

Inspiring the Next Generation: Whinfell Young People Engage in UK Dairy Industry Career Event

We were thrilled to join the UK dairy industry's first-ever career-focused event designed to engage and inspire young people about the exciting opportunities within the sector. Hosted by Harrison and Hetherington at Carlisle Auction Mart and led by SmartSTEMs as part of the Digital Dairy Chain initiative, this one-day event brought together secondary school students from across the region for a unique and immersive experience.

Our young people at Whinfell School enthusiastically participated in a wide range of activities that truly brought the dairy industry to life. From hands-on experiences milking cows to learning about artificial insemination, they gained invaluable insight into the practical skills and trades that underpin this vital sector.

Highlights of the day included:

- **Interactive Exhibitions:** Young people explored stands hosted by various dairy businesses, engaging in thought-provoking, activity-based learning that showcased the breadth of STEM-related roles in dairy farming.
- **Practical Demonstrations:** Demonstrations of milking, clipping, and hoof trimming gave students a real sense of the skills required in day-to-day dairy operations.
- **Mock Cattle Auction:** Our young people took part in a lively mock cattle auction in the main ring, putting their new knowledge to the test in a fun and educational setting.
- **Inspirational Talks:** Presentations from young dairy professionals shared personal journeys and career pathways, inspiring our young people to consider future careers in this dynamic industry.

While we narrowly missed out on winning the prize cow at auction—perhaps just as well, given the space constraints at Whinfell!—the experience was invaluable. It provided our young people with a unique opportunity to explore career options that combine practical skills, science, and technology, all while connecting with industry experts.

This event perfectly aligns with our commitment at Whinfell School to raise aspirations and broaden horizons for our young people, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to succeed in diverse and rewarding careers.

We look forward to continuing to support our young people in exploring exciting career pathways, including those in the growing green and STEM sectors.

