



# Accountancy and Finance Careers Seminar

Spring Term 2016



Coloma's second professional seminar which focused on Finance, Accountancy or Economics was held this term. Five Coloma professionals representing a diverse range of financial institutions from Deloitte and KPMG to the Macquarie Banking Group and Ruffer Investments, provided a highly informative and lively presentation on their very distinctive career pathways.

Apart from the Q & A session, students and parents were also given the opportunity to network with our speakers during the short break; a valuable time for those considering a future in the world of finance and wanting to make potential contacts for e mentoring.

Some of the key messages from the evening and applicable to our Post 16 (and in some cases Pre 16) students are: Work and Play hard while at school. Coloma provides an excellent foundation both on a personal and academic level, a fact which all our speakers applauded.

- In the Sixth Form, always study the subject(s) you are interested in because without your enjoyment or passion the road to success is likely to be much harder.
- With the exception of a few careers, your profession in the World of Work is rarely based on the subject or degree you studied either Post 16 or Post 18.
- Except for one speaker at the seminar who had studied Economics, the others had read Computer Studies, Law, Philosophy and Geography at university.
- Do not worry if in the Sixth Form you do not know what career to follow. However, be pro-active and seize all opportunities and activities (whether they are in or out of school) which enhance your interpersonal and transferable skills. For example, skills such as commitment, determination, resilience, written and verbal communication, energy and team work were undoubtedly the personal traits which played their part in the success of our young professionals.
- You do not need a degree for a successful career (for some it may not be the best route). However, a degree will usually help to secure faster progression on your career journey. Do not wait until your final year at university to find a job; internships are your gateway to success.

It was clear that the evening gave our students plenty to think about!