

## **Year 8 Work Shadowing Day: A Real Taste of the Working World.**

Our Year 8 students recently took part in an inspiring Work Shadowing Day, spending time alongside a parent or relative in their workplace. This hands-on experience offered a valuable insight into a wide range of industries, including retail, media, healthcare, education, hospitality, farming, construction, transport, publishing, digital, manufacturing, mechanics and charity work.

The day proved eye-opening for many. Samah said, *"I was surprised how busy and fast-paced it was,"* while Ayaan noted, *"I didn't expect a typical day to be so intense."* For some, commuting into London brought its own challenges such as experiencing very packed trains.

Students quickly learned that the world of work demands organisation, resilience, and effort. Hannah shared, *"It's hard work and you need to be organised,"* and Aisha added, *"Nothing is easy—you have to work hard for what you want."* Besian reflected, *"I enjoyed fixing sockets... you have to listen to the boss, work hard, but you can also make friends and gain confidence."*

Arthur, who was shadowing in a medical setting, said, *"I was surprised how thoroughly the operating room had to be cleaned—even the walls."* Orla was inspired by a visit to MACE: *"I learned how they're building a test area for the world's biggest laser."*

The teaching profession also gave students a real appreciation for the effort involved. Caitlin who supported students with their reading shared: *"Teaching is hard work and non-stop"*

Overall, the day was a huge success, giving students a realistic and meaningful introduction to working life. We look forward to continuing this fantastic initiative next year and helping more students explore the exciting possibilities ahead.