



# **PRESS RELEASE**

# Students at Swindon School Experience Engineering in a 'Real Life' Setting

**Students at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy visit the Mini Plant in Oxford. The students loved experiencing the 'real life' setting of an engineer.**

An exciting opportunity arose for the students at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy to experience the life of an engineer. The students headed off to Oxford's Mini Plant for a guided tour, getting to catch sight of how a car is built from scratch. With a wide variety of engineering careers, trips such as these can be beneficial to a young person's career allowing them into the world of an engineer.

The groups got to follow production lines to see the types of cars made in Oxford. They followed the cars around the factory through all the various stages of production, watching different components being fitted, assembled, personalised (colour choices, alloy wheels etc) all the way to the end where cars come off the production line to be test driven and exported around the world.

Students gained knowledge of processes, advances in technology, assembly lines along with being able to see the kinds of jobs available within the manufacturing sector. Mini Plant Oxford is owned by BMW and they have a big emphasis on 'lean manufacturing' to minimise waste and consider ways to reduce their carbon footprint.



Stephanie Payne, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Design & Technology Teacher at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy went on to say "the students asked insightful questions throughout the day and it was great to be able to show them engineering in its truest form, as this is something we cannot show in a classroom setting. We have students whose passion is to take up a career in Engineering, so visits such as these ones are invaluable to give them an idea of what kind of engineering interests them. With so many different types of engineering such as electrical, civil, mechanical, computer, nuclear, petroleum, environmental and many more different types, the options are endless for the students to choose from."

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