



# Tomlinscote School Newsletter

13th February  
2026



Dear Parents & Carers,

As we come to the end of this Spring half-term never have our core values of excellence, community, perseverance, character and progression felt more important. Our students have demonstrated these in so many ways the past few weeks and we could not be more proud of them. As always there are members of our school community whom we would encourage to focus on a bit more on some of these values so they can continue striving to be the best version of themselves.

I mentioned last week about some of the values of the Winter Olympics and our school values mirror these in so many ways. On that note thank you to all parents / carers who attended the Year 9 progress evening last night. It was a pleasure to welcome so many of you to the school and I hope the productive conversations prove useful. It is the turn this week for Year 10 students receiving their projected grade reports —again please do take the time to discuss these reports with your child so together we can help steer them in the right direction moving forwards.

Please see attached our careers newsletter. In this edition, our "Careers Feature" focuses on the diverse world of Psychology. As one of the most versatile subjects available, Psychology remains a firm favourite at A-Level, offering students a gateway into a wide variety of professional sectors.

As I close, we are aware that a range of tragic recent events in the community may have had an impact on our students and families — please see overleaf for support you can access if required.

Thank you for your continued care for one another. We wish all of our families a peaceful and restorative half-term break.

Miss Harrison

## Key Dates

### **Fri 13th Feb**

Year 10 projected grade reports sent home

### **Mon 16th - Fri 20th Feb**

Half Term

### **Mon 23rd Feb**

- **Fri 6th Mar**

Year 11 Mock exams

### **Fri 27th Feb**

Year 9 Options Choice deadline

### **Sat 28th Feb**

Yr 10/11 Duke of Edinburgh training

### **Fri 6th March**

Year 7 reports sent home



As we approach the half-term break, we are aware that recent events in the local area may have left some students and families feeling unsettled or emotional. We wanted to take a moment to remind you that the wellbeing of our young people is our priority and we have support available for anyone who needs it.

As we enter the holiday, we encourage families to take care of themselves and each other. If your child is feeling worried, low, or impacted by recent news, the following services can offer support:

**Winston's Wish** – guidance for supporting children and young people dealing with grief or emotional distress: <https://www.winstonswish.org/>

**Cruse Bereavement Support** – support for anyone dealing with loss: <https://www.cruse.org.uk/>

**MindWorks Surrey** – local mental health support for young people: <https://www.mindworks-surrey.org/>

If you have concerns about your child over half-term, please do get in touch when school reopens so we can make sure the right support is put in place. In urgent situations, please contact **111**, your GP, or emergency services.

# Tomlinscote Team Results

Year 8B Boys Football	V	Salesian College	<b>Score</b> 1-1	<b>Player of the Match</b> Thomas Younger
Year 7-9 Girls Basketball	V	District Tournament	<b>Result</b> 3rd	<b>Player of the Match</b> Amaya Hughes
Year 11 Boys Basketball	V	Robert May's School	<b>Score</b> 30-0	<b>Player of the Match</b>
Year 10 Netball	V	Weydon School	<b>Score</b> 12-9	<b>Player of the Match</b>
Year 7A Netball	V	Weydon School	<b>Score</b> 6-12	<b>Player of the Match</b>
Year 10 Boys Football	V	All Hallows Catholic School	<b>Score</b> 3-2	<b>Player of the Match</b> Theo Murray

All Team fixtures and results can be accessed on our Sports System:

[https://sport.tomlinscoteschool.com/Fixtures\\_Teams.asp?id=4438](https://sport.tomlinscoteschool.com/Fixtures_Teams.asp?id=4438)



Tomlinscote  
School

# UNIFORM STATION

*...your stop for free schoolwear...*

**12 March – 6:30-7:30pm in main hall**



*Planning a half term uniform clear-out?  
Donations of good condition newer logo  
jumpers, polo shirts, kilts, trousers, ties and PE  
kits gratefully received in preparation for our  
Uniform Station evening.*

*Please drop off at Reception between  
8:15-3:15 until **Friday 6 March.***

*Visit **Tomlinscote Uniform Station** Facebook  
group for more information...*

# THE PROSPECT TRUST CAREERS SERVICES NEWSLETTER



Discover - Engage - Become



**Welcome to our 3rd careers newsletter of this academic year.** It is tailored for pupils, parents and staff. We know that planning for life beyond the school gates is a team effort, and whether you are a student exploring options, a teacher linking curriculum to the workplace, or a parent supporting a child through their next steps, there is something here for you.

The world of work is changing faster than ever, and our goal is to provide the insights needed to navigate it with confidence. This month, we're diving deep into the fascinating and incredibly versatile world of careers using Psychology. In fact, Psychology is so versatile that it's even the "secret sauce" behind the role of a Careers Adviser! Being a Careers Adviser is about so much more than just ticking boxes or suggesting a list of jobs based on grades.

