

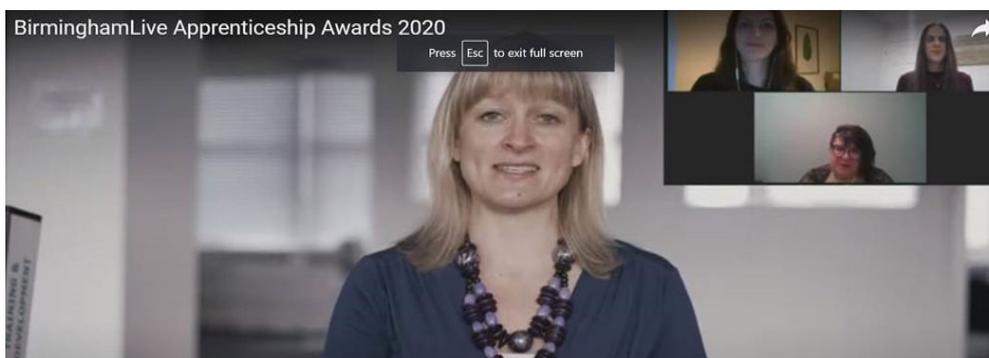
# Education Engagement Award

Chase Terrace Academy were delighted to be shortlisted as finalists for the Birmingham and Solihull Ladder for Apprenticeships Awards 'Educational Engagement Provider of the Year 2020'.



The live event was last week where some staff, students and parents were invited to join us and celebrate. You can see a screen shot below with Mrs Poppleton who was nervously awaiting for the winner to be announced.

We didn't sadly win but it was an honour to have been acknowledged and shortlisted out of 150 applicants down to the last 3 against big corporate global giants like PwC with PwC who claimed victory on the evening.



Finalists 'Education Engagement Award' sponsored by Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership:

- Make UK
- PwC
- Stephen Sutton Multi Academy Trust

<https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/birmingham-apprenticeship-awards-2020-finalists-19137719>



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# Student Alumni

In our previous newsletter, we featured former student alumni who had been back to share their career journeys and offer advice to current students after leaving CTA. Here we feature a few more...



## Engineering Apprentice, Brandon Wilkes, at Aston Martin Lagonda.

Former student Brandon, shares his experiences about being an apprentice with Aston Martin.

"I am an Apprentice at Aston Martin, having joined in September 2017 from Chase Terrace Academy. I have experienced many areas as I currently rotate areas every few months at Aston Martin which included Trim & Final Assembly, Trim Shop, Manufacturing Business Operations, Advanced Manufacturing Engineering, Materials Development, Powertrain Calibration and New Model Quality. This exposure to the business has helped me develop as an upcoming engineer learning many new skills required for an engineering role at such a luxury and high profile brand. I have also used skills learnt from GCSE Computer Science which includes Visual Basic to help me implement this into my role at Aston Martin. I have been an Apprentice for over 3 years and I am hoping to get a permanent role at Aston Martin next September within the Engineering function. I am also completing the DoE Gold Award as well as an NVQ Level 3, having previously completed a BTEC Level 3 Diploma in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering and I hope to continue my studies with Aston Martin after completion of the NVQ, aiming for a degree level qualification".

## Former Student Becomes Entrepreneur

Read on to find out how a former student Eleanor, started her own business 'Tribal Dreams'.

"My name is Eleanor Campion and I left Chase Terrace Academy Sixth Form in 2017. I initially began a career in Accountancy, which at that time, was something which I believed was the career for me. However, after my experiences of doing this for a few months, I realised this career was not for me. Therefore at the age of 19, I decided to take a bold step to go out alone and become an Entrepreneur and to set up my own business idea of 'Tribal Dreams'. I wanted this business to specialise in booking bespoke party planning for children and adults. I identified there was a gap in the market and due to the businesses early success, I expanded and decided to branch out into bell tents for outdoor occasions. This was a substantial risk given the business was in its first month, when the start of the Covid-19 pandemic and our first lockdown hit us. However, from that moment the business flourished and I was able to effectively build and establish my business. I now have bookings right up into 2021! I strongly believe that more young women like myself, need to be reminded that being a young female entrepreneur is an option. One which may not be promoted as much in society but one which will fill you with so much ambition and self-belief. I consider these to be key attributes to succeed in life. The process of starting your own business is a scary one but it is extremely worthwhile and I would recommend it to any young person today!

