Year 8 Students Visit

Hertford Fire Station: 20th June 2024

Gatsby Benchmark 5 (Encounters with employers and employees)

Gatsby Benchmark 6 (Experiences of workplaces)



Exploring Firefighting Equipment and Career Pathways

On Thursday 20th June 2024, Our Year 8 students had the exciting opportunity to visit Hertford Fire Station. Hertford, This educational trip aimed to provide insights into the daily operations of a fire station, the equipment used by firefighters, and the various career pathways within the fire service.

Highlights of the Visit:

- 1. Understanding the Fire Tender:
- 2.









- **Equipment Demonstration:** Students were introduced to the fire tender, an essential vehicle in firefighting operations. They observed the various tools and equipment stored in the tender, including hoses, ladders, and rescue gear.
- **Live Demonstration:** Firefighters conducted live demonstrations, showcasing how they use different equipment during emergencies. This included a display of the powerful water hoses and the hydraulic rescue tools used in car accidents.

2. Career Pathways in the Fire Service:

- **Roles and Responsibilities:** Firefighters discussed the diverse roles within the fire service, from frontline firefighting to fire safety education and fire investigation.
- **Training and Qualifications:** Students learned about the rigorous training process and qualifications required to become a firefighter. The session highlighted the importance of physical fitness, teamwork, and continuous professional development.
- Career Opportunities: Information was provided on various career opportunities, including roles in community fire safety, technical rescue, and leadership positions within the fire service. Special thanks to Firefighter Kim who gave an inspirational talk on her pathway from being a troubled teenager who dropped out of school because of being diagnosed with ADHD, Chef, Working for the USA Airforce to a Hertfordshire Firefighter





3. Fire Safety Education:

- **Home Safety Tips:** Firefighters emphasized the importance of fire safety at home. Students were given practical tips on preventing fires, such as ensuring smoke alarms are functional and having an escape plan.
- **Emergency Procedures:** The importance of knowing emergency procedures, such as the "Stop, Drop, and Roll" technique, was reiterated to ensure students know how to react in case of a fire.

Interactive Experience:

- Q&A Session: The visit included a Q&A session where students could ask firefighters about their experiences and challenges faced in their line of
 duty.
- Hands-On Activities: Some students had the chance to try on firefighting gear, giving them a feel for the weight and mobility constraints faced by firefighters.

The visit to Hertford Fire Station was an enlightening experience for the Year 8 students, providing them with a greater appreciation of the skills and dedication required in the fire service. It also inspired some students to consider a future career in firefighting or related fields. This trip not only enhanced their understanding of fire safety but also encouraged them to think about their future career aspirations.

The students engaged with the trip and behaved well and enjoyed using the fire hoses.

My thanks to Jack, Emma and Sean and Coral from SFYP for support on the day.

Peter Gregory, Careers Lead, Hailey Hall School

