



## **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 complete careers modules as part of the Transition work during 'Moral and Social Studies (MSS)' lessons. They will also have access to online careers tools' right at the start of their time at Wildern, and take part in an Enterprise 'Dragons Den' themed This is me day. There are planning sessions for the Dragons Den day built into the Tutor Programme.

### **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. This is complemented by dedicated explanatory sessions in the Tutor Programme. Students will have access to a range of online careers tools. All students in Year 8 will get the opportunity to take part in a careers speed networking event. This allows students to meet local businesses and gain invaluable information about several different career sectors.

### **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 as a virtual work experience. 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.

**September:** 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 colleges or FE 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 program, allowing for real world contact in industry.

## **Year 11**

In Year 11, references are made to Finance and Careers links as the Moral and Social Studies (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:** 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.

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

**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.

**January/February:** Apprenticeship application sessions. Our independent careers advisor 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**

A 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. A careers focus group also meet regularly and help to form and test careers initiatives and ideas.

We have a careers advisor, Ian Henser, who works within the careers area in block 3 on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. He will meet all students in Year 11 at least once and have 1-2-1 interviews with all of them. He will also meet with identified Year 10 students during the summer term. During the pathways process in Year 8 Ian will also meet with identified individuals and groups of students to support them with making GCSE option choices. Ian is available Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for drop in sessions: available at break, lunch and after school.

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 options and choices. Finally, students might wish to look over our [alumni posters](#) on display for all at the top of block 9 and in block 3.

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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