

November 2019

Welcome to the 5th edition of the WIN Newsletter!

Here are just some of the many activities and events that have taken place over the summer and into the new academic year 19/20!

Heading Higher at Wiltshire College & UC

During September and October, all Wiltshire College campuses took part in a



range of 'Heading Higher' events to inform and inspire students about Higher Education opportunities. The WIN team worked together with Wiltshire College Careers colleagues to provide a wide range of activities with local universities. These included: a parents' information evening about Post Level 3 options, tutorials on searching for HE courses and applying for courses using UCAS, talks on

the benefits of HE and workshops on personal statements.

The WIN would like to thank the ten local higher education institutions that made these events possible: **Bournemouth University, University of South Wales (USW), University of the West of England (UWE), Royal Agricultural University (RAU), University of Gloucestershire, Portsmouth University, Winchester University, Bath Spa University, Oxford Brookes University and Wiltshire College University Centre.**

Level 3 students are now working hard on their UCAS applications and making the most of the twice-weekly drop-in sessions, in the careers hubs across each campus.

Good luck to all WIN students submitting their UCAS applications this term.



Congratulations to all Level 6 CGD qualified WIN HEA's!

Last month, the WIN got together and celebrated six of their team members completing the **Level 6 Diploma in Careers Guidance & Development**.

This was a fantastic opportunity to recognise their hard work to complete this qualification, alongside carrying out their roles as HE Advisers. Louise Croft from Careerpilot, who co-ordinated the training, congratulated the team members and highlighted their individual strengths and achievements.

"This is a very exciting development for the WIN. Gaining the Level 6 qualification enables the team to offer high quality individual careers advice and guidance to WIN students from year 10 – 13 in our WIN schools". Everyone celebrated with some delicious home-made cakes (courtesy of R Huffee, WIN PO)!

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Building blocks sessions

The WIN have just completed the delivery of their first Year 11 Building Blocks sessions with students from Melksham Oak Community School, which has been a huge success.

These sessions included a series of workshops, focusing on Motivation, Progression and Goals and Barriers; areas that WIN student Champions highlighted as requiring specific focus on.

The WIN Champions explained that *'time is needed to build rapport'*, where *'the focus of the sessions should be on motivation – what keeps us on track and what trips us up'* and that *'we need a series of workshops over a number of weeks to explore this in enough depth'*, coming up with the name 'Building Blocks'.

WIN Project Officers worked with a small group of 12 NCOP students, over a number of weeks, enabling the sessions to be tailored according to the student's needs, and reactive to any gaps in HE awareness. The sessions were very interactive, with the small informal group setting creating a safe space for the students to explore personal goals, and consider what helps/ prevents them from achieving what they want in life. Suzanna Worboys, WIN PO said that *"feedback from both students and staff has been really positive and working in this way has allowed us to see a real development in individual students"*.

If you would like more information about these sessions, please contact Suzanna Worboys sjw219@bath.ac.uk or Rosie Fellows r.fellows@bathspa.ac.uk

Scores on the doors!

Great start to academic year 19/20!

1,170 contact hours have been delivered

905 baseline surveys completed

348 NCOP students have taken part in activities

294 Activities have taken place including:

91 Career Pilot 1:1s

48 HEA 1:1s

21 Study skills sessions

6 Personal Development sessions

3 Employability sessions

2 Parent group sessions

Mentoring opportunities galore!



WIN students at Hayesfield Girls' School and Ralph Allen School recently had the opportunity to participate in the West of England Mentoring Programme and were teamed up with Nationwide Building Society and Novia. The programme works with up to twenty Year 9 and 10 students who attend 6 x 2 hour sessions in the workplace. Examples of activities included 'Positive Role Models', 'Hopes and Dreams' and 'CV Building'. Particularly interesting for those students visiting Nationwide, were the different routes and pathways that employers took in their careers and the barriers and resilience involved. Niki Turner, WIN HE Adviser said that *"It was clear from the feedback from students and from observing the sessions, that the students built a really good rapport with the mentors. The students were very engaged in these sessions"*.

The mentoring sessions impacted students in the following way:

100% students were more confident having taken part, 50% stating they were a lot more confident

86% of students said they were better at taking part in discussions

57% of students said they had learned how to make decisions for themselves

100% said they had learned about careers (64% said they had learnt a lot)

100% said they had learned about the skills needed for work

43% said their plans for post GCSE had changed since being mentored.



Year 10 Kingsbury Green Academy WIN students had an amazing opportunity to join up with Herman Miller, also as part of the West of England Mentoring Scheme.

Cath Young, WIN HE Adviser said *"It was great to see the students' confidence grow throughout the programme, as they built up relationships with inspirational role models and became able to identify their own skills and realise their own potential. Through this programme, these students have had an invaluable insight into the world of work. The support, guidance and encouragement they received has increased their self-esteem and improved their understanding of the actions they can take to open up future career choices and paths"*.

If you have some news or would like to promote an article in the next WIN Newsletter, then please email a.williams2@bath.ac.uk