

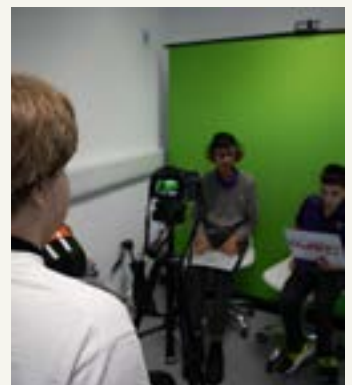
# THE GESHER GAZETTE

## Gesher Careers Week

From Cafes and Restaurants, to Hospitality and Hotel Management, Sports Coaching and Nutrition to the Media Room, our Gesher students have continued their "Day in the Life of..." training for the real world with our Careers Week, organised by Miss Jodi and Mr Aymane. Throughout the week, there has been a huge focus on transferrable skills and how these skills can support our children in their future careers.

We kicked off the week hearing from Leora Wilson, Co-Chair of the Department for Work and Pension's Apprenticeship Ambassador Network for London, who spoke of her experience as a neurodivergent worker and transferring skills into a supported apprenticeship. We also saw a JobMatch video where Miss Tammy mock-interviewed Miss Amy and Miss Echo for the role as Miss Tammy's new EA. Miss Echo did seem like she could be a good fit on paper, but ultimately Miss Amy was the person for the hypothetical "job".

Our Gesher Careers program is crafted alongside our Partnerships Program, which aims to create more opportunities for Neurodivergent workers and the skills they can bring into the workplace (and the world). Some of the older students are currently doing internal work experience with Gesher, which is helping to build confidence and prepare them for external work experience. Careers Week gives our students exposure and understanding about different jobs, in a safe environment, which allows them to lead in practice before exploring potential industries they might be interested in. Our desire is that more workplaces are equipped to support and employ Neurodivergent staff. If you'd like your workplace to get involved with creating safer and more inclusive spaces for Neurodivergent staff, reach out to our Careers Leads, Miss Jodi and Mr Aymane.



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12th June 2026

## Careers Day

A huge highlight from this week was our quarterly Careers Day. Our KS4 students played supportive and leadership roles, whilst the younger students participated in the activities.

Melanie from Tiferet joined Keren class and said that her highlight was “watching Keren do the different activities. It was interesting to see how they all approached the tasks in their own way”. She told the Geshher Gazette, that in the future she hopes to become an Art Therapist and today taught her about the importance of having patience. We found Melanie in the Nutri-Gesh space, which was led by Hodoya student, Yitzi. In this space, students practiced Hospitality tasks like proper handwashing, making food and creating a healthy, balanced plate.

Out in Geshher Gym, our students learned coaching skills like dribbling and shooting the basketball, agility skills with the soccer ball, and athlete fitness with an obstacle course.

Leon told us that Careers Day was both “amazing” and “fun”. “I liked working in the café, but really – I liked all of them”, whilst Poppy from Chitah also loved café, where she got to serve customers and pass along the orders, but her favourite was “working in the hotel”.



In the Geshcafé, students worked on their communication and teamwork skills, and were required to take orders, pass them onto the staff behind the counter, fulfil drink and food requests and deliver to the customer at the table. Hotel Management was a highlight for a lot of our students, where they supported guests through a hotel-style role-play by checking in guests at reception, portering, making drinks at the hotel bar and housekeeping, where they made the bed and cleaned the room.

There was even a Geshher laundromat where students learned to fold and sort clothes!

DG from Tiferet was tasked with being the supervisor for the Porterage team. In the future, DG hopes to work at Costa Coffee and then gain experience to move to Valencia and open a rescue shelter with a café. Whilst Brae in our Hodoya class isn't quite sure what he wants to be when he grows up, he supervised and ran the Sports Media interviews and enjoyed learning life skills to be a teacher and said his favourite part was, “probably being in front of people and teaching the class”. Engagement at our Careers Day was super high and the older students were so motivated to lead the younger students in their designated activities. Over the next few weeks, we hope to hear from our students with their key takeaways and what skills they have developed.

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## Careers Fair

We had many interesting conversations on Thursday at our Job Fair, where we heard from the community about the jobs they do, as well as Career Advisor who spoke with our KS4 students about their next steps in tailored sessions. It was great to hear about the students sharing what transferrable skills they have! A special thank you to all the parents and friends of Gesher, who came to tell us about their fascinating jobs!



