



## Careers Provision at Bexhill Academy

**‘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.

We organise an annual trip for a group of Year 7 students to **Kidzania** which is a careers themed activity centre. This trip is optional and is offered on a first come, first served basis.

There is a **Year 7 camp** 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 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 a **Year 8 options evening** where students and parents have the opportunity to find out about the exam subjects on offer. GCSE subjects are now studied over a three year period. Careers advice is available and local colleges attend this event. Students then 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**

We have previously taken groups of students for a **taster day at Sussex Coast College** as part of our raising aspirations agenda.

**University Visit** - As part of our raising aspiration agenda students have the opportunity to visit a university.

## Year 9

**Options Evening** – parents/carers and students are invited to attend an Options Evening where they can find out about the exam subjects on offer during Year 10 and 11. There is the opportunity to speak to tutors, look at work and find out about the course content. Careers advice is available at this event.

Year 9 students have a **career focused drop down day** that helps them to consider their GCSE option choices and begin to consider possible future careers.

This year 120 Year 9 students have taken part in the '**Be the Change**' programme sponsored by Hastings Direct and delivered by Human Utopia.

We take 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.

## Year 10

**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.

We have reintroduced the opportunity for **work experience** in Year 10 and forty eight students completed placements last year with really positive feedback from students and employers.

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. 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

**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 UCAS Progress and search for courses.

During Year 11 all students will produce a **career action plan** to help them prepare for the transition to post 16 education or training. Students have the option to have a **1:1 career discussion** and **drop-in sessions** are available for any students wanting advice or guidance.

**Apprenticeship vacancies** are advertised after the spring break on a dedicated board in the reception area.

## **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>

**Career Drop-in Sessions** – Our careers adviser offers weekly drop-in sessions on a Wednesday lunch time in the library for any questions or queries.

**Tutor Time** – We currently have a career of the week which is available to tutors to use at tutor time. It links to a video on [www.icould.com](http://www.icould.com) and gives students the opportunity to find out about a wide range of different careers.

**Careers Advice and Guidance** – Bexhill Academy currently employs a highly qualified careers adviser three days a week. Advice and guidance is available by email, 1:1 career discussions and drop in sessions.

**Careers Week** – We are working towards implementing a careers week to be delivered across the curriculum. All subject departments have been asked to teach a lesson to Year 7, 8 and 9 students that links their subject to careers. This could be looking at careers that students with an interest in that subject could pursue or even developing employability skills that are transferrable to the world of work.

**Careers Notice Board** – The careers adviser maintains a careers notice board to display information about different careers and career events.

**Beacon Magazine** – Regular career updates are published in the school magazine.

**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.

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