Facebook: @tribaldreamsuk Instagram: @tribaldreamsuk



## Student Alumni cont'd



ROB PETERS,  
TRAINING MANAGER



### Crown Highways and Former Student Michael Pepper

Chase Terrace Academy pride themselves on the relationships they have built with the local business community and employers.

Our Director of Career Julie Poppleton and Managing Director Jason Challinor from our onsite employer 'Valyou recruitment', met for the first time with Rob Peters the Training Manager from Crown Highways. Crown Highways Limited are a Burntwood based leading specialist contractor, who offer Civil Engineering, Road Lighting & Electrical and Technology services to wide range of clients across the UK. They are member of the 'The 5% Club' which is a collaborative movement between employers who are committed to employing more apprentices to develop their workforce. Rob Peters has committed his support to the students of CTA with work experience and to support any upcoming careers events and student mock interviews. We also caught up with news from one of our former students from CTA, Michael Pepper who is one of Crown Highways apprentices. Michael Pepper of Crown Highways was nominated in the Chamber of Commerce 'Future Face of Industry category' and has clearly done well since leaving us at CTA. He has agreed to give us an interview which we can hopefully feature in our next Newsletter. We are looking forward to working with another local committed employer.



### Dylan Pickin, Valyou Recruitment, Former Student and CTA New Careers and Enterprise Advisor

Another student we are proud to feature can also boast a fantastic careers journey since leaving Chase Terrace Academy.

Dylan started doing some work experience with Valyou from Year 10 and following the success of this and how impressed they were with him, they offered him an apprenticeship. Dylan successfully completed this and during his apprenticeship he was shortlisted as 'Apprentice of the Year 2019' with the Birmingham and Solihull Ladder. At the age of 18, he has now become the youngest Enterprise Advisor for the Careers and Enterprise Company and is supporting CTA in his new role. He recently met with our student leadership team to get some student voice about work experience especially given the challenge of Covid. They gave some great suggestions for a new framework and a new work experience model has been launched. This has already seen two new Year 13 students who have started.



### Accountancy or Business Degree Apprenticeship

Ruby Dennis is interested in securing a Degree Apprenticeship in either Accountancy or Business. As part of Ruby Dennis' work experience with 'Valyou', she got the opportunity for some off site experience at 'Drotlor Plant Limited' in Tamworth. Following meeting with the staff and the opportunity for some professional discussions and answering her questions, she then got to sit in the plant machinery!



### Civil Engineering

Molly Kinsella is currently in the process of making some University applications. Molly is interested in either Business or Civil Engineering. She is looking forward to the opportunity of having some off site work experience and to visit some sites and meet with some Civil Engineers.



THE **CAREERS & ENTERPRISE** COMPANY

**Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire**  
Enterprise Partnership

# Careers & Enterprise Company and the Stoke and Staffs Careers Hub

Why we do what we do...

## The Careers and Enterprise Company

"Research shows that young people who have 4 or more encounters with the world of work while in education are 86% less likely to be NEET (not in education, employment or training) and on average will go on to earn 18% more than their peers who did not have such opportunities. So we know this funding is making a real difference to employment outcomes for young people and the future of our economy."

## What is a Careers Hub?

A Careers Hub is a group of secondary schools and colleges in a dedicated area who work together to deliver the Gatsby Benchmarks. Collaborating with business partners, the public, education and voluntary sectors, they help deliver the Gatsby Benchmarks and improve careers outcomes for young people.

Members of a Hub should have a shared vision of how they'll work together to improve outcomes for the young people in their area. Careers Hubs are a central part of the government's Careers Strategy, published in December 2017, with local schools and colleges working alongside universities, training providers, employers and careers professionals to improve careers education.

CTA share the same mission to prepare and inspire young people for the fast changing world of work.

CTA are delighted to have been chosen to be the lead school for the Stoke and Staffs Careers Hub.

