

Teach First and the Worshipful Company of Butchers



October Committee Update

The start of a new school year heralds a fresh start for many, including our newest trainees who are beginning full-time in the classroom. For others, the challenges of previous terms will still be keenly felt. We're more determined than ever, with your support, to back the schools serving the most disadvantaged communities. So that those schools, and their pupils, can thrive in the face of adversity.

We were delighted to present to the Charities Committee last month, and to have the opportunity to celebrate our previous successes, as well as looking forwards to what we can achieve over the next three years. We are incredibly grateful that the Committee has chosen to continue our partnership for another three years. Together, we will continue to support those school and pupils most in need, whilst giving our pupils access to unique workplace opportunities. We are raising their aspirations and giving them the chance to fulfil their potential.

We look forward to our next three years of partnership, and to the real difference that we will make for our schools.

Our Recent Work with The Butchers Company:

Run the River

On Wednesday 21st September, runners, volunteers and supporters came together on the banks of the river Thames in London to see the return of Run the River to its iconic location. And between 19-25 September, hundreds of runners around the world took on their own route in a location of their choosing to help tear down hurdles for the poorest schoolchildren.

Overall, we had 1,845 runners across 59 countries, raising a massive £181,000.

After running a virtual-only event for two years it was a huge challenge to bring a hybrid-style event back to London. Without the support of our partners and volunteers, this would not have been possible. We are incredibly grateful to everyone that took part.

This year we were delighted to see another fantastic team from the Worshipful Company of Butchers. 60 members of the Company signed up to take part in our event, either virtually or in-person, raising over £2,000 for our work. This is a huge achievement, and we are so grateful to everyone who ran, walked, rowed or cycled 5 or 10k to support those schools most in need. We also really appreciate both Margaret, Steve and Lucy Thompson who joined the event to help run our bag drop station, the event would not be possible without such great volunteers.

Gressingham Assembly

This year we are excited to have started working alongside Gressingham whose staff kindly gave time out of their working day to talk about their business with local pupils. Staff from Gressingham joined the St Alban's Catholic High School assembly on Tuesday morning, giving an insight into their day-to-day work, and how they progressed in their careers. This was a great opportunity for our pupils, who really benefited from this presentation. We have had some fantastic initial feedback from the teachers involved:

"I had some great feedback from a Form Tutor who said that you were the best guest speaker we had had in school.

The students were also talking about it as they left the hall, and I ran a lunchtime talk and students were discussing your presentation there!

Thank you so much and I really look forward to building on the relationship between Gressingham Foods and St Albans."

We look forward to seeing how the relationship between Gressingham and St Albans develops, and we are incredibly grateful to the entire team from Gressingham who took the time to create such an inspirational assembly for our pupils.

Plans for the New Year

Harper Adams:

Over the last few years, we have worked closely with the Widening Participation team at Harper Adams. Harper Adams has since developed a strong relationship with Bishops' Castle Community Academy, a Teach First school that has previously visited Harper Adams, and benefited from a unique guest teacher lesson from their team.

On the 10th of November, Bishop's Castle is joining the Harper Adams Food Science Open Day. Gerald Shortland will also be attending. This is our first opportunity to trial when a business and school form an independent relationship, without the continued involvement of Teach First. This enables us to maximise the positive impact we can have on our pupils and give us a greater opportunity to work with a larger number of businesses. We look forward to updating the Committee after the Open Day and we know that the school and pupils are really excited about this opportunity.

Thank-you event:

On the 17th of November, Teach First are hosting a celebration of our partners. We have invited all of those who have supported our work over the last year. During the event guests will meet with teachers working on the frontline of our partner schools and hear exclusive updates and unique insights from our Executive Team and Trustees. They'll be sharing their favourite moments that you've helped make possible this year, and their ambitions for the year ahead.

We would like to welcome two members of the Livery to join this event, in recognition of our partnership. We'd be grateful to have a response by the 24th of October.

Guest Teacher Lesson:

As one of the activities in plan for next year, we're delighted that Professor Jude Capper and Lucianne Allen have agreed to give a guest teacher lesson. We have worked with Lucianne in the past and always arranged fantastic experiences for our pupils. We are sure that this lesson will be of huge interest to our schools and will be of great benefit to our pupils.

This lesson will take place in the new year, and we will soon start working with our schools to find suitable dates. We will keep the Company updated with our progress.

Workplace Visit:

Again, as we look to plan our school activities for the next year of partnership, we are keen to organise a further workplace visit. These are always a great opportunity for our pupils to experience a workplace and learn from people in a variety of roles.

We have previously worked with some great companies, who have all kindly offered to host another visit next year. We also look forward to working with some new companies within the Livery.

Coaching:

Our coaching programme offers our trainee teachers an opportunity to be coached by members of our partner organisations. This is an incredibly valuable partnership, which provides trainees with unbiased support through some of their everyday challenges.

We are delighted to hear that two members of the Livery, Nicola Chandler and Francesca Wyatt have already expressed an interest in joining the programme once applications open in April next year. Neither has taken part before, but we are sure they will provide fantastic coaching support. We will update the Livery once applications are open next year, and with a confirmation on the number of coaching places available to the Company.

Careers Expo:

In July this year we were delighted to again host our Careers Expo at the Butcher's Hall. This impressive venue is the perfect place to welcome our pupils and partners, and this year we had over 250 pupils from schools across London join us for the day.

As we continue our partnership into the next year, we would love to host our 2023 Careers Expo at the Butchers Hall. If it's available, we will be looking to host this in July 2023. We will be working with the team at Bovingdons over the coming weeks to confirm a date and will share this with the Committee as soon as possible. We would also like to welcome the Livery to host their own stand at the Expo, to introduce pupils to the many opportunities available in the food industry.

Conclusion:

I hope this overview gives an insight into just some of the activities we have planned for the next year. We are excited to continue our work together, bringing our pupils a unique insight into the food industry. Together, we will ensure they have the opportunities to fulfil their potential.

Georgina Pedley, Head of Trust and Foundations.