



Willington

COMMUNITY SCHOOL

CURRICULUM BOOKLET

Careers

Our School Curriculum Vision

To provide a curriculum fit for their future, building on the successes of their past. Being ready for post 16 life allows our students to be safe, happy, well informed global citizens who have experienced a 5 - year progressive and dynamic curriculum where students have the opportunity to aspire and achieve and who embody the school's values of 'Personal Excellence' through a broad and balanced curriculum which is inclusive and reflective of our local needs.

Subject Vision

Although students move on from Willingdon Community School for Post 16 Education, we will ensure that students have developed key transferable skills to adapt to their next destination as confident learners who are ready to embrace life to the full. Through our comprehensive careers programme which begins in Year 7, all students will receive a robust careers curriculum linked to the 8 Gatsby benchmarks of Good Career Guidance. Students will learn from career and labour market information and experience encounters with employers, employees and different workplaces to ensure that they are Post 16 ready and have knowledge of over 300 different careers. To ensure students understand the benefits of both further and higher education, we have developed strong links with local and national universities and colleges. All students have the opportunity to visit and gain an understanding of university life, whilst many of the local colleges support students on taster days during Key Stage 4. We also welcome a range of different speakers into our school to educate and enthuse students about future careers and the vast range of choices available to them.



Key Concepts in Careers

The careers programme prepares our students for the next stage of their life which might be further education or an apprenticeship. Young people must make well founded decisions based on a range of facts and information, as choosing the next step that is right for them will impact on the options they have later in life.



Our careers education is centred around the following:

- Careers education covering industries, career paths, jobs, self-assessment and subject-specific career options
- Post 16 choices including how to decide, 6th form and colleges, higher education, types of qualification and their parity
- Employer engagement at a local, regional, national and international level
- Personal skills for work embracing self-confidence, being articulate and determined, demonstrating clear aspiration and becoming a fearless learner
- Employability through developing confidence in the construction professional CVs, covering letters and application forms. Developing work-related experiences that add value and help make our students work-ready.
- Entrepreneurial skills, aiming to nurture leadership, innovation, resilience, problem-solving and financial awareness.



Programme of Study

Key Stage 3

Careers, employability and enterprise education

- Developing yourself through careers, employability and enterprise

This covers self-awareness, self-determination and self-improvement in order that learners are aware of their strengths and preferences so that they are able to focus on the positive aspects of wellbeing, progress and achievements.

- Learning about careers and the world of work

This explores careers and careers development and investigates work and work life. Students gain an understanding of business and industry and are aware how working lives can change. It also focuses on the vast range of jobs available and labour market information. Equality, diversity and inclusion are explored, along with safe working practices and environments.

- Developing career management, employability and enterprise skills

This area ensures that students can make the most of different career information and guidance, so that they can develop employability and enterprise skills. It also allows them to develop their application and financial capability skills, so that they can make informed and sound choices in the future.

Programme of Study

Key Stage 4

Careers, employability and enterprise education

Year 10

- Next steps
- World of work – what employers want, work and lifestyle
- Rights and responsibilities at work
- Work experience – benefits and application process
- What job might suit me and job families
- Application skills
- The value of money and remuneration
- Managing Money
- Rules on termination of employment
- Understanding debt
- Health and safety at work
- Developing a personal sales pitch
- Different qualifications and their equivalents
- Post 16 providers in East Sussex
- Applications and tester days
- Apprenticeships
- Personal statement drafts
- Undertake work experience

Year 11

- Actions for Post 16 transition
- Skills and interests analysis
- College and apprenticeship applications
- Perfecting your personal statement
- Different qualifications and their equivalents
- Changing job market
- Personal learning and thinking skills
- Money matters
- Money, tax and society
- Making financial choices
- Dealing with debt
- Completing applications
- Writing CVs and covering letters
- Preparing for interviews
- Higher education providers
- Higher education funding
- Adding personal value Post 16

Careers Experiences

As part of our vision, we want our students to have a wide range of opportunities to gain first hand careers information and guidance. These represent some of the experiences we have offered.

Key Stage 3

- International athletes Assembly
- What's my line – Year 7 /8
- NHS assembly and regional competition
- Bringing Gatwick Airport to the East Sussex Careers Fair
- Trades assembly and workshops
- Duke of Edinburgh
- First Generation University Visit
- Visit to Cardiff Universities
- First Generation programme
- Sussex University campus visit
- The Big Futures Careers Show
- Year 9 options evening
- BAME mentoring programme
- University visit for BAME students
- 1:1 career interviews
- Parental Forums
- Uni Connect support

Key Stage 4

- Employability and life skills day
- Work experience
- Post 16 Higher Education open evenings and school based assemblies
- Year 10 Enterprise Challenge
- Enterprise Competition for Eastbourne schools
- 1:1 Mock interviews
- Post 16 provision taster days
- Trades Workshop
- World Skills Careers Fair
- Duke of Edinburgh
- Chelsea Academy taster sessions
- Cambridge University assembly and workshop
- BAME mentoring programme
- University visit for BAME students
- 1:1 careers interviews
- Motivational assembly delivered by "Jack the Lad"
- "I CAN" Trade Fair supporting vulnerable students
- Big Bang careers fair (STEM)
- Taster days at local colleges
- 'Jack the Lad' motivational assembly
- Information evenings
- Parental Forums
- Mentoring by Eastbourne college
- Uni Connect support

What our students say

Matthew Wakefield

Last week I participated in 'Boundless theatre's' virtual work experience, after gaining one of 50 places for students from years 10-12 across the country. I imagine that this type of experience is a very different experience from normal work experience, as not only was I one of 50 students but everything was done virtually via Google meet.

We started the week by being introduced to the Boundless group. They are a theatre company whose target demographic are 15-25 year olds, but during lockdown they diversified and started a fictional podcast called Radio Elusia. We were informed that in groups of 11 we would be working through the process of making our own podcast over the week. Each day we worked with a different team member (producer, artistic director, social media manager) running through what their work entailed, attending group master classes and being set independent work. We then had hour-long Q&A sessions where we really got to discover what it takes to have a creative career and the intricacies of the theatre world. To be honest I did not think I would enjoy these, as I have my heart set on going into the music industry, but I have learnt so much from these sessions. One of the most valuable lessons they taught us was how to get our voices heard.

As the week progressed our group met regularly to develop our programme. Luckily we all had different interests and areas of expertise, so we very quickly managed to assign roles and get on with creating our podcast. We chose the subject of mental health as we were all passionate about it and felt that it was very relevant to the current pandemic situation. We had writers, producers, directors, vocalists and me writing and recording the music. The finished product will be released in a couple of weeks on some podcast providers.

In the end it was an amazing, insightful experience and I have a lot to think over regarding my future.

How Parents can help with careers learning

- Talk about their own post 16 routes into employment.
- Encourage students to research different job families and labour market information.
- Keep up to date with current employment trends by following the news.
- Help them understand the different education pathways post 16.
- Helping them to choose appropriate and realistic further and higher education routes.
- Encourage them to visit institutions of higher education and college taster days.