



Careers

Learning Journey Parkside CEIAG





Vision: Achieve, Belong, Thrive

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At Parkside Community School, careers education is a central component of our commitment to ensuring that all pupils achieve, belong and thrive. Careers education and guidance is understood not only as preparation for future destinations, but as a key contributor to personal development, emotional wellbeing, confidence, aspiration and social mobility.

We recognise that pupils who are vulnerable, disadvantaged and/or have SEND may face additional barriers to engagement, participation and progression. Our careers programme is therefore intentionally designed to identify need early, remove barriers, and provide graduated and personalised support, enabling all pupils to flourish and transition successfully to their next steps.

This approach reflects the expectations of:

- The Ofsted Education Inspection Framework and Toolkit (2025), particularly the Personal Development and Wellbeing judgement.
- The Gatsby Benchmarks (2025), especially Benchmark 3 (Addressing the needs of each pupil) and Benchmark 8 (Personal guidance).
- The statutory careers guidance, which requires inclusive, impartial and personalised CEIAG for all learners





Student Entitlement Statement

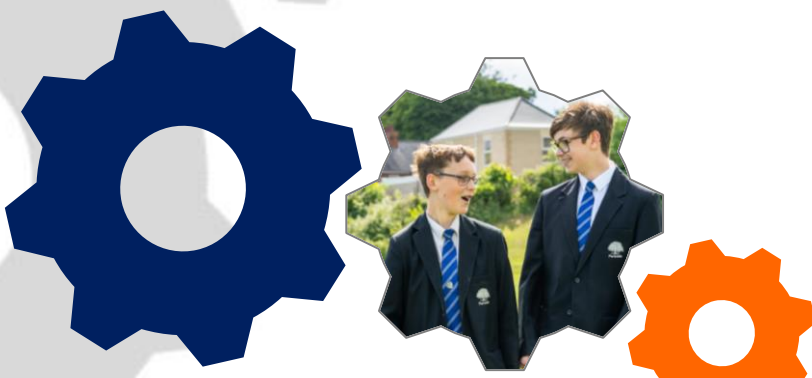
Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

As a student at Parkside Community School you have the opportunity to receive the following: –

- **ACCESS** to impartial advice and information about all career and progression options available to you
- **SUPPORT and GUIDANCE** to help you make choices and complete a career plan for the future, at the appropriate time
- **HELP** to decide what options to pursue at year 9, year 11 and year 13, including information about further learning, training or employment
- **A PLANNED PROGRAMME** of careers education helping you to develop skills and knowledge to enable you to make choices and the transition into work or learning.
- **ACCESS** to a range of online (and paper based) resources to help you to plan your next step, including labour market information, higher education and apprenticeship providers and career planning tools

You will also have the opportunity to: –

- **EXPLORE** the world of work via access to a range of opportunity providers including – employers, voluntary organisations, further and higher education.
- **ATTEND** events giving information on future learning opportunities within further and higher education
- **BE INVOLVED** in making decisions about things that affect your learning and future career options.



Intent

Our intent is to provide a coherent and fully sequenced careers programme that supports all pupils from Year 7 to Year 11. The programme ensures pupils have regular access to high-quality careers information, meaningful encounters with employers and education providers and opportunities to explore a diverse range of future pathways. It aims to help pupils understand the relationship between curriculum learning and the wider world of work, highlighting how knowledge and skills acquired across subjects link directly to future careers and progression routes.

A key part of our intent is to ensure that careers education provides personalised support that identifies, responds to and removes barriers that may affect engagement or progression. Pupils who are disadvantaged, vulnerable or have SEND needs receive additional, tailored support to help them develop aspiration, resilience, confidence and independence. This personalised element is delivered through our universal, targeted and specialist offers, ensuring every student can access opportunities that reflect their needs and ambitions.

Through this intent, Parkside aims to ensure that all pupils leave Year 11 with the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to progress confidently into further education, apprenticeships, training or employment, supported by strong personal guidance and robust transition planning.





Implementation

Implementation

The careers programme is implemented through a structured and progressive model underpinned by the Gatsby Benchmarks. The school provides a stable programme that is clearly mapped, published and regularly evaluated, ensuring all year groups receive consistent and developmentally appropriate careers education. This programme is supported by a trained Careers Leader, specialist careers advisor, link governor and SLT oversight, ensuring that provision is aligned with school improvement priorities and fully embedded across the curriculum.

All pupils have access to high-quality labour market information through school website resources, careers assemblies, PSHE lessons and parental information events. As pupils move into Key Stage 4, this is enhanced through 1:1 guidance meetings, small-group sessions and additional support for parents and carers. Encounters with employers and employees are woven throughout the programme, with each year group accessing at least one meaningful encounter annually. Experiences include assemblies, challenge events, sector-specific visits, employer-led activities and careers fairs involving alumni and local partners.

Workplace experiences form a key part of the programme. Pupils in Key Stage 3 participate in workplace visits, virtual tours and employer projects, while all Year 10 pupils complete a full work experience placement supported by preparatory and follow-up activities. Encounters with further and higher education providers are coordinated across KS3 and KS4, ensuring all pupils meet a range of colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers and technical education routes in line with Provider Access Legislation.

