

The Abbey School Careers Impact Statement

Includes the 3i's

Intent

The Abbey School's careers programme ensures that all students have a clear direction and understanding of the career options available to them. The programme provides a rich variety of experiences and is tailored to the needs of each young person. This helps ensure that they become competent and ambitious individuals whom are equipped with the employability skills and mind-set required to effectively respond to the changing demands of the labour market and be able to maximise the career opportunities presented to them.

Careers education is crucial in preparing our young people for the world of work and beyond. Every young person needs high-quality career guidance to make informed decisions about their future. However, it is also the development of employability skills that enables students to capitalise on future careers opportunities and will help them to adapt to the increased changes to labour market demands. Young people are expected to hold a number of different jobs during their careers compared to the past when people had relatively few jobs throughout their working life. With changing technologies and increased competition for jobs, it is critical that as a school, we develop the employability skills required and give our young people the opportunities to meet employers and experience the workplace. A strong and rich Careers programme will help develop confident students whom enjoy their education and can see the relevance of their subjects. This will play a significant part to improving attainment and future successes of the school.

Implementation

Students will start their careers journey in Year 7 and complete their journey at the end of Years 11 or 13. Students will experience a rich and varied programme that involves a number of encounters with employers, higher education and apprenticeship providers. They will also have meetings with independent careers advisors in Years 11 and 12 and have the opportunity to complete work experience in Years 10 and 12. There are two industry specific career events that give students the opportunity to find out more about the type of employment that they are interested in. In addition to this, within the curriculum students experience employers giving subject specific talks in the classroom and go on subject specific visits to workplaces.

Running parallel to these career activities (next page) students also have a form period each week dedicated to learning about employability skills and the range of jobs that exist within different sectors. Form tutors use the online resources 'Skills builder' and 'Start profile' to support with the delivery making the lesson engaging and relevant. During their time at school, students will gain an appreciation of the key employability skills; listening, problem solving, staying positive, aiming high and teamwork.

Impact

Raising aspirations has been identified as a whole-school priority and particularly those of disadvantaged students. The Careers Programme makes a considerable contribution raising aspirations which has also impacted on improved behaviour and attainment across the school. Our successful careers programme will also be reflected in higher numbers of pupils progressing to positive destinations such as apprenticeships, technical routes, sixth form, further education colleges, universities or employment. For those students deciding to go onto further or higher education, the careers programme also helps them to take qualifications that offer them the best opportunity to continue in education or training. They need to make the right decision when choosing their career path so that they are more likely to complete their college or university course and arrive at their desired destination.

Receiving a strong and rich careers programme at The Abbey School can help students to;

- Have an increased awareness of different careers
- Have greater understanding of what they need to do to achieve their ambitions
- Feel more motivated to work hard at school
- Be more resilient by having the determination to keep trying if they cannot do something.