



How you prepare for your future at Denefield

How we learn about Careers at Denefield

First some terminology. You may not hear the word 'Career' but you may hear references to:

- Future/s.
- Aspirations or ambition.
- Skills, work skills or employability skills.
- Options/choices (for example, GCSE options, Post-16, Post-18).
- Labour Market Information (LMI) – this is information about careers and jobs that is relevant to our area.

What other words are there that link to Careers?



Success for Life curriculum

- Many aspects of our Success for Life curriculum are designed to introduce you to concepts or developing skills that you will need later in your career:
 - Building skills such as communication, organisation, teamwork.
 - Exploring your identity/finding out what you are good at.
 - Learning about the law and your rights (for example, the Equality Act).
 - Learning about the world around you (for example, current affairs, Black History Month).
 - Learning how to be a good citizen (for example, random acts of kindness, food bank appeals).



Building CHARACTER

- In and outside of the classroom you are developing your CHARACTER values.
- Take part in all the 'extras' on offer such as clubs, trips, sport, award opportunities so that you:
 - challenge yourself to try new things (ambition, confidence, courage, resilience)
 - become ambitious for yourself by striving for Kite Awards, Duke of Edinburgh etc).
- These opportunities are examples that you can talk about in interviews and applications to show how you have developed yourself as a person.
- Most employers and universities will be keen to see how you have developed outside of the classroom as success is not all about your grades.



It is not just about knowledge

- Yes you will use [\[insert your least favourite subject here!\]](#). Instead of thinking 'I do not like this subject' or 'I will not use this subject in the future', try to think of the **skills** you are learning that you **will** need, such as:
 - research and report writing
 - data analysis
 - essay writing
 - spatial awareness
 - communication skills.
- You will be surprised how many careers need knowledge and skills you have learnt in all your subjects
- If you are not sure, ask your teacher for examples.



Finding out about Education Pathways

- We will invite organisations into school to tell you about college courses, university courses, apprenticeships etc.
- You will have access to our online careers platform, Unifrog which has a subjects library and search facility for numerous courses and apprenticeships.
- Current and relevant information is shared on the online bulletin board Denefield Futures, including work experience, course opportunities and open days for colleges and universities.
- There are links to useful websites on our school website under 'Parents and Students'.



Finding out about Career Pathways

- Your teachers will give you examples during lessons, of how you will use what you are learning in certain careers or jobs.
- You will have access to our online careers platform, Unifrog where you can use the Careers Library and do quizzes which filter careers based on your interests and personality.
- Information is shared on the Satchel One noticeboard, including opportunities from local employers, Career of the Week, Labour Market Information.
- You can access information on our school website under 'Parents and Students'.
- We will invite employers and organisations in to talk to you about their jobs or businesses.



Personal guidance and support



- Personal guidance is always available whatever year you are in. Speak to your tutor or House Team and if they cannot help, they will refer you to the Careers Advisor. These meetings are confidential to allow you to explore your options in a safe place.
- Particular focus is in Year 9 prior to choosing your options, in Year 11 and in Year 12 and 13.
- We aim to meet with all students before the end of their GCSE's.
- At 1:1 meetings the Careers Advisor will write an action plan which will be shared with you and, anyone else you would like support from.
- Appointments are also available for parents/carers to ask advice, especially at key transition times (Year 9, 11 and 13).

It is OK not to know...

- It is OK not to know what you want to do in the future. Very few people do, and very few people stay in the same career all their working life.
- By taking part in all the learning and opportunities you are offered at school, you are finding out how to develop yourself, grow your skills, find information, adapt and change as needed.
- Your character values will help you to manage your career and deal with issues and setbacks.
- And in the words of a very successful ex-student, 'be kind, work hard and doors will open for you' (Salisha Baptiste, Lawyer and Barrister).

IT'S OK NOT TO KNOW.
IT'S OK TO BE WRONG.



IT'S NOT OK TO
STOP LEARNING



The Careers Lead
and Careers
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