

HOSPITALITY CONNECT: SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our Spring 2024 bulletin, covering our latest news and the inspiring activities that have taken place between January and the end of April, between our hotelier and school partners in Greater Manchester.

In this issue we are also spotlighting the Springboard upcoming summer school and wonderful news that one of Wellacre's students won the Junior Bake off competition!

OUR NEWS -

Following our Winter 2023 bulletin, we are delighted to share that the Hospitality Connect community is steadily growing across the UK! Since January, regional projects have launched in Leeds, York, West and Central London. Up next is the Lake District and Cheshire launches - and at the start of the new school year Edinburgh, South Wales, Cheshire, Northeast England and Northern Ireland will also be joining our growing community.

We now induct all new hoteliers with training, to become Hospitality Connect Ambassadors - and we look forward to sharing the new pin badge soon with our Manchester hoteliers!



Adrian Ellis, Chair of Manchester Hoteliers Association and creator of the Hospitality Connect project had this to say:

"It is with great thanks to my fellow Hoteliers in the city for their continued support with Hospitality Connect.

It is wonderful to see the vast array of creative activities happening on property or in the schools around the city. With over 30 Hotels taking part this year, we thank the Hoteliers for opening their doors to school groups whether this be for bed making competitions, cookery classes, serving afternoon tea with the restaurant team or learning how to book a wedding.

These inspirational encounters are a great eye opener for students wanting to learn about hospitality and serve as great motivation for students wanting to go on and find out more about careers in hospitality."

For any queries on our Manchester project or regions developing the Hospitality Connect project model, please contact Laura on -

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DID YOU KNOW

We have a LinkedIn group for all the hoteliers, HR Managers and schools that are part of the project. You can join the conversation with fellow ambassadors [here](#).

ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN TERM 2:

With many thanks to our Hoteliers, HR Managers and staff teams that have provided feedback on the activities that have taken place between January and end of April, below are some of the highlights:

Abraham Moss are in the 3rd year of their partnership with Crown Plaza and Holiday Inn on Shudehill.

At the end of January, the food technology cohort visited Crown Plaza with their teacher to complete a carousel of activities alongside a behind the scenes tour and insight talks from staff. This trip is being repeated with the same group in May, at Holiday Inn so that the students can compare and reflect on this within the curriculum.

At the end of April, 3 students from Abraham Moss also had a work experience placement covering Conferencing, Food & Beverage and Guest Relations as well as spending some time HR, the Operational Manager and General Manager. The feedback was very positive with the students wishing it could have lasted longer than a week!

In further news from Abraham Moss, they have a significant rising interest from year 9 students choosing Hospitality as an option and have put on an extra class to meet demand! This is wonderful news and we wish the school all the best with their funding application to develop their food technology rooms with the Savoy Educational Trust.

All Saints Catholic College year 10 and 11 students have been busy visiting their hotelier partner, Novotel Manchester City Centre. Daniel Ward, Talent and Culture Manager feedback that the students toured the front and back of house and attended a range of workshops within the hotel including a housekeeping bedmaking competition and room checks, F&B silver service and a chefs practical demonstration.

Daniel said:

"Our school partnership with Year 10 and Year 11 pupils from All Saints Catholic Academy has sparked a curiosity towards the amazing

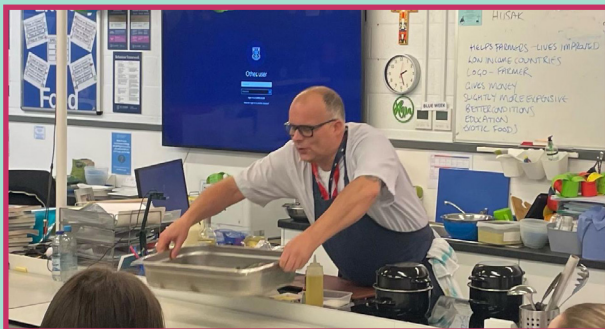
opportunities hospitality can bring. Thanks to our site visits, and departmental cross exposure activities, our hotels we are now oversubscribed for work experience placements (Summer 2024) with an exciting number of apprenticeship enquiries from school leavers! All of our team recognise the importance in out-reaching to the next generation of hospitality. The opportunity to share, inspire and discuss our industry brings just as much to our colleagues as it gives to our young people. There are definitely exciting times ahead!"

Crompton House have had a busy term with Kimpton Clock Tower, with 45 students visiting for a tour and carousel of activities including a chef demo in February. In March, the school then had a masterclass from Chef Tom Ince - they made shakshuka, roasted cheshire chicken, and chorizo spiced puy lentils. Chef covered how to prepare a chicken for sauté & cuts of vegetables including paysenne, brunoise, julienne, macedoine and j ardinere! The feedback from the teachers and students was very positive. Chef Tom said "the students very engaged, and helped with chopping to prepare for technical elements of their exams... and some were interested to know if I was watching the Altrincham game at the weekend!"