It's about understanding motivation, helping students overcome the "fear of the unknown," and building the resilience needed to chase long-term goals. We use psychological principles every day to help pupils unlock their potential and see past the labels to find a path that actually fits who they are.

It's **#SoMuchMoreThanTalkingAboutJobs**

Best Wishes, Nikki Coleman - Head of Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance.

## A WELCOME FROM YOUR CAREERS ADVISERS



Hello, we are Lorna Durbridge and Jane Owen, your Careers Advisers at **Tomlinscote School**.

Lorna will offer face to face meetings every Tuesday and Friday, and Jane will offer virtual appointments on Wednesdays and Thursdays.



Careers appointments take place in a dedicated space in the LRC.

Appointments are scheduled by the school and every student in Key Stage

4 will have the opportunity to have a careers discussion. Career summaries (My Next Steps) are shared with the students on their edulink account.

You can contact us for information by email at: [careers@prospecttrust.org.uk](mailto:careers@prospecttrust.org.uk) or by contacting Mrs H Khan at school.

## CAREERS RESOURCES

**Take a free [Career Cloud Quiz](#)** (Spartan Test). The test is a quick and simple, image based quiz to help you start thinking about and researching Apprenticeships, Degrees and careers.

**Take the [Buzz Quiz](#)** and in just a few minutes this fun quiz can help you:

- Discover your strengths and what makes you tick
- Understand how others may see you
- Explore subject choices and jobs that suit you

## Websites to help you with your career research:

[www.careerpilot.org.uk](http://www.careerpilot.org.uk)

[www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com)

[www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk](http://www.nationalcareers.service.gov.uk)

[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

[Pathways Explore](#)

[Explore your education and training choices](#) - National Careers Service

[Click here](#) for more information on the **World Economic Forum Future of Jobs Report 2025**

## Resources for parents:

[Apprenticeship Levels explained](#)

[Qualification routes and levels explained](#)

[T-Level subjects](#)

A parents' toolkit for career conversations:

[Talking Futures](#)

[Careermag for Parents, Carers and Guardians](#)

[Apprenticeships: Hints & Tips for Parents & Carers](#)

[Parent and Carer Guide to Careers in the Screen Industries](#)

## WHAT ARE APPRENTICESHIPS?

Apprenticeships enable you to earn and learn at the same time, gaining a nationally recognised qualification. They are open to anyone over the age of 16.



Discover - Engage - Become



Did you know that within **10 miles** of Tomlinscote School there are currently **64 apprenticeships** being advertised?

**Click on the picture below** and read the one-page guide to uncover the 5 steps you can take if you think you are interested in apprenticeships.



Check the [Gov.UK webpages](https://www.gov.uk) for more information, or [watch this video from Amazing Apprenticeships](#).

Read the article from HigherIn on the [Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers for 2025](#)



**Parents and Carers** can download the [Hints & Tips for Parents & Carers](#) guide, or take a look at the [Parents and Carers Zone](#).

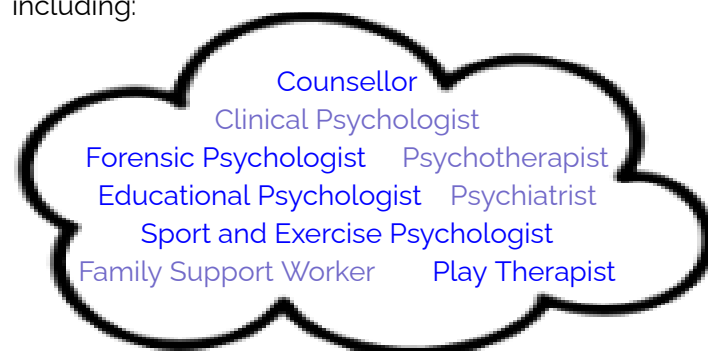
## CAREERS SPOTLIGHT Careers in Psychology



Do you have a passion for understanding how the human mind works and addressing social issues? A career in psychology could be your ideal path. Studying psychology opens doors to a wide range of careers in healthcare, education, research, and beyond. In fact, there are over **800** job profiles where psychology skills are useful!

## Job Roles in Psychology

There are numerous roles in the psychology sector, including:



## How to Begin a Career in Psychology

Your pathway into a psychology-related career will depend on the job role you choose. Most psychology careers require a degree in psychology and potentially further postgraduate study or professional training:

**Clinical or Forensic Psychologist:** Requires a psychology degree (preferably BPS-accredited) followed by postgraduate training.

