



The Forest School views the careers curriculum as a means to break down barriers and make careers education relevant and accessible for all learners. The SEND Code of Practice states that 'with high aspirations, and the right support, the vast majority of children and young people can go on to achieve successful long-term outcomes in adult life'.

Furthermore, it adds that education providers and their partners should work together to help children and young people to realise their ambitions in relation to:

- Higher education and/or employment – including exploring different employment options
- Independent living - enabling people to have choice and control over their lives and the support they receive, their accommodation and living arrangements, including supported living
- Participating in society – including having friends and supportive relationships, and participating in, and contributing to, the local community
- Being as healthy as possible in adult life

Careers Education is embedded within our bespoke Independence and Futures Curriculum and delivered to all pupils from Early Years through to Key Stage 4. A Careers programme of study has been developed based on The Career Development Institute's 'Career Development Framework' (2021) with an emphasis on Six Learning Areas:

1. Grow throughout life
2. Explore possibilities
3. Manage Career
4. Create Opportunities
5. Balance life and work
6. See the big picture

Our Careers Curriculum covers all The Gatsby Benchmarks, a recommendation from the Good Career Guidance report by John Holman and have been widely adopted nationally following the DfE's Careers Strategy in 2017 which recommended all schools work towards the benchmarks. The benchmarks are:

- A stable careers programme
- Learning from career and labour market information
- Addressing the needs of each pupil
- Linking curriculum learning to careers
- Encounters with employers and employees
- Experience of workplaces
- Encounters with further and higher education
- Personal guidance

Career education is measured against the Gatsby Benchmarks via the completion of the Compass+ evaluation at the beginning and end of Year 10 and 11 to aid pupils in planning for their next steps, this information is shared with the Local Authority, and pupils will have access to a Specialist Careers adviser to support pupils and parents individually to explore options available to them. We are always looking to strengthen our careers offer through links with local businesses to inspire and educate our young people about the world of work. If you or someone you know can help please do contact us via the school office.