

Enterprise Team (Biscuits)

Visit Foxholes Care home, Hitchin

13th July 2023



GB4 (Linking careers to the curriculum)

GB 5 (Encounters with Employers and Employees)

During the past academic year, Hailey Hall has been in an Enterprise project, in partnership with Foxholes Care Home in Hitchin. This is a result of a conversation with Neeti whose family owns and runs Foxholes, and myself. She very kindly offered to support an Enterprise project which involved students from Hailey Hall making plain shortbread and Choc chip shortbread biscuits and selling them at the care home for their restaurant. The care home has many family members and visitors that use the facilities and often have small snacks in the gardens.

With support from Shelley Long (Food tech), she has encouraged students to attend an enrichment club on a Wednesday and to make the biscuits. The students learn about the ingredients that are required, the correct way to weigh out the recipe, how to order ingredients, how to pack, use a vacuum sealer and discuss how they are transported, the journey of a biscuit from simple flour to being eaten by a customer. This enables students to understand the chain of events in making biscuits to sell them for a profit. The biscuits are sold for £2 per packet (2 biscuits in each bag) Then the care home is invoiced accordingly by Hailey Hall's school finance office. All profits then go towards the Food tech department buying extra resources to be used by other students at the school, such as Food Hygiene courses at both Level 1 and Level 2.

On Thursday 13h July 2023 four students (AL, CCW, RS BC) with Ms Shelley Long and myself boarded the school minibus and made our way to the care home in Hitchin.

On arrival we were met by Neeti who showed us around the care home and facilities, The care home is spread over 4 floors and each floor is independent regarding various lounges, restaurants, bathrooms, medical facilities, and communal rooms. It has large well-manicured gardens with wheelchair access, Stables with horses adjacent to the gardens, free-range chickens that they are able to sell free-range eggs to visitors, a library (with a full-size Pool table), a Hair salon, and specially adapted bathrooms with winches to help less able residents to be able to bath safely. We were shown a typical room with fitted

wardrobes, a Motorised bed to adjust as appropriate, an En-suite Shower room, and Toilet facilities.

A Zumba class was going on as a Morning activity in the main hall and Shelley and myself were encouraged to take part which we gladly did to the embarrassment of our students.

The boys were offered a refreshing drink in the library where Neeti explained the history of the home and plans for extensions In the future. With an aging population, there will be more need for such homes. She discussed possible employment routes into hers and many other care homes. They have a full-time staff of over 80 people and there are about 40 people on-site at any one time doing many varied jobs that are needed to run a successful Care Home.

There are about 80 residents currently in the home with the youngest in their early 70s and the eldest a resident of 106.

At the end of the visit, the highlight for the pupils was being given unlimited access to the ice cream parlour and the pupils were able to help themselves to ice cream cones and toppings.

It was time to leave, and the students gave their thanks to Neeti and the staff. They were well-behaved and a credit to Hailey Hall. We returned to Hailey Hall and the students continued on their timetables.

Thanks to Neeti and Shelley regarding the success of this project and we look forward to continuing our partnership in the next Academic year in September.



Peter Gregory

Careers Lead