**Counsellor or Psychotherapist:** Often requires relevant degree or diploma and supervised clinical experience.

**Psychiatrist:** Requires a medical degree and specialist training in psychiatry.

**Data Analyst or Market Researcher:** May require psychology plus statistics, maths, or data science experience.

## Alternative Routes and Apprenticeships

There are also apprenticeship routes that support progression into psychology-related careers:

- Healthcare Support Worker – Level 2
- Senior Healthcare Support Worker – Level 3
- Registered Nurse – Level 6
- Social Worker – Level 6



These can provide valuable work experience and a structured path into higher roles.



## **Key Skills for Psychology Careers**

Successful psychology professionals often demonstrate:

- Research and Analytical Skills
- Empathy and Active Listening
- Communication and Interpersonal Skills
- Mathematical and Data Handling Abilities
- Ethical Awareness
- Patience and Resilience

## **Education and Training Pathways**

Local colleges offer Level 3 pathways to help you prepare for a psychology-related degree:

- A-levels: Especially Psychology, Biology, Sociology, or Maths
- Vocational Courses: Such as Applied Psychology or Health and Social Care
- T Levels: In Health or Education and Childcare (depending on the role you're aiming for)



## **Useful Resources for Further Information**

British Psychological Society (BPS) -  
<https://www.bps.org.uk/>

National Careers Service -  
<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

UCAS - [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) (University Courses and Entry Requirements)  
[Prospects.ac.uk](http://Prospects.ac.uk)

Health Careers (NHS) -  
<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/>

## **WORK EXPERIENCE - YOU CAN'T BE WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE!**



Work experience helps you to learn new skills, decide what you do and do not like doing and supports you in choosing a future career.

Year 10 students will be completing a week of work experience 15th - 19th June 2026.

**Students: The deadline to submit your Grofar placement form for work experience on Grofar is Monday 13th April.**

See [this video](#) from The Careers & Enterprise Company which outlines why work experience is so important.

### **Calling all parents and carers - Can you help?**

We are always looking for employers to support us. If you or someone you know might be able to help, our friendly work experience team would be delighted to hear from you:  
[wex@prospecttrust.org.uk](mailto:wex@prospecttrust.org.uk)

### **Current virtual work experience opportunities:**

Virtual work experience and insight days can provide an overview of an industry and give a taster of the sorts of careers available. All of these include talks from those who work in the industry, plus live webinars and a certificate of completion.

## **FUTURES FOR ALL**

Lots of exciting virtual opportunities can be found on the [Futures For All](#) website, including:

### **Launch into the Space Sector -**

Age: 14 - 19

Industry: Engineering

Type: Virtual Insight Day

Date: 17 - 18/03/2026

Application Deadline: 24/02/2026

Timings: 10.00 - 14.30

Duration: 2 days

[Read more](#)

## **Dive into Data, AI and beyond - What is the science behind AI?**

Age: 14 - 19

Industry: Digital, IT & Computing

Type: Virtual work experience

Date: 20/03/2026

Application Deadline: 20/02/2026

Timings: 10:00 - 15:00

Duration: 1 day

[Read more](#)



Have a look at the [Springpod](#) virtual work experience platform for upcoming opportunities including:

## **Dunelm: Careers, Skills & Opportunities**

Open to anyone aged 13+, this interactive experience allows you to step inside one of the UK's favourite homewares retailers, Dunelm.

You'll gain a deeper understanding of how a big business operates and what it takes to succeed in the world of retail. It covers important topics such as:

- In store and online merchandising
- How important is their head office?
- How do Dunelm get the right product to the right customer on time?
- How does Tech, Digital & Data help create better products?

[Start Now](#)

## **What does the BBC do?**

Open to anyone aged 13+, this virtual work experience programme will give you a real-world insight into what it's like to bring fresh, diverse content to millions of people every day on television, through audio and online across the UK and worldwide.

It covers important topics such as:

- Working in the creative industries
- Journalism and Production
- Business, Technology & Engineering
- Early Careers at the BBC

[Start Now](#)

## **LOCAL COLLEGES & SCHOOLS WITH SIXTH FORMS**



Upcoming Events and Open Days. You will need to book to attend these events, so book early to avoid disappointment.

### [Academy of Contemporary Music \(Guildford\)](#)

*Diploma Open Evening:*

Monday 23 March at 5.30pm

*Regular Campus tours are also available.*

### [Basingstoke College of Technology](#)

*Open Event:*

Monday 27 April

### [Bracknell and Wokingham College](#)

*Open Event:*

Wednesday 22 April

### [Farnborough College of Technology](#)

*Check the website for the latest events*

### [Guildford College](#)

*Open Events:*

Wednesday 25 February

Wednesday 22 April

### [Merrist Wood College](#)

*Open Event:*

Wednesday 6 May

## **GREAT OPPORTUNITY: Young Sports Journalist competition!**



Show off your writing skills and sporting know-how.

If you're aged 14-21, you can take part in Pitch Magazine's Young Sports Journalist competition and get your writing published in print and online.

[Click here](#) to find out more!