in their new offices near Southwark Bridge.

This opportunity was designed to introduce Year 12 to the world of Marketing and Advertising through listening to experts, contributing to interactive discussions, an office tour to get a taste of the work environment and then take part in a creative challenge based on a recent 'live' project.

After an introduction to media agency Kinetic, highlighting what they do and where OOH (Out Of Home) fits into the advertising industry, Year 12 gained insight into the variety of roles on offer and the types of projects and customers that Kinetic work alongside.

A safari around their offices celebrated their successful campaigns and gave Year 12 a taste of a creative office working environment.

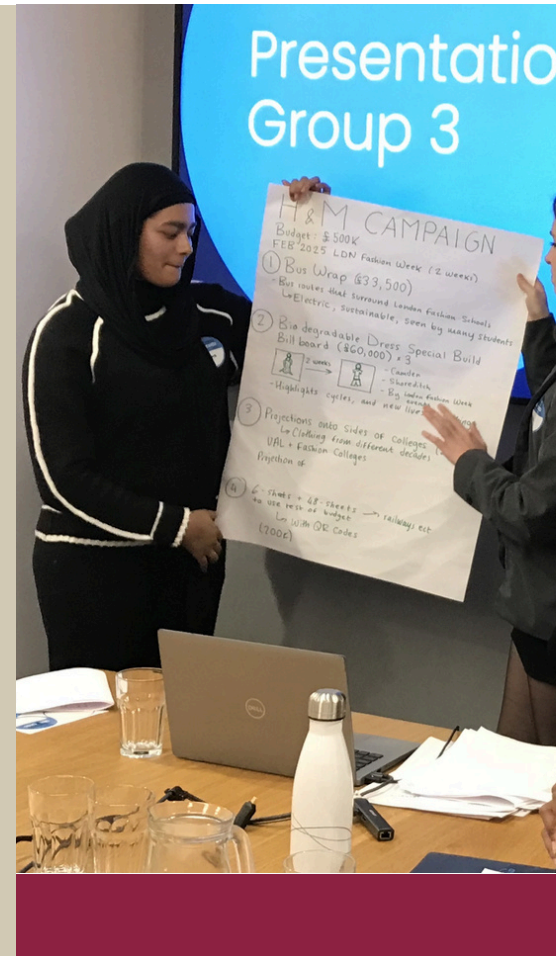
Following a detailed briefing on the costings of advertisements from 3D digital, to bus wraps and interactive billboards, groups were tasked in creating an advertising campaign for H&M's sustainable range.

Over working lunch of pizza and cookies in the 'break-out' area, they had 1 hour to put together a presentation on how they would spend the £500k budget.

The judges were impressed by their ideas as it was clear the groups had clearly thought about their audience, chosen appropriate locations taking into account viewing times and provided a detailed cost analysis.

The winners spent all £500k on an impressive campaign, which was deemed much better than the original H&M advertising.

After a CV advice session and collecting their new water bottles and notebooks, Year 12 left Kinetic having had a thorough insight into the industry.



PAEDIATRIC WORK EXPERIENCE

Ese A in 13.1 completed medical work experience at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, spending 5 days in the paediatric ward. She studies biology, chemistry and psychology for her A levels with the aspirations of becoming a Doctor. We were fortunate to be able to ask her for her insights from the experience:

What did you learn? What were your key takeaways?

"I learned a great deal about the importance of compassionate care for children. I witnessed first-hand the resilience and strength of young patients as they faced various medical challenges. I also gained insight into the collaborative nature of healthcare, as I worked closely with doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to provide the best possible care for each child. Additionally, I learned the significance of effective communication with both the patients and their families, as it played a crucial role in building trust and ensuring their understanding of the treatment plans. Overall, my experience in the paediatrics ward reinforced my passion for healthcare and deepened my appreciation for the unique needs of young patients."

What did a day of work experience look like?

"I had the opportunity to shadow a paediatrics consultant, Dr Sabir, gaining valuable insights into his role and responsibilities. I observed his interactions with patients and their families, witnessing their expertise and compassionate care. Additionally, I had the chance to work in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) assisting the nursing staff in providing specialised care for newborns. I attended multidisciplinary meetings where healthcare professionals from different specialties collaborated to discuss and plan the best course of treatment for each child. This experience broadened my understanding of the multidimensional approach to paediatric care."