St James Roman Catholic High School have been very busy with their partners at the Doubletree by Hilton Manchester Airport Hotel both with supporting school-based events and opening their doors for group workplace visits. Jane Haselden, HR Manager had this to say: "We visited St James School on Friday 23rd Feb. Our Head Chef delivered a seafood masterclass to the students. We had live lobster, mussels, and clams. The class were taught how to prepare the items for cooking, how to cook and then they all had the opportunity to taste the food which went down a treat!"

Jane also supported the schools careers day in March to speak about the sector and occupations within the hotel. Three students are booked to complete work experience weeks at the venue in July and plans are afoot for 45 students to make a workplace visit with a carousel of practical activities!

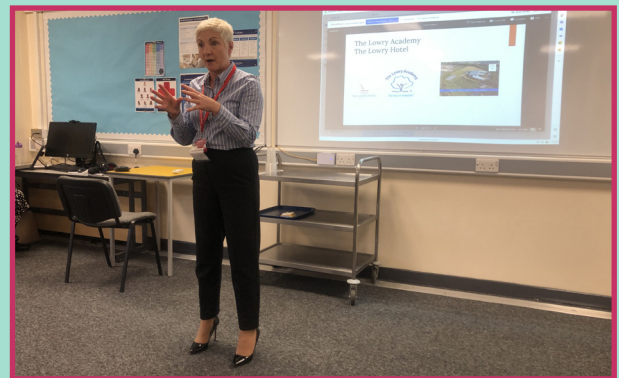


THE LOWRY HOTEL WITH THE LOWRY ACADEMY

The Lowry Hotel's partnership with the Lowry Academy school has gone from strength to strength this term. In February they had an events management workshop at the school led by Joe Paull Director of Revenue giving an

inspiring talk on the events team day-to-day roles and interesting requests they get from a variety of clientele.

The session was designed to develop understanding of the events management topic for the written element of their exam. Sharon Maddocks, Food Technology teacher at the school reported "the students written work during the workshop reflected a genuine sustained interest in the subject matter which resulted in work of a high standard. The students were challenged by targeted questions which evoked high level thinking, resulting in detailed answers which were well structured. This is a session we would love to repeat - the School and Hotel partnership is making such a difference to our student's experiences and learning!"



Did you know, each year in the Food Technology GCSE exam there is a 10–12 point question on the topic of event management? Running a talk and workshop between your school and your event manager can really help the students contextualise what they are learning in the curriculum to the real-life working world and apply that learning directly to the exam.

Manchester Communications Academy, partnered with Clayton Hotel in Manchester city centre - organised for a group of 15 students to come into the hotel for a full day and do an in-depth tour and carousel of activities in small groups. The students had an introduction to barista skills, mocktails and a few tricks in the kitchen as well led by the Chef team. The trips have been arranged over three months to suit capacity of the school and shows great partnership working. The school is also seeking internships for some students and Clayton are offering support with those placements.

Kingsway school in Cheadle partnered with Dakota Hotel Manchester – Katie, Head of Engagement, Learning and Development at Dakota described their recent visit to school to deliver a project brief to year 10's around planning a dish for a cafe in a coastal town. Students were shown technical skills for filleting fish and they went on to make fishcakes and goujons which complemented their curriculum units. Katie also said: "Dakota look forward to welcoming the students for a workplace visit in June and supporting careers education events this term at school too."



The East Manchester Academy had a visit from Chef Raymond with thanks to their partner Leonardo Hotel at the start of the year. Sajida Ahmed, Food Technology teacher said: "Huge thanks to Chef Raymond who led a masterclass for deboning chicken which has helped our students prepare for their practical exam. The students really valued learning this skill from him and were fully engaged, the session enriched their learning."



In May, 40 students from TEMAC also made a visit to The Lowry Hotel to have an afternoon tea experience and behind the scenes tour – Adrian Ellis, General Manager was happy to host and provide industry insights to help inform their curriculum learning.



Oakwood Sixth Form visited their partner, Holiday Inn Manchester City Centre in January. The students had a behind the scenes tour and insights into the way the hotel works from behind the scenes. David of Sullivan, Head of Sixth Form said "a lot of the students had never been in a hotel before and really enjoyed the experience, we did a front and back of house tour of the building, they very kindly put on a lunch and did a presentation with a Q&A session" Steve Julian, GM has been an incredible volunteer on this project for 3 years now and is always very generous with his time – he is also matched to Broadoak School in Partington, Trafford.



SPRINGBOARD

At Hospitality Connect, we work alongside Springboard and help to promote their opportunities to schools and hoteliers on the Manchester project. **Manchester 2024 Summer School applications are now open for year 11 leavers to apply for one of the 12 coveted places!** The training week will take place from week commencing 1st July, with a work placement on the following week. We have shared the direct link with our schools – and a number of hotels will be supporting with placements and venues for training.

Last year, Mason from Oasis Academy Media City attended the Summer School and had this to say: “Summer School has helped my confidence by speaking to new people and learning new skills.”

