

## Aspire Careers Curriculum

Our aim is for students to leave school with a comprehensive careers education that helps to increase their aspirations, equips them with the skills to reach their full potential, and provides them with the opportunity to explore various career paths. Our Careers curriculum ensures that all students, beginning from Year 7, are kept up to date with the latest careers information so that they can make well-informed decisions about their future after leaving school.

To achieve this, we have a well-structured careers curriculum program that delivers employability and work-related learning skills from Years 7 to 13. Additionally, we organise various career-related activities throughout the academic year. We integrate careers across all subjects, provide opportunities for vocational training, host encounters with employers, and offer careers advice and guidance. All subject areas refer to and discuss career opportunities specific to their fields, as well as explore transferable skills that aid students' development across all year groups. The PSHE program plays a crucial role in supporting our Careers strategy delivery.

## Futures

The Futures curriculum combines citizenship and career education. In KS3, we offer one lesson a week and prioritise citizenship education while also introducing some career learning. As students' progress to KS4, we increase the number of lessons to two per week to give equal focus to both areas.

Our curriculum is designed to offer opportunities for young people to gain a deeper understanding of the social world they inhabit, and to prepare them for work and adulthood. It includes opportunities to develop communication skills, focusing on the 7 Cs, to help them enter the workforce more confidently. The lessons and units are structured in a way that allows students to build upon their existing knowledge, promoting powerful knowledge and rich vocabulary. The curriculum is mapped in such a way that pupils can make meaningful connections, and the knowledge is sequenced coherently. We prioritise diversity in teaching and teachers, as well as the language, texts, and media used, to ensure that all pupils feel positively represented. Our curriculum is created through rigorous application of best practices and the science of learning and is informed by evidence.

Each student will be assessed on entry to the provision to determine which stage of the curriculum is most appropriate for them.



## Aspire Learning

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## **Our Career strategy is developed in line with the Gatsby benchmarks.**

### **1. A STABLE CAREERS PROGRAMME**

Every school and college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by students, parents, teachers, governors and employers.

### **2. LEARNING FROM CAREER AND LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION**

Every student, and their parents, should have access to good quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities. They will need the support of an informed adviser to make best use of available information.

### **3. ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EACH STUDENT**

Students have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each student. A school's careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout.

### **4. LINKING CURRICULUM LEARNING TO CAREERS**

All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of future career paths.

### **5. ENCOUNTERS WITH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES**

Every student should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.

### **6. EXPERIENCES OF WORKPLACES**

Every student should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing, and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities and expand their networks.

### **7. ENCOUNTERS WITH FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

All students should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and in the workplace.



## **8. PERSONAL GUIDANCE**

Every student should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a career adviser, who could be internal (a member of school staff) or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all students but should be timed to meet their individual needs.

**We encourage parents and carers to get in touch if they can provide work experience opportunities for our students.**



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