Careers at GCHQ

Dear parents/guardians,

We are thrilled to be writing to you today to inform you that your child has recently been learning about our organisation, GCHQ, as part of their school studies. We've teamed up with education charity Education and Employers via their Inspiring the Future programme to develop resources that demonstrate the skills used and career possibilities within the world of national security.

GCHQ is the UK's intelligence, security and cyber agency. We work alongside MI5 and SIS (also known as MI6) to identify, analyse and disrupt threats to the UK in our collective mission to keep the country safe. That mission ranges from counterterrorism, tackling serious crime and threats from hostile states, through to protecting the armed forces and safeguarding institutions like the NHS from cybercrime.

Students have been exploring our rich history, such as learning about our war-time home of Bletchley Park where work to break the Enigma code helped lay the foundation for the computer age. They have been introduced to the careers within GCHQ. From analysts and data scientists to mathematicians and linguists, it takes a huge mix of minds to keep the country safe. The skills students are developing today in subjects like computer science, mathematics, and languages are all directly relevant and indeed vital to many roles at GCHQ.

Alongside these topics, the activities have required problem solving abilities, critical thinking, and effective teamwork. These are all key qualities for aspiring professionals. It's our hope these activities provide students with valuable insight into how the skills they are developing in school today are used in the modern world of work and can translate into exciting future career possibilities within the technology sector and beyond.

If you or your child would like to learn more about GCHQ and our mission, you can find further information on our website:

www.gchq.gov.uk

And if you have a career story to share that might also inspire students and young people, we encourage you to join the Inspiring the Future programme:

www.inspiringthefuture.org

With best wishes,
GCHQ