Personal guidance is delivered through a combination of drop-in sessions, structured appointments and targeted interventions. All pupils in Year 11 receive a dedicated 1:1 appointment with a qualified careers advisor, with additional support for earlier year groups and priority cohorts. Guidance is timed to coincide with key decision points, such as Year 9 options and post-16 applications.

For further details please consult the Careers programme document found on our website,



Impact

Impact

The careers programme at Parkside Community School has a significant and measurable impact on pupils' personal development, confidence, aspiration and readiness for life beyond Year 11. Through a carefully sequenced programme of curriculum learning, employer encounters, workplace experiences and personal guidance, pupils develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to progress successfully into further education, apprenticeships or employment. The programme directly supports pupils to broaden their horizons, challenge stereotypes and raise their aspirations by exposing them to a diverse range of sectors, role models and progression routes.

A key impact of the programme is its contribution to reducing the risk of pupils becoming NEET. The combination of early identification, targeted support, personalised action plans and 1:1 careers guidance—particularly for disadvantaged, vulnerable and SEND learners—ensures pupils receive timely help to plan realistic pathways and overcome barriers to engagement. This structured and proactive approach supports more pupils to secure positive, sustained destinations after Year 11.

Pupils also gain essential employability skills through employer encounters, challenge days, careers events and real workplace experience. Activities across all year groups help develop communication, teamwork, problem-solving, resilience, confidence and independence. These attributes, combined with increased familiarity with workplace expectations, contribute to improved readiness for post-16 study or employment and help pupils begin to see themselves as future participants in the world of work.

Impact is further demonstrated through increased pupil confidence in making informed decisions at key transition points. Careers assemblies, options guidance, provider encounters and personalised advisor sessions help pupils understand their choices and match their strengths and interests to appropriate routes. Pupils report feeling more prepared for their next steps, and feedback from parents and external partners highlights improved understanding of pathways and progression requirements.

The programme also enriches pupils' worldviews. Encounters with a range of employers, further and higher education providers, apprenticeship routes and alumni broaden pupils' understanding of the opportunities available to them locally and nationally. This exposure supports aspiration-raising, deepens curriculum engagement and helps pupils make connections between subject learning and real-life careers, which is a central aim of the programme.

Finally, the school uses a wide range of quality assurance processes—including Compass audits, destination tracking, participation data, employer feedback and pupil voice—to monitor impact and continually refine provision. These processes provide evidence of improved engagement, higher aspirations, strengthened transition outcomes and an increasingly consistent and embedded careers culture across the school.

Overall, the careers programme equips pupils with the knowledge, skills and personal qualities they need to thrive beyond Parkside. It broadens horizons, builds ambition, develops employability skills and ensures pupils—particularly those facing disadvantage—are supported to progress confidently towards successful futures.

Year 10 – Experience & Skill Development

- One-week Work Experience placement for all pupils, with preparation and follow-up
- Encounters with employers through assemblies, workplace visits and sector-specific events
- Careers Café events with apprenticeship, FE and training providers
- PSHE careers lessons incorporating employer interactions and real-world scenarios
- Strong focus on employability skills including communication, teamwork and confidence
- Targeted guidance for pupils needing personalised support or adapted experiences

Year 11 – Transition & Next Steps

- Guaranteed 1:1 guidance appointment with a qualified Careers Advisor
- KS4 Information Evening and Post-16 Information Event for pupils and families
- Regular encounters with FE, HE and training providers through assemblies and PSHE
- Support with applications, personal statements, interviews and transition planning
- Careers Café drop-ins offering provider engagement and additional advice
- Enhanced support for SEND, disadvantaged or vulnerable pupils, including multi-agency transition work
- Destination tracking, support with post-16 choices and follow-up to ensure positive progression

Year 9 – Options Decisions & Future Planning

- Comprehensive options guidance including assemblies, lessons, booklets and parent events
- Options meetings offering 1:1 or small-group guidance for pupils
- Encounters with employers through mock interviews, STEM events and Q&A sessions
- Curriculum areas emphasising how subject choices link to future pathways
- Workplace visits and experiences such as the Chew Project trip
- Additional support for vulnerable, disadvantaged or SEND pupils when selecting GCSE options

Year 8 – Exploration & Sector Awareness

- KS3 Information Evening extending pupils' understanding of pathways
- Continued access to LMI through careers assemblies, resources and PSHE
- Participation in activities such as National Manufacturing Day and Made in Chesterfield
- Careers Café events featuring a variety of FE, HE and training providers
- PSHE careers lessons focused on job families, skills and future choices
- Targeted support available for pupils needing additional guidance
- Workplace visits, virtual tours and opportunities such as the Chew Project

Year 7 – Raising Aspirations

- KS3 Information Evening and structured transition activities from Year 6 into Year 7
- Year 7 Parents' Evening with early careers engagement
- Careers-focused assemblies introducing labour market information and future pathways
- PSHE careers lessons exploring job sectors, interests and basic employability skills
- Employer assemblies and talks to broaden early horizons
- Virtual workplace tours and introductory exposure to a range of industries
- Curriculum subjects highlighting early links between learning and real-world careers

