

Careers

Intent

The Careers curriculum equips students with the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to prepare for adulthood, further education, training and employment. Students are supported to identify their strengths, interests and aspirations while developing an understanding of the world of work and the opportunities available to them. Through meaningful and practical experiences, students develop key employability skills, including communication, teamwork, problem-solving, leadership, decision-making and self-management. The curriculum follows a bespoke qualification pathway, incorporating Gateway Qualifications in Employability, enabling students to gain recognised accreditation while preparing for successful progression beyond school.

Implementation

Careers is delivered through practical, work-related learning that encourages students to explore future pathways and develop the skills required for employment. The curriculum is sequenced through three stages: Exploring, Applying and Excelling, allowing students to build knowledge and independence over time. Students take part in activities focused on career planning, workplace conduct, communication, leadership, teamwork, problem-solving, interview preparation, job searching and completing applications. Enterprise opportunities, self-advocacy and digital skills further enhance learning. In Years 9-11, students work towards Gateway Qualifications in Employability and Preparation for Work, applying their skills in realistic and purposeful contexts. Assessment is embedded throughout, enabling students to demonstrate competence, reflect on progress and celebrate achievement.

Impact

Through Careers, students become more confident, independent and informed about their future. They develop a greater understanding of their own strengths, interests and aspirations and are able to recognise how these can relate to different careers and pathways. Students develop practical employability skills, including communication, teamwork, self-management, leadership, problem-solving and decision-making, which support them in the workplace and everyday life. Students gain an understanding of workplace expectations and develop the confidence to seek help, communicate with colleagues, respond to challenges and advocate for themselves. They develop practical experience of searching for employment and completing job applications, CVs and covering letters, alongside exploring entrepreneurship and different progression routes. The impact of Careers extends beyond the classroom. The knowledge, confidence, self-awareness and employability skills developed support students in making informed decisions about their future education, training and employment and in becoming increasingly prepared for adulthood.