

Careers Programme

Careers Education and Guidance is a valued area of the curriculum here at St Dominic's, where we encourage all our pupils to achieve ambitious goals and live life to the full.

We adhere to the Gatsby Benchmarks and the national requirements for careers education, information, advice and guidance. Our programme is based around the Career Development Institute's Framework for careers, employability and enterprise education 7-19.

The Careers Guidance Practitioner holds the Diploma in Careers Guidance.

All staff contribute to the Careers and Employability programme through their roles as tutors, therapists, subject teachers and support staff. There is also a planned programme of Careers Education that is taught within the Needs Led Curriculum and PSHCE curriculum starting in Key Stage 2.

Key Stage 2

The pupils explore a variety of career based themes including working for the emergency services, the work of a gardener, baker and the leisure industry. This is supplemented by visits from the fire service and police, and local employers. Children in Year 5 take a visit to 'Kidzania' a mini city for children, where they can try out a range of jobs.

Key Stage 3

Year 7

Pupils discuss the differences between a career and a job, identify different types of jobs, find out about the careers resources available to them and start to consider their own career ideas based on their strengths.

Year 8

Pupils consider the world of work and keeping themselves safe within it. They look specifically at health and safety in a variety of work based settings. Pupils are introduced to the concept of entrepreneurship and work on their own enterprise projects.

Year 9

All pupils use the KUDOS guidance programme to identify areas of subject and career interest in preparation for choosing Key Stage 4 subjects. Every pupil receives an option booklet and attends special assemblies and option taster sessions. There is a parents and pupils option afternoon where Senior Leaders, Subject teachers and the Careers Practitioner are available for parent and pupil discussion.

Pupils see the Careers Guidance Practitioner for a one to one guidance session that links into their Transition Plan. Within this year, pupils also start an investigation into the labour market, looking at the local, national and global picture.

Key Stage 4

Year 10

In Year 10, pupils explore opportunities by looking at the range of future pathways open to them, including colleges, sixth forms, apprenticeships, traineeships, supported internships and employment. Pupils visit external careers events such as the Surrey Careers Fair where they can talk directly to external providers. They start to consider possible work experience placements in preparation for their work experience in Year 11.

Pupils see the Careers Guidance Practitioner for a one to one guidance session, which links into their Transition Plan.

Year 11

In the Autumn term, pupils prepare for their work experience placement which takes place in October. Preparation includes interview skills, health and safety in the workplace, appropriate workplace behaviour and a discussion of their support needs. All pupils are taken to meet their employer before the placement starts for an interview.

Pupils are given further support during this year with making choices about their post 16 placement. Pupils also have the opportunity to produce a CV.

All pupils see the Careers Guidance Practitioner for a one to one guidance session, which links into their Transition Plan.

Key Stage 5

Sixth form students receive support and guidance on their next steps from the Key Stage 5 Leader, their tutors, and the Careers Practitioner. They follow the PSE curriculum covering independence and employability. They attend external careers and apprenticeship fairs and have the opportunity to undertake work experience and meet local employers.

Throughout all Key Stages, pupils and students are given opportunities to meet employers and discuss the world of work through visits to companies and listening to guest speakers during our annual careers week.

