



Sixth Form Newsletter

November 2022

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Year 13 Results

Despite the disruption caused to learning during COVID-19, our students continue to impress us with their ability to adapt to these changing circumstances. This year's results only served to further reinforce what a fantastic group of talented, dedicated and resilient students they were.

Results across the Robert Carre Trust:

- 73.5% of grades were A*- B
- 99.1% of results were A*- D
- 100% of results were A*- E

The results that students achieved were a testament to their hard work throughout a challenging Sixth Form journey. A total of 33% of university applicants took up places at Russell Group Universities, while a total of 40% accepted places at Sutton Trust Universities. We're especially proud of our destination data, with all Year 13 students securing a place beyond Sixth Form and a handful of students opting to defer their place until the summer of 2023.





Sixth Form Destinations

90% of students submitted a UCAS application. Of this:

- 87% took up their Firm Choice
- 6% took up their Insurance Choice
- 5% took up a place through Clearing
- 2% chose not to take up their place or defer

Ten percent of the cohort applied for an apprenticeship or employment, some of which were dual applicants. One example of this is Hari Solanki who received five offers to study Accounting and Finance from Exeter, Leeds, Nottingham, Southampton and Warwick. Hari declined all offers following an offer from Grant Thornton UK LPP to complete a Level 7 Audit Apprenticeship. Hari is an example of a student who knew where he wanted to go but was flexible with how he might get there.

There are always mixed feelings when our students move on to their next steps, as we've worked closely with them for a large part of their education. Having said this, the sadness that they will no longer be with us in our school community is superseded by our pride in knowing that they are moving on to the next exciting chapter in their lives. We wish all of our ex-Carrensians all the success for the future.

Name	Destination	Course	
Jessamy Adamson	Nottingham	Law	
Saffron Brankin	Leeds Events Management		
Kieran Fowler	Sheffield	Medicine (Phase One)	
Lilly Gregory	King's College, London	Engineering	
Hugh Johnson	Newcastle	le Computer Science	
Alexia Johnson	Edinburgh	Astrophysics	
Charles Lee	Warwick Mathematics, Operational Rese		
Joel Pontin	Durham	Modern Languages & Cultures	
Ethan Robinson	Sheffield	Dental Surgery	
Hari Solanki	Grant Thornton UK LPP	Audit Apprenticeship (Level 7)	
Roman Williams	S Cambridge Modern & Medieval Languages		
Hannah Speight	Nottingham	Medicine	



Carre's Alumni: Hari Solanki

My interests and career aspirations in accountancy began when I was contemplating which A levels to choose. I knew of my skill set and that it aligned with numbers so chose to complete work experience within the accountancy department at DWP. I spoke to accountants and tried out the software they used. I knew after this experience that this was my career path. In Year 13, I began to research and submit several apprenticeship applications often all with their own unique and complex recruitment processes. These all differed and had a variation of application stages and interviews. I applied to several large organisations as I would advocate it is much better to have a portfolio of businesses to apply to rather than just streamlining one or two. For each application, most needed a relevant CV; after this the usual recruitment processes consisted of personality quizzes and basic arithmetic tests, attending assessment centers and the interview stage. Some interviews consisted of a variety of stages & levels i.e., group interviews, panel interviews and delivering presentations. I applied for my apprenticeships in early November and that is considered quite late so many of the positions I wanted had gone. My best advice would be to apply in early October if you know what you want.

On the 8th February 2022, I was offered a degree level apprenticeship at a company called Grant Thornton. This is the 5th biggest accountancy firm in the world employing over 62,000 people with a revenue of \$6.6 billion in the last financial year. They offer services in audit, tax, advisory and forensics in 140 countries to a wide variety of clients, many of whom you'd encounter daily. I work in the office 5 days a week including optional working from home. This includes intermittent periods of study towards my Level 4 AAT exams and after 2 years, my Level 7 ACA exams.

