



Surgical workshop has students in stitches!

A group of seven Havering Sixth Form College students who are all considering a career in medicine were taken on an informative but fun trip to the Royal College of Surgeons.

College careers staff Janet Chamberlain and Kathy Briaris travelled with the students to the College in Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, for a clinical skills workshop where they met real surgeons and had the chance to practise some stitching and suturing skills!

During the specially organised day, called Cutting Edge Career... an introduction to Surgery, the students were given presentations on a day in the life of a surgeon where surgeons spoke about why they chose their career and how they balance family life with such a demanding job.

The students were also given advice on applying to medical school and listened to a talk about the realities of the studying involved. A tour of the Hunterian Museum, which is attached to the College, was also included in the visit.

But the highlight of the day for many was the suturing workshop where the students were able to stitch small wounds on replicated limbs – and some found their needlework needed a little more practise!

The students all found the day very worthwhile. Aishat Ameen said: "I learnt so much about the qualities and skills that I need in order to make a good surgeon. It was also good to learn about the life of a surgeon, day and night, on the wards and in university."

Fateha Samayen added: "It was a wonderful experience to be able to talk to a working surgeon. She seemed very enthusiastic and said it was a very rewarding occupation. This has made me more determined to pursue a career in the medical field. The most fun part of the trip was definitely when we had the opportunity to stitch small wounds."

Careers advisor Kathy Briaris said: "If any students are thinking of going into medicine, then this is a trip not to be missed."

The next trip to the Royal College of Surgeons will be held in March 2012.