Howard of Effingham School

Dear Parents/Carers

At Howard of Effingham School, we work hard to ensure that all our students feel supported in finding their place in the world of work. We want every young person to feel able to contribute positively to an organisation, feel valued, and be empowered to achieve their individual potential.

The **Gatsby Benchmarks** provide clear government guidance on how schools can help young people make informed decisions about their future careers and pathways.

For several years, we have worked closely with a local organisation, **The Links Centre 2030 (TLC2030)**. Their team is passionate about driving positive change in our local community and supporting young people to access brighter futures. From this shared vision, **Step Up for Change** was born.

Step Up for Change: Supporting Better Futures for Young People

In partnership with TLC2030, local businesses and educational establishments
North Leatherhead and the surrounding areas are communities with enormous strengths, yet some young people still face barriers to progressing into education, employment, or training.

Step Up for Change is a community-led initiative that brings together young people, schools, employers, community organisations, and local residents to create practical solutions and opportunities for young people.

We know that many organisations and individuals are already making a positive difference. This initiative is about building on that success, strengthening local partnerships, and turning ideas into action.

How You Can Help
We are asking parents and carers to support the project by offering:

- **Work experience placements** or workplace visits
- **Career talks** or opportunities to share your professional experiences
- **Mentoring or coaching** for young people
- **Business contacts and networks** that could open doors to opportunities
- **Volunteering your time or expertise** to support future activities
- **Time to connect** through occasional virtual and face-to-face meetings

Why This Matters
Together, we can help ensure that every young person in our school and the surrounding area has access to the opportunities, guidance, and support they need to succeed.

Thank you for supporting this important community initiative. By working together, we can create lasting change and brighter futures for our young people.

If you would like to become involved, please do complete this MS form to add your name to our database of proactive **Step Up for Change** supporters.

Sarah Quick
Careers Leader