The apprenticeship option always appealed to me, having completed all my early research, insight, and on-site experience in the world of accountancy. Ironically if I accepted & attended university for 3-4 years and subsequently apply for accountancy roles, I am less likely to receive offers as companies in today's employment climate prefer the school leaver route, equally to get qualified I'd still need 3 years' worth of training. This apprenticeship route is designed to gain degree level qualification a year earlier, without any burden of paying off student debt further down the line. Receiving a salary whilst learning alongside ample company benefits and a pension was also very appealing! Even though I was adamant on an apprenticeship, I still applied for university as a backup plan. This included writing a strong personal statement to attract the universities I was interested in. My thinking around this backup plan was to ensure I covered all contingencies and unexpected eventualities. Even though opportunities for apprenticeships are growing, it cannot keep up with the increasing demand making them extremely difficult to get into. In my case, I was lucky to be in a position where I had the opportunity to decline one of my apprenticeships offers and all 5 university offers to pursue my desired choice of a career with Grant Thornton.

I am currently in my 2nd month working for Grant Thornton and feel proud of finally contributing to the world of work and hopefully making a difference for society. Confidently using everything I achieved and learnt during all my years with Carre's into practice. Although the assessments for my qualification are intense and involve a lot of hard work it is what I envisaged & expected, however I feel well supported by my peers, colleagues, and my organisation.

Overall, I believe I made the correct decision in pursuing what I wanted to do and Carre's helped me to access this through the support and guidance offered by my Head of Sixth Form and form tutor. Despite being streamlined into the apprenticeship route, having the university offers there as a backup not only acted as a Plan B but also put my mind at rest as even after 3 apprenticeship rejections, I remained in high spirits and got exactly where I wanted to be with the correct levels of perseverance and determination. I would thoroughly recommend this option when considered your career path and future aspirations and goals.







As Head Boy, I strive to represent the student voice alongside the rest of the Senior Prefect Team and Student Council, utilising our ideas to further enrich the school's learning environment and maintain the strong sense of community we have here at Carre's. I am currently studying Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry alongside my EPQ at A-Level, and I intend to continue my studies at university post-Sixth Form.

I have strived to lead on from the impactful work of the previous Senior Prefect Team by helping to implement initiatives, ensuring good communication throughout the school and Sleaford Joint Sixth Form, and continuing to prioritise mental wellbeing across the student body, working closely alongside the Wellbeing Ambassadors to help students to sustain a positive mindset.

I feel privileged to represent the student body at Carre's and am fortunate to work with the Senior Prefect Team as we continue to represent the student body.

Angus Head Boy As Head Girl at Carre's Grammar School, I endeavour to represent the student voice within the school alongside the Senior Prefect Team and School Council. From studying German, Fine Art and Photography at A Level, I know what it's like to genuinely enjoy a subject. For this reason, my remit is to oversee the Year 13 Subject Prefects running their support sessions, for both GCSE and A Level, and seeing the integration and communication between year groups, purely because of the enjoyment of a subject.

This year we are also communicating more with not only the School Council, but the student body too, so everyone knows exactly what we're doing to improve and build upon our school.

Myself and the rest of the Senior Prefect Team are really excited to carry through our responsibilities and represent all of you.

Meera Head Girl



Edward & Zosia Heads of School Council

Zosia

I'm Zosia and I am the Head of School Council along with Edward. I study Biology, Chemistry and Sociology at A-level with the aim of studying Medicine at University.

This year we have endeavoured to improve the functioning of the School Council and to champion the student voice with regards to issues that will benefit the school community. As well as helping to bringing about these improvements, this year one of our aims has been to keep the student body up to date with the work that the School Council and Senior Prefect Team are doing. I hope to make sure that pupils are aware of the actions we are taking and to provide feedback on our progress with the points raised during School Council meetings.

Working alongside the Senior Prefect Team, Edward and I have tried to further impact the school positively by raising the views of the student voice to Senior Staff. Carre's has strong sense of community and I feel privileged to be able to represent it in this role.

Edward

I'm Edward (not pictured). I take Physics, Maths and German for A Level and I am hoping to study Physics at University.

As Head of School Council, I collect student views and suggestions, to feed them back to the Senior Leadership Team, then action any approved initiatives with the appropriate staff members.

Along with being Head of School Council, I am part of the Senior Prefect Team, making sure that the two entities can work together towards a common goal. I relish the challenge of reviving the School Council, I endeavour to ensure that all students feel able to have a voice around school.

I hope to grow the School Council on core principles of contribution, consideration, communication, and collaboration:

Contribution: all students must feel able to and know how to contribute to the council in any form.

