

Nailsea School Careers

The Careers Office is based in Room 143, manned by our Careers Advisor, Mrs Britton, who is on hand to answer any queries. The noticeboard outside is updated regularly with information about open days, apprenticeships, vacancies, courses and study options. There are a variety of resources available. Please also see the careers pages in the termly school newsletter for the latest information and reports on school careers activities. In addition the 6th Form have access to careers resources in the 6th Form study area and 6th Form study room 32.

A variety of careers events and activities run throughout the year. Information about these can be found on the plasma screens, school newsletter, facebook, twitter and noticeboards around school.

Careers Advice

Impartial careers advice is available to all students from Y7 to Y13. Our Careers Advisor is Deb Britton who is based in the Careers Office and we are lucky to have one of the few Level 7 qualified Careers Advisors in the region. Careers advice helps students identify their strengths and interests, discover which skills they need to develop and how to make the right choices to lead them into their chosen career path. The Careers Advisor can provide up to date information and guidance on further study, options, vacancies and career paths. Students are referred by tutors, teachers, mentors, or can request appointments themselves.

Support for students

All students are able to access careers advice and support. Students in Year 11 and Year 13 are targeted at these crucial stages to ensure they have the support required and have taken the action necessary to progress into further education or employment.

We also target students who may have additional needs to ensure they receive the individual support they may require including those at risk of NEET, pupil premium, SEN, More Able and Talented, vulnerable and looked after children. Careers support is also fully embedded into the pastoral system and is used as an additional tool to help students meet academic targets and levels of progression.

6th Form students have their own extended careers programme of events, activities, speakers and workshops. In addition all Year 13 students are invited to 1-2-1 careers interviews to check they have made applications and taken steps to secure their next placement of either study, apprenticeship or employment. Careers advice and support is also offered to any student struggling to adjust to the requirements of 6th Form or wavering with their chosen route or subject choices.

Students are regularly reminded and information is available around school about recommended online information, websites and psychometric tools that can help with planning future career paths and study routes.

Careers Events

Careers advice and guidance is provided in a number of ways throughout the school year. Individual 1-2-1 appointments; pop up lunchtime careers activities and information stands; subject lessons as part of the curriculum; evening careers events; workshops; ABSolute Curriculum days; assemblies and tutor time tasks; external speakers; work experience; employer and business trips; visits to careers fairs and exhibitions; visits to further education, universities and colleges.

Employer Engagement

We are ideally placed in the heart of the community and welcome working with employers who can offer an insight into real working life. The involvement of employers is vital to showing students the relevance of their studies, helping them gain experience and sparking ideas on future career paths.

We are grateful to the growing number of employers that offer work experience placements, networking and information events, workshops, interview practice, support for the Careers Fair, subject presentations and classwork and ongoing advice and guidance to our students.

We are also pleased to welcome back ex students and have a strong alumni network. It is always interesting for staff to hear how ex students are doing and current students find it inspiring and a positive experience when interacting with ex students.

Assessment

We structure our careers provision around the Gatsby Benchmarks to ensure we follow government guidelines and meet the expectations of a quality careers offer. The careers programme is constantly changing and evolving according to feedback and need.

We run a self-assessment of the whole careers provision twice a year. Every event or activity produces feedback which is acted on to improve and target future careers provision. We use destination data and student voice to shape the careers offer in school to the needs of our students. Feedback from students, parents, employers and visitors is vital and is used when assessing and planning our careers provision.