

Key Stage 4 – Careers Programme & Guidance – Sept 2021

Good career guidance is the key to social mobility: it is about showing young people – whatever their social and family background – the options open to them, and helping them make the right choices to set them on the path to rewarding future careers.

During Key Stage 3, the students will have developed skills, knowledge and understanding both in their subject lessons and in the clubs and activities they have participated in. They will also have chosen their GCSE subjects linked to the sort of things they like doing and based on some idea of what they might do after school. STEM challenges, and visits to places that people work in will also have contributed, in some way, to their thoughts as to what their next steps after leaving school might be.

The school has a planned programme of Career Activities and Guidance which links to the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks. These are:

1. A Stable Careers Programme
2. Learning from Career and Labour Market Information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with Further & Higher Education
8. Personal Guidance

Many of your subjects will have displays or talk about the sort of Careers you can do, and other aspects of the Careers Guidance programme will be delivered in PSE lessons as shown below.

Key Stage 4

	Y10	Y11
Autumn 1st half	Transition to KS4 and developing study skills RAF – Access All Areas Virtual Event	Learning and revision skills to maximise potential Understanding the college application process and plans beyond school Interview practice and CV Writing Work Experience Ideas Skills for employment and career progression Careers Post-16/Post 18 KS4 Careers Interviews RAF – Access All Areas Virtual Event
Autumn 2nd half	Parliament Jobs Criminal justice system What Career Live/What University Live?	Post-16 Open Evening KS4 Careers Interviews What Career Live/What University Live? Post-16 Provider Open Days
Spring 1st half	Ask Apprenticeship Visit	Interviews with staff to support Post-16 choices Ask Apprenticeship Visit
Spring 2nd half		Careers/Higher Education Fair
Summer 1st half	KS4 Career Interviews	
Summer 2nd half	Senior Citizen’s party – work place skills development including team work and project planning Warwick University Visit What is my job? KS4 Career Interviews	Work Experience

Assemblies

There are regular visitors in assemblies; they talk about their roles in the workplace and this will continue as part of our planned programme to support careers education.

Careers Interviews

The school employs an independent careers advisor. All students in Key Stage 4 will have an opportunity for an individual meeting with the advisor, which will either take place towards the end of Year 10 or the start of Year 11. This will give the students the opportunity to discuss their next steps after GCSE's and to explore their initial ideas in relation to post-18 plans. If students are uncertain, they will be directed to appropriate resources and websites to use to help inform their choices.

Enrichment week activity

There are several activities in the Summer Term Enrichment week which we hope will give students the opportunity to start to explore a range of careers by meeting visitors to the school, as well as having the opportunity to talk to recent students about their experiences at university, and visiting a university to find out more.

Post-18 information

The majority of school support for post-18 education will take place during Year 12 in PSE lessons which have a focus on finance, and applying for universities, degree apprenticeships and information about GAP year providers. In addition to this ongoing support the school usually organises a Post-18 day in the Spring Term of Year 12.

Website

The school website also has a section on careers education with links to many useful websites - <http://kechg.org.uk/careers/>.

The Careers section of the UCAS website is also worth investigating – not just for university applications - <https://www.ucas.com/careers-advice>

Students may also find the sacu website (<https://sacu-student.com>) useful. This is completely free for them to use and includes

- A career quiz – called the Spartan test
- A matching tool for A levels to degrees to investigate what degrees can be done with various combinations of A levels, each degree course can be explored to look at entry requirements, and salaries of the jobs that they may lead to
- A section containing information about the current range of apprenticeships on offer to students post-16 and post-18

FREE CAREERS QUIZ

The visual quiz that matches you to HE courses, careers & apprenticeships



[Learn More](#)

A Level Match tool

The only place to match your A Levels to a personalised degree cloud



[Learn more](#)

Personal statement inspiration

Write a great UCAS Statement with this free tool to get you thinking



[Access it here](#)

A level planning

Our students are formally assessed in preparation for their GCSEs in the December Assessments (mocks) which take place in the December of Year 11. Once they have received their results in January and prior to making their A level choices, they will have the opportunity to discuss their choices, plans and aspirations with a member of staff. All of our current students that meet the entry requirements for the sixth form have an allocated place; there is no need to apply for our sixth form.

Labour Market Information (LMI) provides statistics, research, and analysis about current and future economic and job trends to inform and support career and business planning decisions.



It is important for parents and students to keep up to date with what is happening in the labour market so that everyone is aware of

- What opportunities are available
- What the future trends are likely to be in different sectors
- What qualifications and skills will be needed
- How to prepare to compete for jobs in some sectors

The website <https://icould.com/> includes a wide range of searchable job roles including videos and labour market information about the roles discussed and is a useful starting point to find out useful labour market information including salaries and availability of job opportunities.

Careers Shows

WorldSkills UK Live is currently taking place using virtual spotlight talks. Although students may not be able to attend in person, these talks are available via the website <https://www.worldskillsuk.org/careers-advice/spotlight-talks-inspiring-careers-excellence/> and are free for anyone to watch at any time.

What career live? What university live? This joint show is taking place virtually and the next “show” is on 12th & 13th November 2021. It is free to attend and will give students and their parents the chance to explore careers, universities and apprenticeships all in one place. Although it is aimed at students in Year 11 to Year 13, it is also relevant to students in Year 10. If you wish to register for tickets please go to <https://www.whatcareerlive.co.uk/birmingham> and book for the Saturday.

Work Experience

Learning from experiencing the workplace is a key way in which students can develop workplace skills and find out about differing job roles. Opportunities, many which are virtual, are promoted to Year 10 students by emails and we would encourage them to take advantage of these opportunities. Students applying through the <https://www.s4snextgen.org/> will need a reference from their tutor which should be emailed to me as part of the application process. Students in Year 11 will need to arrange a placement (either real or virtual in the gap between finishing their GCSEs and starting their A levels) It is worth exploring these ideas and talking to any contacts you have in good time to arrange these.

Please remember that many students are seeking work experience placements in the medical and veterinary fields; where work experience is essential. However, hospitals do not allow students under 16 to undertake placements, and there is always a high demand for the placements. However, please remember that giving your time to care for others is also important, so volunteer roles in hospitals and/or care homes are also of benefit. There is also an excellent virtual work experience programme run by the Brighton and Sussex Medical School (<https://bsmsoutreach.thinkific.com/courses/VWE>) which is worth exploring.

J Rose

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