Consideration: all student ideas must be considered evenly and fairly.

Communication: students must be informed of and feel aware of what the Council is doing with their suggestions.

Collaboration: with the Senior Prefect Team, the Senior Leadership Team, and the student body - in a combined and unified approach.





Senior Prefect Team 2021-22

We are fortunate to have so many dedicated students in the Sixth Form and the departing Senior Prefect Team further exemplifies the qualities and values that we hold in such high regard. The Team demonstrated a commitment to their roles and liaised with Senior Staff to improve the experience for Sixth Form students and the whole student body. The Team can be proud of their role in helping to create the Wellbeing Ambassadors and the new Sixth Form study room. The Team leaves us with our admiration and thanks in playing such a pivotal role throughout the year.

Matt (Head Boy)

Matt has taken up a place with the Royal Navy, where he will serve as an officer.

Alexia (Head Girl)

Alexia has taken up a place to study Astrophysics at the University of Edinburgh.

James (Deputy Head Boy)

James has taken up a place to study Sport Performance Analysis at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Kieran (Deputy Head Boy)

Kieran has taken up a place to study Medicine (Phase One) at the University of Sheffield.

Jessamy (Deputy Head Girl)

Jessamy has taken up a place to study Law at the University of Nottingham.

Millie (Deputy Head Girl)

Millie has taken up a place to study Sport and Exercise Science at Newcastle University.

Post-18 Preparation

Supporting students to explore their future and to be aspirational is among the top priorities for the Sixth Form Team. Thinking about your future can be overwhelming for those who are not already secure with their post-18 thoughts, and we use our bi-weekly Core session, careers morning during tutor time (Thursday mornings) and Unifrog to help support students with exploring their future beyond Sixth Form.

For the first time this year, we have strategically mapped out Core sessions to link to activities taking place during tutor time. Unifrog is then used to reinforce these discussions, with all students having an account which is linked to their form tutor. Form tutors receive an email alert when students have completed a task, such as creating their university shortlist, enabling a supportive discussion to take place shortly afterwards.

Most activities with our Core programme related to Vision from our VESPA model, providing information and guidance to help students to make informed decisions. Our belief is that students should 'know where they want to go, but be flexible with how they get there'. Degree-level apprenticeships are becoming increasingly available, albeit highly competitive to gain, and students are advised to consider these as a potential option.

Core sessions are also used to reinforce some Personal Development themes, such as safe driving, illegal substance awareness and sexual health throughout the year. Students will also receive support and guidance with regards to voting, political ideologies, budgeting and finance, and much more. Our hope is that our students feel prepared for the world once they conclude their Sixth Form journey.

SIXTH FORM CORE 2022 - 2023

	DATE	YEAR	EVENT	GATSBY BENCHMARKS
TERM 1	Friday 9 September	12	Introduction to VESPA and Unifrog Mr Pickard	8
	Friday 16 September	13	Vision: Choosing the Right Course (and University) Newcastle University	3, 4, 7, 8
	Friday 23 September	12	Systems: Plagiarism & Referencing Mr Pickard	8
	Friday 30 September	13	Safe Driving Awareness	N/A
	Friday 7 October	12	Systems: Study Skills, Note Taking & Essay Writing University of Lincoln	3, 4, 7, 8
	Friday 14 October	13	Illegal Substance Awareness	N/A
TERM 2	Friday 4 November	13	Year 13 Exams	
	November .	12	Vision: Why go to <u>University</u> ? Mr Pickard (Upstairs Workroom) Group 1: 9:00-9:30; Group 2: 9:40-10:10	2, 3, 4, 7, 8
	Friday 11 November	13	No Core Session (Facility Unavailability)	N/A
	Friday 18 November	12	Vision: Gap Years Project Trust (Sports Hall)	2, 4, 5, 6, 7
	Friday 25 November	13	EPQ Presentations Mr Rooney (Room 43)	N/A
	Friday 2 December	12	Practice: Critical Thinking Bishop Grosseteste University	3, 4, 7, 8
	Friday 9 December	13	British Political System/Voting Mr Quinton (Upstairs Workroom) Group 1: 9:00-9:30; Group 2: 9:40-10:10	8
	Friday 16 December	12	No Core Session (Facility Unavailability)	N/A
TERM 3	Friday 6 January	12 13	Apprenticeships and Work Experience Natasha Simmons (Head of HR, Pilgrims)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
	Friday 13 January	12	Vision: Apprenticeship Awareness / Traineeships / Application & CV Workshop (Main School Hall) Group 1: 9:00-10:30; Group 2: 10:00-11:00 National Apprenticeship Service	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
	Friday 20 January	13	Vision: Apprentice Ambassadors National Apprenticeship Service	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
	Friday 27 January	12	Preparing for National Apprenticeship Week The Network	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
	Friday 3 February	13	Vision: Interview Success University of Lincoln	3, 4, 6, 7, 8
	Friday 10 February	12	Vision: Mock Assessment Centre Workshop National Apprenticeship Service (Upstairs Workroom)	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Sixth Form Core

