

Students back in the workplace

As part of National Apprenticeship Week, a group of ten Year 10 and 11 students from Alder Community High School in Hyde, were invited by Stepan to visit their site and discuss the different career opportunities available with the company.

Since the outbreak of COVID in early 2020 and the restrictions it placed on face-to-face interaction, it has been a long time for young people not to have had the opportunity to visit workplaces and receive a meaningful experience with employers.

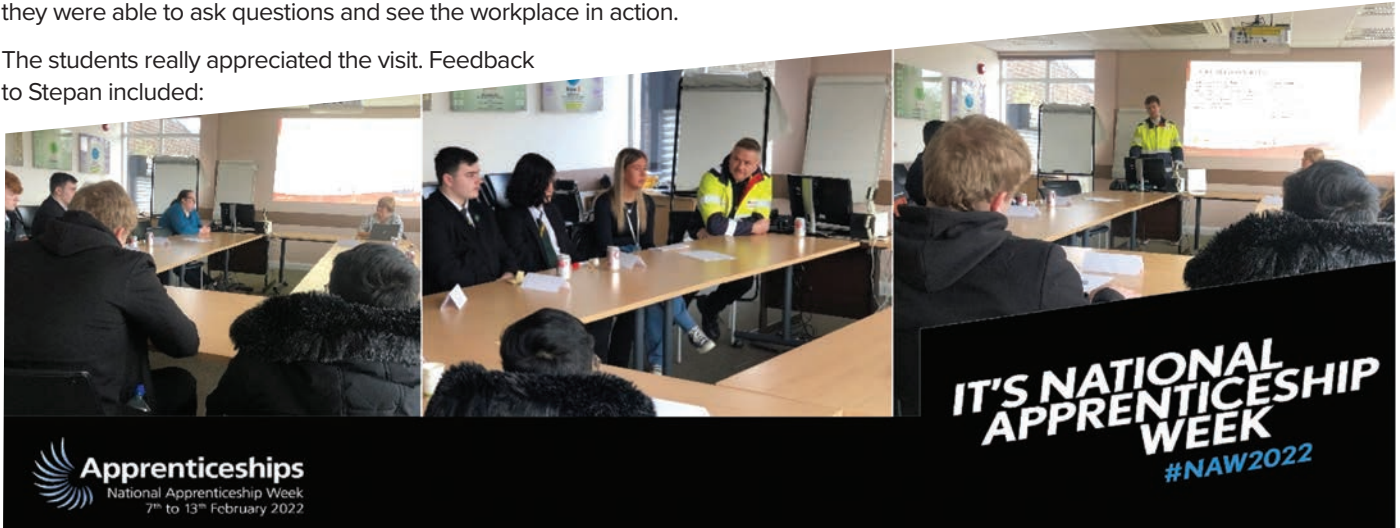
During the visit the students were given a presentation by several employees, from apprentices in the lab and supply chain, to engineers. They then had a site tour and visited the lab, where they were able to ask questions and see the workplace in action.

The students really appreciated the visit. Feedback to Stepan included:

The Careers Leader at the school Tom Eaton said 'Fantastic Viv. Had a quick conversation over lunch with some attendees and they were still excited. These kids have missed out on so much, really great to start opening doors again'.

Helen Littlemore Progress Leader for Year 11 who accompanied the students said 'Really great morning. The kids were fantastic and represented school in such a positive light. Stepan were brilliant, and the employees we met, who shared their different pathway to working for Stepan, were great with the students. I am sure they have gained so much from the visit'.

<https://www.stepan.com>



RS Clare Appoint New MD

Global manufacturer of advanced lubricants and high-performance greases, RS Clare, is pleased to announce the appointment of David Meadows as Managing Director, effective 1st January 2022. After six years of impressive leadership and consistent growth, Managing Director Paul Vann hands over the reins.

David is now the sixth generation of Meadows' to be appointed Managing Director in the company's prestigious 274-year history. *"It's a huge honour for me to lead this historic and pioneering private family business. I'm excited to be inheriting a very talented team of employees, a global customer base and a supportive and ambitious board to help us achieve further success."*

Over Half a Decade of Solid Growth

The transition comes during a period of strength for the business. Despite the significant challenges faced due to massive global disruption, RS Clare's 2020 financial results reflect the incremental growth and achievements of the last five years, with record turnover and profits reported. David will continue to build on the business's impressive year-on-year growth, with significant plans for strategic investment to maintain a focus on innovation to achieve continued growth in key markets. RS Clare is the longest established company manufacturing

lubricants in the UK and the business's continued success is attributed to innovation and a clear focus on delivering high-performance solutions to solve critical problems for

their customers. As well as serving the global oil and gas, rail, marine, industrial and thermoplastic markets, RS Clare has also provided private label grease manufacturing services to blue chip multinationals since 1925.

Ready for the New Challenge

David's role as Director, Marketing and Communications has afforded him a deep understanding of RS Clare's customers in each of the business's core markets, and the challenges they face. His position within the company's Executive Board has seen him support the development of overall strategic direction, and the board has every confidence in David's ability to deliver the next phase in the business's growth and investment plans. In addition to David's commercial experience, he also brings a strong technical academic background to the role, with a master's degree in Chemical Engineering earned in Manchester University. He is uniquely placed to have a well-rounded and balanced commercial and technical view of the business.

