

Published on *Bournemouth and Poole College* (<https://www.thecollege.co.uk>)

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Wednesday, 06 April 2016

Cabin crew trainees get behind the scene tour of airport operations

Air cabin crew students from The Bournemouth & Poole College have experienced a behind the scenes tour of Thomson Airlines operations at Bournemouth Airport.

It was all part of their training programme as they prepare for careers that could see them all jetting round the globe.

The students were part of genuine flight briefings and visited an aircraft on the apron. They were also tested in their delivery of the traditional pre-flight safety briefing, but the highlight was taking part in a simulated emergency landing.

One student said afterwards: "It was scary but strangely exciting! Hopefully we'll never have to do it for real. The Thomson crew who talked us through it all were fantastic. They were generous with their time and the practical knowledge was so valuable."

Also gaining practical experience at Bournemouth Airport were the current Airport Operation students. Ground support services a vital part of the aviation industry.

This team is the first intake of recently created Swissport Academy, formed in collaboration with the college.

Students were particularly impressed by a fantastic Boeing 787 Dreamliner - a rare visitor to Bournemouth Airport. The jet was being prepared for a charter flight from Bournemouth to Barbados and it was the backdrop for a wonderful day.

Judith Grandjean, Travel and Tourism Team Leader at the college, said: "This was a wonderful insight into the operations of both Swissport and Thomson, and how the service sector of the aviation industry works.

"It was an unforgettable experience for the students and one that will build their confidence as they move towards the end of their courses."

"The visit gave students unique insights and experiences. It will serve to support and enhance their enthusiasm for the aviation industry and their careers. Bournemouth Airport is important to the local economy and all our students recognise that they are a part of this."

Anyone considering lift-off for a career in aviation can find out more details from The Bournemouth & Poole College's [Travel & Tourism pages](#) of the college website.