Throughout the first three half terms, our students are fortunate enough to hear from a range of organisations and institutions on a range of topics that will support them with making informed decisions in the future, both in Sixth Form and beyond.

<u>Year 12</u>

- University of Lincoln (Study Skills, Note Taking & Essay Writing)
- Project Trust (Gap Years)
- Bishop Grosseteste University (Critical Thinking)
- Natasha Simmons (Head of HR at Pilgrims)
- National Apprenticeship Service (Traineeships, Applications, Assessment Centres)

<u>Year 13</u>

- Newcastle University (Choosing the Right University and Course)
- Natasha Simmons (Head of HR at Pilgrims)
- National Apprenticeship Service (Apprenticeships and Work Experience, Apprentice Ambassadors)
- University of Lincoln (Interview Success)



Wellbeing Ambassadors

There are 16 members of the Wellbeing Ambassador team in Year 13, who took over from the previous group and have already made significant progress. The first thing we did as a group was undertake training with members of the Student Support team, enabling us to understand what would be required of our role, especially on the practical level of meeting with students. We then also undertook online training to enhance what we had learnt which gave us a Mental Health Aware certificate. Our main focus is on meeting in one-on-one sessions with younger students who need someone to talk to, but don't necessarily feel comfortable approaching a member of staff.

These sessions began last year and are currently in the process of being organised again and so far have been a resounding success with both students and parents alike seeing the benefits of these meetings. We equally have other aims for this year which include improving our public profile around school by delivering assemblies on who we are and what we do.

These were delivered to the lower years and were great at giving us the opportunity to share with the younger years how to get in contact with us. In the upcoming weeks, we hope to deliver some more assemblies. One example that we are currently working on is to talk about the role of young carers and the struggles they may experience. We are also currently talking about the idea of setting up a club for young carers and forces families as a way for those students to get together and talk to people going through a similar thing to them and have a chance to relax.

Overall, our aim for this year is to leave the school better than when we started and improve the access to support for students. Hopefully, this progress will continue with the establishment of a new team at the end of this year. If any parents or students wish to contact us, please use the email cgswellbeingambassadors@carres.uk.

Also, keep a look out on Instagram as we are hoping to have an account set up there soon as a way for his to deliver information and keep people updated on the work we are doing.

Josh and Amelia Wellbeing Ambassadors



SJSF Open Evening

On Wednesday 19 October, the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form held its annual Open Evening to enable Year 11 students to speak with staff and students about their plans for next year, and to begin their journey with regards to exploring their post-16 plans. The event included a collaboration of Robert Carre Trust staff and students who were able to support Year 11 students to reflect upon their subject choices.

Senior Prefects from Carre's Grammar School and Kesteven and Sleaford High School spoke to parents and students about their experiences. They also reiterated that while making these decisions can feel daunting, staff are available to support our students through the process. Angus, Molly, Gabriella and Josh all spoke exceptionally well and we're incredibly proud of the talents, confident and reflective young people that they have become. As they will all admit, there are challenges and obstacles that will need to be navigated throughout Sixth Form but all of the resources, support and guidance is there to navigate these bumps in the road. Following these speeches, Mr Smith and Miss Chant (Heads of Sixth Form) provided advice and guidance about the pathways on offer, how to select the 'right' subjects and how to get the most out the evening.

Once this part of the evening had concluded, students and their parents were able to visit subject departments across the Robert Carre Trust to ask questions about the subjects that they may wish to take. The evening was a great success and really showcased why the Sixth Form community is regarded so highly by our students.