## First Aid

Our KS4 students met with Hafsa Dar from Mini First Aid Harrow, for an Intro to First Aid course. It was great seeing the students get involved and growing confidence to help, if they ever witnessed an emergency situation.



## Kodesh Corner

In this week's parsha (Torah portion), Shelach Lecha, the Jewish people are about to go into the land of Canaan (Israel) after receiving the 10 commandments. However, the 12 tribes each sent a leader as spies to see what Canaan is like instead of trusting Hashem. 10 of the spies returned with negative feedback based on their own interpretations of what they saw and the Jewish people decided they didn't want to enter the land that Hashem was giving to them on a plate. As a result, Hashem decided they would have to wait a further 40 years before having another opportunity to enter Canaan. Incredibly, over the next 3,500 (approx) years till now, humanity has not changed much and we sometimes still fall into the same traps that the Jewish people did back then - jumping to conclusions; believing everything we hear; and thinking we know better. With awful events happening throughout the UK and around the world, maybe this can remind us that the loudest voices in society are not always the right voice; the most popular actions in society are not always the best action; and the biggest rewards are not always the greatest reward. May Hashem bless us with the understanding to know the difference and make the right decisions in our life. Shabbat Shalom.

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## Announcements

### Staff News

Today is Miss Hannah's last day with us as she prepares to move back to New Zealand. Please join us in thanking Miss Hannah for all her hard work and dedication, and in wishing her every success and happiness in this next chapter. We will miss you Miss Hannah!

We're very pleased to announce that Miss Alex, Speech & Language Therapist, will be joining the team from Monday 29th June. Miss Alex joins us from another specialist school and has experience in supporting students with a wide range of special educational needs. Please join us in giving Miss Alex a warm Geshher welcome.

Today we say goodbye to Miss Vanessa, our School Office Manager. We'd like to say thank you to Miss Vanessa and wish her every success in her new role. If you know of any wonderful Office Managers who would like to join the team [please share this link](#).

### Family Support Worker

#### Parent Support Group

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent Support Group with Alison Riffkin last Thursday. Your support and participation are greatly appreciated. The next meeting will be held in the Autumn Term.

#### Survey

To help us shape this provision we would be very grateful if you could complete a short survey to help us understand which topics and session formats would be most useful for our families.

[Please complete the survey here](#).

The survey will take just a few minutes to complete. Thank you for your time and support.

## A Message from the Children's Commissioner, Rachel de Souza

Hi, my name is Rachel and my job is to hear from all children and young people in England.

As the Children's Commissioner I've launched this survey so you can have your say on what it's like to be a child or young person in England today. I will take your views to the Government, to help them make life better for children.

Everything you tell me will be kept private. You don't have to answer any question if you don't want to. There are no right or wrong answers. Just answer honestly!

To find out more, visit my [website](#). If your child would like to complete the survey, please use this link or there is a QR code [on the website](#).

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## Conversation Corner

The suggestions of Primary and Secondary conversation starters are for a guideline only, please do feel free to use both suggestions with your families. If you have any great ideas for conversation starters please email them to [Miss Victoria](#).

### Primary

If you could have any animal as a class pet, what would it be? Why?

### Secondary

If you could swap places with anyone in school for a day, who would it be and why?

## Mencap Funday

Haberdashers' Boys' School (in Hertfordshire).

Come along to our annual Mencap Funday!

This is a free event made specifically for children with learning disabilities that has been running for the past 10 years. This is a free, 4-hour event where children will be taken around by students and supported by external carers, while they can enjoy many activities. All that is required is a sign-up from parents/carers.

The Mencap Funday this year will involve; bouncy castle/inflatable assault course, pony riding, balloon animals, face painters, magicians, petting zoo, ice cream & candy floss, sensory rooms and more!

To register for a child to attend and to find out more information (such as the address, logistical information, etc) [please click here](#).

## External Professional Support Services

### Norwood

Norwood provides a range of early intervention groups and services and specialist help and advice to neurodiverse children and their families.

They provide a range of group and individual support to provide parents and grandparents with the skills and resilience to manage difficult circumstances and meet the needs of their children. They also have a range of groups and courses for families.

[Click here for more information](#).