Mason spent the first two days of his work placement at Holiday Inn Media City in Reception and then moved on to working with the maintenance team. The team at Holiday Inn were very impressed, with feedback including: “Mason was an absolutely delightful young man; nothing was too much trouble. Everything we asked him to do, he did with 100% commitment. It was a shame it was only 1 week!”



We also have wonderful news from the **Springboard Future Chef Bake Off** competitions that Wellacre School in Trafford produced a winner! Ollie Pool won the Juniors category

with his mediterranean roasted vegetables, goats’ cheese and chorizo tart.

Over 3000 students registered to take part and submit their recipe and methodology online. The judges whittled these entries down to a Top 10, before they were passed to the Core Judging Panel, comprised of esteemed chefs, Brian Turner, David Mulcahy, Leigh Myers and Mark Reynolds who chose 11-year-old Ollie from Trafford as their winner!

The Wellacre Academy student completed the competition for homework throughout the Christmas holidays and loved taking on the challenge. The judges were really impressed with his choice of ingredients for his tart. They especially loved his attention to seasoning, and the knife skills displayed in his entry. Wellacre Academy have been partnered with The Alan Hotel since 2022 and I am sure everyone joins us in sending Oliver our congratulations on his win!



LOOKING FORWARD:

In July we will send to our hoteliers and schools a bespoke survey that will capture the amount of activities that have taken place throughout the academic year and the number of young people involved. This is being supported by our partners at the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Careers Hub team. We shall share the survey links before summer break and really look forward to delving into the data to help us strengthen this project.

CAN YOU HELP WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES?

Considering the success of the Events Manager workshop held with the Lowry Academy school, we will be working on more project briefs that will help prepare students for food tech and business studies exams. The project briefs will be designed for use by our volunteer hoteliers and wider teams – as well as a general teaching resource. We also aim to produce presentations and resources to assist should our hotels be asked to provide CV / job application guest speaker sessions to our schools.

If you would like to support the development of these resources or have a 'starter for 10' already – please get in touch with Laura.

PARTICIPATING HOTELS & SCHOOLS

PARTICIPATING IN 2023-2024, WE NOW HAVE 32 PARTNERSHIPS:

SCHOOLS

ABRAHAM MOSS HIGH SCHOOL, MANCHESTER
 ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, TAMESIDE
 ASHTON ON MERSEY HIGH SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 BROADOAK SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 CROMPTON HOUSE COFE, OLDHAM
 DENTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE, TAMESIDE
 DROYLSDEN HIGH SCHOOL, TAMESIDE
 FLIXTON GIRLS SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 GREAT ACADEMY ASHTON, TAMESIDE
 KINGSWAY SCHOOL, STOCKPORT
 KNUTSFORD ACADEMY, CHESHIRE
 LOSTOCK HIGH SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 LOWRY ACADEMY, SALFORD
 LOWTON HIGH SCHOOL, WIGAN
 MANCHESTER COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY
 OAKWOOD SIXTH FORM AT UTC MEDIA CITY
 OASIS ACADEMY MEDIA CITY, SALFORD
 OASIS ACADEMY OLDHAM
 OLDHAM HULME GRAMMAR SCHOOL
 SALE HIGH SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 ST ANNE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY, ROCHDALE
 ST ANTONY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 ST JAMES' ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL, STOCKPORT
 ST. PETER'S RC HIGH SCHOOL, MANCHESTER
 STRETTFORD HIGH SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 THE EAST MANCHESTER ACADEMY
 TRAFFORD ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROVISION
 URMSTON GRAMMAR, TRAFFORD
 WELLACRE ACADEMY, TRAFFORD
 WESTHILL HIGH SCHOOL, TAMESIDE
 STRETTFORD HIGH SCHOOL, TRAFFORD
 THE EAST MANCHESTER ACADEMY

HOTELS

CROWN PLAZA MANCHESTER AND HOLIDAY INN
 NOVOTEL CITY CENTRE
 HOTEL FOOTBALL & STOCK EXCHANGE
 HOLIDAY INN, CITY CENTRE
 KIMPTON CLOCK TOWER HOTEL
 DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON, PICCADILLY
 GOTHAM HOTEL
 HILTON GARDEN COURT, LANCS COUNTY CRICKET
 MACDONALD HOTEL MANCHESTER
 DAKOTA MANCHESTER
 CLAYTON HOTEL MANCHESTER AIRPORT
 HOTEL INDIGO
 LOWRY HOTEL
 THE ABODE
 CLAYTON HOTEL MANCHESTER CITY CENTRE
 HOLIDAY INN, CITY CENTRE
 HOLIDAY INN MEDIA CITY
 MALDRON HOTEL
 INNSIDE MELIA
 HILTON DEANS GATE
 V&A
 LEVEN HOTEL
 DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON, MANCHESTER AIRPORT
 MALDRON HOTEL
 MIDLAND HOTEL
 LEONARDO HOTEL
 CRESTA COURT HOTEL
 MOTEL ONE
 THE ALAN HOTEL
 NATIVE APARTMENTS
 MIDLAND HOTEL
 LEONARDO HOTEL