Post-18 Visits Day

On Friday 1 July, Year 12 students across the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form had the opportunity to visit the University of Sheffield, De Montford University or to attend the EPIC Centre to hear about apprenticeships and employment.

At the University of Sheffield and De Montford University, students listened to student ambassadors about university life, had a tour of the campus and received advice and guidance on the application process. Students received guidance about where their degree could take them, how to enhance their super-curricular activities, opportunities available during their studies, guidance on what admissions tutors look for and how to start their applications.

At the EPIC Centre, experts from industry, organisations and representatives from the National Apprenticeship Service took students through a series of workshops to support students' understanding of how to apply and the benefits of apprenticeships. Students were able to speak to companies that offer apprenticeships and were able to give them a copy of their Curriculum Vitae, either to provide guidance on how to improve it or for organisations to potentially considering offering an apprenticeship in the future.

Students reported that they found the visits day very useful, either in terms of confirming their choices or by supporting them with their decisions making process when exploring their future.



England Development Squad (Kayaking)

Milly started kayaking at aged 11 and her love for the sport continued to grow over time. In October 2018 she raced in the Hasler Finals (division 7) and finished 22nd out of 43, making her the 2nd fastest girl to finish. In August 2019 she then finished 13th in the National Marathon Championships. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Milly focused on her solo performance in the 200m and 500m K1. She finished 2nd in both finals, achieving personal best times. Recently she has come 3rd in the Junior National Sprint Championships (500m) and 3rd in the Women's Under-18 National Marathon Championships (12 miles). Milly has established herself as part of the Women's England Development Squad.

On reflecting upon her recent success, Milly is confident for the year ahead. Milly reports that "I am really pleased with my progress since racing has started restarted after the pandemic. My coach at Lincoln Canoe Club has been very supportive throughout the year which has definitely played a part in my success this season. I recently came second in a regional marathon and received a promotion to Division Four which was actually my goal for next year! I am currently moving into winter training so I am looking forward to seeing where this may take me in my last season as a junior."

To add to her recent success, Milly was invited to the Sleaford Town Awards on Thursday 29 September to collect her award for Young Sports Individual Award (sponsored by William Alvey School).



National Cycling Success

Georgia is part of the Sleaford Wheelers and is also our Head Girl for Sport at Carre's Grammar School. Her love for cycling continues to grow and she now has her sights on continuing to compete at the national level, with ambitions of international representation a long term goal for the future.

Recently, Georgia has been competing in the National Championship Road Race Series. One of these races was the Junior Tour of the North West where she placed 14 overall on the General Classification, this being just one of the results which contributed to her being ranked 18 in the nation for the 2022 road race season. This is also her first year competing in this discipline against multiple Junior World Champions. She is looking forward to the 2023 season after being picked up by a team who will help her develop further as a rider and athlete.

More recently, she has gained national top 10 and 20 finishes and won a regional women's road race in Yorkshire. Georgia is also exploring universities at the minute and has been impressed by the cycling programmes at Loughborough and in Derby. Georgia hopes to continue her love of cycling by working towards continuing to compete while studying at university.





Year 12 student, Jack, has his sights on competing for Team GB in Japan. In the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form, Jack is studying Business Studies and Sport and Physical Activity.

In September, Jack competed in the selection shoot for the Great Britain Shooting Team. He finished in 2nd place in this selection event and will now have the opportunity to represent Great Britain by competing for Team GB in Japan if he finishes in the podium positions in one of the final two selection shoots.

On Saturday 8th October and Sunday 9th October, Jack shot at Nuthampstead in the UT British Grand Prix competition. Jack came away with 1st place in the Junior competition, resulting in the achievement of Junior GB Grand Prix Champion and the title of Junior Number 1. This is a fantastic achievement and conclusion to the season for this year for Jack. Well done.

Great Britain Selection Shoot





Sleaford Joint Sixth Form Prom

On Thursday 30 June, our students celebrated the conclusion of their Sixth Form journey at the Sleaford Joint Sixth Form Prom. The venue for this year's prom was the DoubleTree by Hilton by the Brayford Pool in Lincoln. The event was organised by the Senior Prefect Teams from Carre's, KSHS and St George's. The Teams worked together to organise the booking of the facility, menu choices, décor in the room and entertainment during the evening. Their hard work certainly paid off as the event was a huge success and more than made up for the fact that the students had missed the opportunity to enjoy a Year 11 prom due to the recent pandemic.

