



## **Careers Support**

There is support for all students as they consider their career post-16 is available throughout their time at Wildern. Specific careers lessons take place each year. All students will have a taster session on, and full access to, the Careerpilot website.

### **Year 7**

Students will be introduced to the Careerpilot careers website where they will begin to find out about future careers to compliment modules as part of the transition work during 'Moral and Social Studies (MSS)' lessons and the tutor programme. They will also have access to online careers tools' right at the start of their time at Wildern, and will take place in an Enterprise 'Dragons Den' themed day. There are planning sessions for the Dragons Den day built in to the Tutor Programme. The day is designed to promote essential employability skills such as problem solving, team work and presenting. Some successful teams will present in front of the whole year group!

### **Year 8**

Careers lessons remain a part of the 'Moral and Social Studies' (MSS) lessons and specifically, look at ways of supporting students with their pathway choices by giving them ideas about how different subjects will be useful for different careers. Students will have access to a range of careers websites including <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/> which is an interactive website that leads to potential career destinations. Students will be instructed on how to sign up and can revisit this throughout the remainder of their Wildern Studies. In the lead up to the Pathways choices, careers information will be integrated into assemblies that will showcase each subject and these will be complemented by taster lessons. In the Spring Term, students will also meet employers in the 'Careers Speed Networking' event – to help make informed Pathways choices.

### **Year 9**

The focus in Year 9 is effective communication. Students will be involved in a 'Work Skills Day' during the spring term where they will work alongside business mentors identifying and demonstrating a range of key employability skills. Some students will also have the opportunity to visit a workplace or business, as well as Further and even Higher education establishments.

In Years 9, 10 and 11, students will continue to study careers modules in 'MSS' lessons. These will explore many aspects of the world of work including responsibilities, employment rights, discrimination, and other areas that will help students in their future working life. There are also dedicated sessions throughout the Tutor Programme relating to employability skills and careers planning.

## **Year 10**

In Year 10, the 'Careers' MSS programme begins with the 'You are hired' unit developing skills in CV writing, applications and interview skills. In conjunction with their MSS programme, all Year 10 students also have the following careers specific programme which enables them to make clear links between theory and practice.

**October:** Wildern Careers Fair. This event allows all students in Year 10 to meet post 16 college providers, local businesses and apprenticeship providers. This aims to get students really focused about the forthcoming post-16 choices, at a vital stage in their education.

**June:** Practice Interviews. This event is to enable all students to experience a real interview in preparation for interviews at post-16 colleges, or for apprenticeships.

**June /July:** College/Apprenticeship Taster Days. All students have the opportunity to spend a whole day in two different colleges or Apprenticeship providers in order that they can really begin to understand what life is like after Wildern. In addition, Year 10 students are encouraged to take part in the school's 2 day Experience of a Workplace programme, allowing for real world contact in industry.

## **Year 11**

In Year 11, references are made to Finance and Careers links as the MSS programme continues. Students look at college prospectuses and post 16 pathways in detail. They also look at the application process in the 'Apply Yourself' unit. All Year 11 students follow this supportive programme for the year:

**September:** College assemblies. We invite a number of different post 16 providers to come and speak to students in assembly about their college, the courses on offer, and the application process.

**September to April:** Applications to colleges and apprenticeships. We strongly recommend that applications are made to several institutions to ensure sufficient scope once exam results are out in the August.

**September to December:** Careers guidance. Students receive tailored careers guidance individually depending on specific needs and future destination data, from our trained and independent careers adviser.

**October:** Wildern Careers Fair. All students are invited to attend the Careers Fair to meet representatives from colleges, universities and apprenticeship providers. They will also have the opportunity to meet local business providers from a wide range of career sectors. This builds on their experience from Year 10 and should be a more refined and targeted experience.

**January/February:** Apprenticeship application sessions. Our independent careers adviser will meet with small groups of students who wish to get an apprenticeship and support them writing their applications.

**December to April:** College Applications and interviews, on and off site.

### **Further support**

The careers library is available in the Learning Resource Centre. Students can go there at any time to access the information that will help them as they move on from Wildern. We have a careers adviser, Ian Henser, who works within the careers area in block 3 on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and is available for drop in sessions at break, lunch and after school. He will meet all students in Year 11 at least once and have 1-2-1 interviews with all of them.

As above all students within the school will have access to online careers tools which can be used both inside and outside of school. These sites have key information about different career sectors, examination requirements for different careers and are easy to navigate around for information about all types of careers options and choices. Students might wish to look over our alumni posters - on display for all at the top of block 9 and in block 3 as well as the careers noticeboards on the top corridor of Block 3. This is where students can find key dates and information, along with 'Job of the month' posters. There is also a careers bulletin sent to all Year 11 parents once a half term, getting across key careers information on a timely basis. This information is put together by a careers focus group made up of students from across the different year groups.

Wildern School works closely with the Careers and Enterprise Company to ensure it regularly assesses and evaluates its provision with the Gatsby benchmarks for good career guidance. This is reviewed at least annually, ensuring the programme is up to date and relevant. The school-wide careers policy is reviewed regularly too, with the next review due: October 2022.

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