"Witnessing the dedication and expertise of the medical professionals at QEH solidified my passion for pursuing a career in medicine. The opportunity to observe and interact with junior doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and rewards of working in a hospital setting. It also helped me develop important skills such as communication, teamwork, and empathy, which are essential for a successful medical career. Overall, my work experience in QEH reaffirmed my commitment to becoming a doctor and motivated me to pursue this path with even greater determination."

"The opportunity to observe and interact with junior doctors, nurses, and other healthcare professionals allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and rewards of working in a hospital setting."

ESE A

HOW YOU CAN PREPARE FOR POST-18 It's never too early!

~ROMANI 13.3

It's never too early or too late to get started preparing for your prospective career path, which aren't always straightforward, but there are things you could be doing now to prepare yourself:

KS3 - get involved in extra curriculums, take on responsibilities in school, do volunteering, and do some wider reading! This time is all about finding your interests and exploring different options - you're not expected to have an idea of what you want to be, but starting early with seizing opportunities to grow from will give you a bank of invaluable skills and experiences!

KS4 - As you near towards sixth form, it's good to start doing wider reading and watching shows/documentaries related to your prospective interests. You can start doing work experience and volunteering at charity shops/care homes - these will have transferrable skills you will gain that can be applied to most careers you go for. Look online for what you could be doing during the holidays to widen your horizon and look ahead to the next steps such as choosing A levels that you would need or would keep your options open.

KS5 - These years are vital to your post-18 prospects, with UCAS applications, entrance exams, interviews, personal statements and more. You don't need to know what you want to do at the start of 6th form but as you navigate your way through work experience, webinars and more you will find an idea of what to pursue after you leave Townley. It's imperative that you engage in a form of volunteering, complete work experience and do things which will make you stand out. It is about quality over quantity and how you're able to reflect on the skills gained from these experiences.

Things you could be doing:

- Complete activities on Springpod or Unifrog in areas which interest you, make sure to make notes!
- Read books from relevant sections of the library
- Going for roles such as form captain, prefect or organising events; helping in the school community
- Seek places to volunteer, such as a care home, library, charity and more

“Opportunities
don't happen, you
create them.”



ADVICE FROM Y13 TO Y12-POST 18 PREPARATION

~NORAH 13.4

My biggest advice for any Year 12 or younger year about to start their university application, is simple. Start early! I was lucky enough to know what I wanted to do at university from the beginning and so I was oriented towards super and extra curricular activities which aided me in my application. However, if you don't know what you want to do at university, my advice would be to figure it out sooner rather than later by participating in activities like lectures, work experience, open days, volunteering and other such things to gain an idea of what you're passionate about.

I wanted to be a pilot from a young age and I've always been fascinated by the world so I chose to study Geography at university. If I'm being honest, I only started writing my personal statement at the start of Year 13, when in reality I could have been writing it during the summer. While I did finish it, it would've made my life so much easier if I had given myself more time to work with. However, while I only started writing it at the start of Year 13, the preparation for writing began more than a year prior when I completed work experience with the Civil Aviation Authority online, as well as reading plenty of books and papers relating to geography. Giving myself a wide range of things to talk about was really helpful as I already had lots of things to analyse and compare.

My final piece of advice for anyone is get in your application early. Even if you're not doing medicine or not applying to Oxbridge, getting it finished means a load off your mind. While waiting for uni decisions is nerve racking, there's very little you can do and allows you to get right into studying for mocks and for the A-levels happening only 9 months later! The sooner the application is submitted, the sooner you can receive your offers and focus on the grades you need. The sooner your application is submitted, the sooner you can take a break over Christmas to rest before the A Levels!

“The future
depends on
what you do
today”

GANDHI



SIXTH FORM TRIP TO GOODWIN LAW

In October, 30 Sixth Form students interested in a career in Law visited Goodwin Law at their offices close to the City of London. Organised by the Real Asset Academy, the event was to showcase careers within the Real Estate industry with a series of workshops and presentations providing valuable insights into the legal profession. After an introduction to Goodwin Law, trainees, associates, partners, and professional staff shared their current role and experience in working at Goodwin Law as part of a panel discussion. We learnt about their career journey to the role, why they chose to work for Goodwin Law and what a typical day was like. Hearing also from those working to support the Real Estate lawyers, such as the Finance Manager, Events Coordinator, highlighted all the roles required to support the business as well as its clients.