Mrs Poppleton will be offering her insights, sharing good practice and offering advice to the 81 Schools and Colleges in the hub regarding their school/college careers education.



## KPMG Work Experience

Following the success of the pilot project in 2019 with global company KPMG, we were delighted to run this project again with Year 10.

With a deadline of the end of July 2020, Year 10 students were invited to apply by submitting a CV and a letter of application to express their interest and why should they be chosen for this prestigious one week work experience opportunity at KPMG Corporate office in Birmingham in 2021. There were 4 students who were successfully shortlisted and interviewed. The shortlisted students were, Caitlin Hamill, Luke Matheson, Kirsten Payne and Sophie Griffin. There were two phases to the day in September with students being paired to plan and deliver a presentation and then an individual interview with a panel of judges. The title they were given by Peter Workman partner of KPMG to prepare a presentation was 'The impacts of the COVID19 pandemic on the UK and Global Economy will be wide ranging and long lasting. Which businesses will thrive and which will struggle in the post-COVID19 'New Reality'?

The panel were extremely impressed with all 4 candidates who were clearly very well prepared and delivered some excellent presentations. They all interviewed very well, making this very hard on the judges to make a decision! It was very close but in the end Pete Workman chose Luke Matheson for this opportunity which Luke was absolutely delighted with well done!

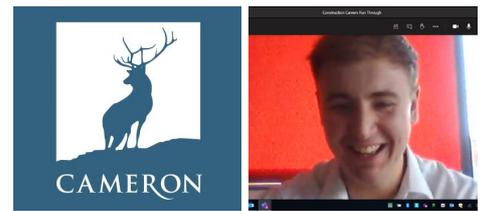
Congratulations to all of you for putting yourself forward for this lucrative opportunity. We look forward to hearing how you get on next year Luke!

# Virtual Work Experience

As part of our new model of virtually engaging with employers, Molly Kinsella Year 13 met with Quantity Surveyor Rob Bourne from 'Cameron Homes'.

Rob shared his valued time and experiences of working in the construction industry with Molly. He shared his careers journey including the routes and path he personally has taken. Molly really valued the opportunity to ask questions and gain his insights and advice for working in this sector.

Mrs Poppleton asked Rob if he had one piece of advice that he would give to his 15 year old self what would that be. He answered with some great advice which is perfect advice for any of our students. ' I would tell myself that hard work really does pay off, keep believing in yourself, put your mind to what you want to do and don't give up !''



Another student who has engaged with in virtual work experience with Airbus in December 2020, is Sophie Young.

Airbus are an international pioneer in sustainable aerospace for a safe and united world. They design, manufacture and deliver industry-leading commercial aircraft, helicopters, military transports, satellites and launch vehicles, as well as providing data services, navigation, secure communications, urban mobility and other solutions for customers on a global scale. Sophie has had the aspiration of wanting to pursue a career in Aerospace Engineering for a long time and she is currently making applications to secure a Degree Apprenticeship in this sector. Sophie had secured some on site work experience with Collins Aerospace during the summer which was sadly cancelled due to Covid. However, this opportunity will still provide her with some valuable insights and advice and guidance to support her into pursuing this as a career.



## Sixth Form Open Event, College Virtual Open Days and Career Video Links on the CTA Website

Like so many other things in 2020, Covid also changed how we hosted our traditional Sixth Form November open event.

However, the staff have really pulled together and have produced some fantastic virtual advice for you with videos you can access on our website with details of how and when you need to apply by.

- <https://chaseterraceacademy.co.uk/sixth-form/sixth-form-open-evening/>

We were supported by Employers and Universities who also kindly recorded some videos for parents and students to access for advice and guidance which are again on our website:

- <https://chaseterraceacademy.co.uk/sixth-form/post-18-careers-information/>

The next round of virtual College open days are also available for you to now book onto directly as applications are now open.

- <https://www.southstaffs.ac.uk/open-days/>
- <https://www.walsallcollege.ac.uk/event/walsall-college-january-open-day-2/>
- <https://nscg.ac.uk/stafford-campus/events>
- <https://www.bmet.ac.uk/open-events-enrolment/future-events/>