The evening began with a complimentary mocktail, before a three course meal for over 300 students. The Teams had organised for a photographer to take photos for students to remember the evening and a DJ to enable the students to enjoy the Prom late into the evening.







MP Visit

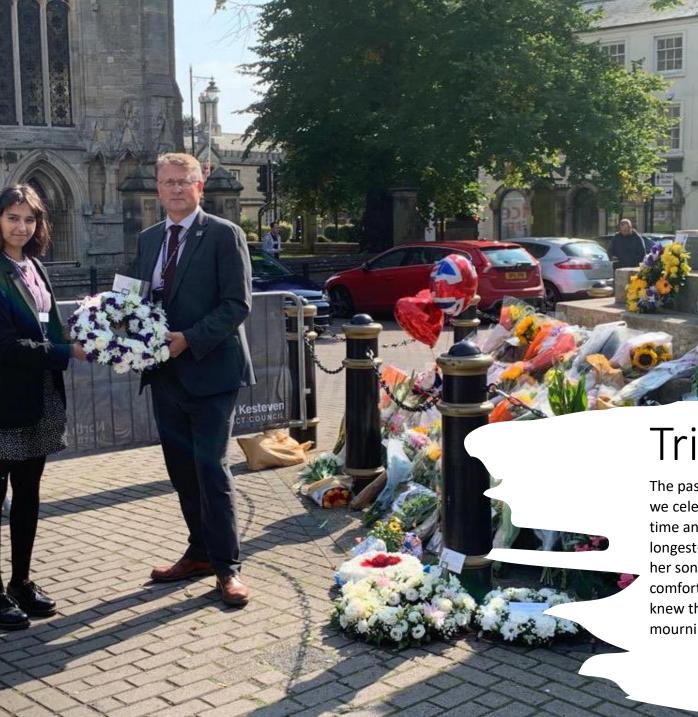
In the Summer term, Senior Prefects from Carre's Grammar School, Kesteven and Sleaford High School and St George's Academy had the opportunity to meet with local Member of Parliament, Dr Caroline Johnson. The students all appreciated the opportunity to discuss topical issues and to gain an insight into political decision making.

Edward (Head of School Council) found the experience insightful and appreciated the opportunity to reflect upon how local issues are considered on a national level. Edward said that: "I feel confident in saying that it was a valuable opportunity and experience for all of the Team, both in terms of developing skills and discussing opinions. It was an enjoyable experience and I hope the link between student leadership and politics can continue to be strengthened."

We're grateful to Dr Caroline Johnson for taking the time to meet with our students.









Tribute to HM The Queen

The passing of the Queen marked a period of mourning for many. As a school community, we celebrated the Queen's reign and mourned her passing through assemblies, during tutor time and laying down a wreath outside St Deny's Church. We reflected upon her life as the longest-serving Monarch in UK history and look to the future ahead under the new reign of her son, King Charles III. Coming together not only as a school, but as a nation, was comforting to many who truly needed the support the most. Most people alive today only knew the reign of Queen Elizabeth II, bringing people together, old or young, in a time of mourning but also respect for the life she devoted into our service.



Careers: Post-18 Decision Making

Deciding what to do beyond Sixth Form can be challenging for Sixth Form students, and parents and carers can be unsure of where to start when trying to offer help and guidance. To assist with this, Amazing Apprenticeships have released a Parent Perspective Podcast. Whether your child is looking to pursue and apprenticeship, traineeship, employment or university, the podcast series is designed to help. In October, episode three was released and is based around the topic of money: the cost involved, funding that might be available and whether a wage could possibly be earned.

The episode is hosted by Rachel Burden, who meets with Alison Dunn (CEO of The Citizens Advice Bureau), Sam Sykes (Digital Learning Manager at UCAS) and Anna Morrison (CBE, Director of Amazing Apprenticeships).

All episodes in the Parent Perspective Podcast series can be found here:

The Parent Perspective Podcast - Amazing Apprenticeships





Year 13 Leavers' (Summer 2022)