Groups were then joined by those early in their legal profession to assist with a task about what they would do if they had made a significant error in a legal document. Discussing how they would rectify the issue enabled all to see how to communicate effectively and to take responsibility for their actions. Rotating around the groups, the students had time to quiz the trainees on their career journey to date. Joining the groups over lunch, the more senior partners of the company came along to meet our aspiring lawyers to give an insight into how to be successful and share their career pathways. With a tour of the break-out rooms, students were able to envisage what their work environment would be like as a lawyer and are now more aware of the role of Real Estate Lawyers.



ADVICE FOR POST 18 ~CHHAVI S 13.8

First of all, I want to echo the advice shared by my fellow prefects. Many of their messages will align with what I'm saying because these principles are so important as we navigate both our personal growth and future career aspirations.

Now, as a Year 13 preparing to leave school, I realise how much I've grown over these 6 years. Each year has shaped me into a better version of myself, and each year has changed my idea of what I want to do post 18. Looking back, I'm proud of how far I've come and excited to grow in the coming years.

One of the biggest lessons I've learned is that opportunities often come when you least expect them—when you step out of your comfort zone and try something new, even if you think nothing will happen. Whether it's joining a club, signing up for a workshop, getting involved in a leadership role or volunteering, each small step can open doors you never knew existed. The act of putting yourself out there is what creates opportunities for growth, and discovery. These opportunities will not only help you discover your passions but also give you more experiences to grow as a person.

For example, my peers and I noticed the absence of an Asian society at our school and it's been incredibly rewarding to contribute to the school community. Serving as Senior Prefect for Extracurriculars and Societies has also been a privilege, helping me grow as a leader and make a positive impact again on the community. I encourage you to seek out similar opportunities to lead and make a difference, but to also figure out what things you enjoy doing.

Academics matter of course, but they're not everything. Your job is to do the best you can while taking full advantage of the resources around you, especially peers and teachers. It's so important to realise what help from other brains can do for you! If you ever feel lost, remember that trying your best, even without a seemingly clear direction, will eventually lead to clarity. Things tend to fall into place as you keep moving forward.

For me, the decision to study medicine wasn't something I've always known. In Year 7, I never imagined becoming a doctor. I thought it wasn't clever enough and dismissed the idea entirely. But throughout my experiences, I found confidence to pursue it. Your path might not be clear now, but that's okay—it will come with time and effort.

No matter where you are, focus on becoming the best version of yourself. Celebrate small wins, take things one step at a time, and trust in your growth. Setbacks that you face are not failures but valuable lessons that shape you into a stronger person. The key is to keep showing up and doing your best each day. Even when you think nothing will come of it, putting yourself out there often leads to incredible things and clarity for your future. You're doing amazingly well, and I know you'll end up where you're meant to be post 18!

Good luck on your journey!

“Doing the best at this moment puts you in the best place for the next moment.”

OPRAH WINFREY



2025 APPLICATIONS - 6TH FORM

29
JAN

(18:00 UK time) Equal consideration date for applications for most undergraduate courses

You can still apply after this date but universities and colleges do not guarantee to consider applications they receive after 29 January 2025, and some popular courses may not have vacancies after this date.

Please check with individual universities and colleges if you are not sure. You are advised to apply as early as possible.

26
FEB

Extra opens

If you've used all five choices and are not holding any offers, you may be able to add another choice in your application. For more information, visit our [Extra page](#).

30
JUN

(18:00 UK time) Applications received by this deadline will be sent to universities and colleges

After this time, applications are automatically entered into [Clearing](#).

04
JUL

Last day to add an Extra choice in your application

05
JUL

Clearing opens

Clearing opens for eligible applicants, and vacancies are displayed in UCAS' search tool. Applicants can release themselves into Clearing. Discover information and advice on our [Clearing and Results day](#) pages.

FEATURE IN TOWNLEY'S CAREERS NEWSLETTER!

Townley's Careers Newsletter is published every term for members of the school community to engage in. It is put together by Mrs Williams and the Careers prefects in year 13 - Romani, Yu Shen, Norah and Chhavi. If you would like to contribute or feature in an upcoming article, email 18pathakr@townleygrammar.org.uk

EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you for taking the time to read Townley's Careers Newsletter!

If you have any feedback for us please email Mrs Williams at wwilliams@townleygrammar.org.uk or talk to one of the careers prefects - Yu Shen C, Romani P, Chhavi S, Norah C-D



Reach out to mentors, staff and older students - they will have plenty of advice and support for you and provide different perspectives