



Careers Provision at Bexhill Academy 2019/2020

‘Good career guidance is critical if young people are to raise their aspirations and capitalise on the opportunities available to them’ (The Gatsby Charitable Foundation, 2017)

Bexhill Academy is committed to delivering careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG), in line with the eight Gatsby benchmarks of good career guidance and the Career Development Institute Framework for Careers, Employability and Enterprise Education. The eight benchmarks are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Year 7

Year 7 students have a module of careers education lessons as part of their PHSE curriculum. These lessons are designed to increase self-awareness, look at skills and qualities, raise awareness of the world of work, and encourage students to consider the impact of stereotyping, discrimination and prejudice. We also introduce the idea of enterprise.

There is a Year 7 camp in July which is an excellent opportunity for the development of skills and qualities such as team work and communication skills as well as the development of confidence and self-esteem. Year 7's also attend the Big Bang Fair at Ardingly where they can experience the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

Year 8

Year 8 students have a module of careers education lessons as part of their PHSE curriculum. These lessons look at career choice, employment law, labour market information, networks and social capital and how to sell yourself.

There is an Options Evening where students and parents/carers have the opportunity to find out about the exam subjects on offer. GCSE subjects are now studied over a three year period. Colleges also attend this event so information can be provided regarding Post 16 options.

Students have the opportunity to take part in taster sessions to help them make informed choices about the subjects they would like to take as part of a Career and Option Choices Drop Down Day.

Year 9

Selected Year 9 students take part in the 'Be the Change' programme sponsored by Hastings Direct and delivered by Human Utopia.

We also took part in the Open Doors Project during which some East Sussex businesses open their doors to small groups of students. This provides a really good opportunity for students to understand how businesses operate and see what the world of work looks like. In 2019 we visited the Sussex Wildlife Trust in Rye and an Into Games Event hosted by the De La Warr Pavilion.

In partnership with The University of Brighton/Compact+ Programme, Year 9 students are also given the opportunity to visit universities around the country. Booked in so far for 2020 are visits to campuses at Moulsecoomb and Eastbourne.

Year 10

A combined Year 10/11 Parent Information Evening – At the beginning of the autumn term parents/carers and students are invited to come and find out about the year ahead. Some of the local colleges will be present at this event so students can begin to understand the options available to them after Year 11.

Year 10 students have a Career focused Drop Down Day that encourages them to consider different industries from the world of work and begin to think about being work ready. This includes advice on writing a CV and interview skills. They have the opportunity to explore possible career ideas as well as meeting a range of people from the world of work during our speed networking event.

Year 10 students have the opportunity visit the Bexhill Jobs and Apprenticeship Fair at the De La Warr Pavilion in Term 4. This is a popular event represented by business, colleges and training providers from around the county.

They also have the opportunity for work experience and this year we have 103 students due out on placements in July. We hope they enjoy their time in their world of work, and thank the support of the businesses and employers who have made this happen.

During the summer term Year 10 students have the opportunity to visit local colleges on Taster Days. These allow students to try out different courses, visit different colleges and are really important in helping students to start to think about what they would like to do once they leave Bexhill Academy.

Some of the colleges offer Open Evenings specifically aimed at Year 10 students and their parents/carers. It is a really good idea to make the most of these opportunities so students are prepared to make decisions in Year 11.

Year 11

A combined Year 10/11 Parent Information Evening – At the beginning of the year parents/carers and students are invited to come and find out about the important year ahead. There is an opportunity to talk to subject tutors about revision techniques and many of the local colleges and post 16 training providers attend this event so that parents/carers and students are aware of the range of options available.

College Assemblies – During the autumn term all of the local colleges deliver an assembly and distribute prospectuses to promote their open evenings and courses on offer.

Year 11 students have a Career focused Drop Down Day which includes a Careers Fair with local education and training providers as well as local employers in attendance. Students also have the opportunity to login to careerseastsussex to apply to college and search for courses.

My Future Starts Here carried out Careers Interviews for Year 11 students in January 2020 with all students having a career action plan to help them prepare for the transition to post 16 education or training. Students wanting to find out more can speak with their Form Tutor; Tracey Holden, our Careers Advisor or Mr B Eldridge, regarding transition to College.

General

Bexhill Academy Alumni – We are working with Future First to develop an alumni of ex-students to work with the school in supporting current students in a variety of different ways. If you are an ex-student of Bexhill High/Bexhill Academy please sign up so we can keep you up to date as this project develops. We would like to build a really active community of alumni and would encourage any ex-student to sign up.

<https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/bexhillacademy>

Bexhill Beacon– We will be introducing lots of exciting news about careers and updates in the school magazine. See who our students have met and inspired our future leaders of engineers, medics and sports! The latest LMI (Labour Market Information) is also printed so you can see the current trends of pay, jobs and employment in the local area.

School Website – There is quite a lot of information regarding careers on the school website and this is being added to and developed all the time. <http://www.bexhillacademy.org/parents/careers-information-for-parents2fcarers>

Evaluation of Provision – we regularly evaluate careers provision with staff, parents and students and amend and develop our provision in response to the evaluations.

Please do not hesitate to contact our Careers Advisor, Tracey Holden, if you have any questions about our Careers Provision at Bexhill Academy. Email careers@bexhillacademy.org or ring 01424 735475