



Careers Provision at Bexhill Academy 2022/23

‘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 Framework**. The eight benchmarks (GBM) 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

The Key Learning Areas of the Career Development Framework, as identified by the Careers Development Institute, ensure our young people are able to:

- grow throughout life
- explore possibilities
- manage their career
- create opportunities
- balance life and work
- see the big picture

We fully support this career development framework, which main purpose is to clarify the skills, knowledge and attitudes that individuals need to have a positive career. A ‘positive career’ will mean something different to everyone, but it will typically include being happy with the way you spend your time, being able to make a contribution to your community and being able to have a decent standard of living.

As part of our commitment to informing our students of the full range of learning and training pathways on offer, we are happy to consider requests from training, apprenticeship and vocational education providers. This may include school assemblies, employer and provider engagement events or opportunities to speak with students and parents on a one-to-one basis supporting GCSE, at parent’s evenings, options evenings and employability days.

Designated SLT Lead for Careers and Employability Strategy is Lee Starkey, Assistant Principal.

Lead for Careers and Employability: Mrs. Donna Mills

PSHE Lead: Miss Alicia Burdett

Year 7

Year 7 students have a module of careers education lessons as part of their PSHE curriculum. These lessons are 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 teamwork and communication skills as well as the development of confidence and self-esteem. Year 7, also attend the Big Bang Fair at Ardingly where they can experience the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). (GBM 4).

Year 8

Year 8 students have a module of careers education lessons as part of their PSHE curriculum. These lessons look at career choice, employment law, labour market information, networks and social capital and how to promote yourself. (GBM 2)

In National Apprenticeship Week, students complete a workbook during Tutor Time to gain an understanding about apprenticeships.

Year 9

Selected Year 9 students take part in the 'Futuready' programme sponsored by Hastings Direct and delivered by Humanutopia. (GBM 5)

In 2022, we took part in the Open Doors Project during which some East Sussex businesses open their doors to small groups of students. This provides a good opportunity for students to understand how businesses operate and see what the world of work looks like. We visited Glyndebourne with students having a particular interest in theatre and music; they were also enabled to see how a production works from the lighting to the sound facilities. The PE scholars took part in a workshop at the AMEX stadium working with Albion in the community. Visits will be booked next year to University campuses in Moulsecomb and Brighton in partnership with The University of Brighton/Compact+ Programme for Year 9. (GBM 7)

Year 10

It is compulsory for all Year 10 to partake in a work experience placement in Term 6. In 2022, we had over 170 students out on placement. All students who take part saw the benefit of this experience and gave them a good understanding of their next steps and the expectation for themselves in a place of work.

We were grateful that businesses were able to support our students in July 2022. Numbers were high as many businesses are now offering the opportunity of work experience after the pandemic. (GBM 6)

We have Taster Days planned for Year 10 students in June and July 2022. These allow students to try out different courses, visit different colleges and are important in helping students to start to think about what they would like to do once they leave Bexhill Academy. (GBM 7). In June/July 2021, we had our students attend Eastbourne, Lewes. Hastings College and Bexhill College.

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

Previously we have had selected students in Year 10 having the opportunity to visit St Johns College, Oxford – this was a link formed by Mr Eldridge as the 'Head of Oxford House' and although we now use Year Groups (as a pose to the House structure), it is something we are looking to start up again .

Year 11

College Assemblies have returned to assembly time for our current cohort. There is also a year 11 parents Information Evening in September, which allows parents, Carers and students to speak to local colleges about their choices before they start their college application in October. (GBM 7)

Year 11, have the opportunity to log into careerseastsussex to apply to college and search for courses.

1:1 Careers Guidance Interviews with My Future Starts Here have taken place in year 10 and are continuing in Yr11 for any students who wish a second interview. Students and their tutors are emailed their career action plans to help them prepare for the transition to post 16 education or training. (GBM 8). Our Careers and Employability Lead is currently completing the OCR Level 6 Diploma in Career Guidance and Development with the completion approximately May 2023.

Year 11 complete their college applications by the end of term 5 with college interviews beginning in early January 2023.

Students wanting to find out more can speak with their Form Tutor; Donna Mills, Lead for Careers and Employability, or Mr Mike Hutchins, Learning Lead for Year 11, regarding transition to College.

General

Bexhill Academy Alumni – We are now developing our own alumni of ex-students to work with the Academy 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. (GBM 5). Please email careers@bexhillacademy.org

The Academy Friday Update – news about careers and updates are now in the Friday Update. This will raise awareness for parents/carers and students and help to celebrate success and experiences of the world of work. The latest LMI (Labour Market Information) is shared to show the current trends of pay, jobs and employment in the local area. (GBM 2)

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. Parents: <http://www.bexhillacademy.org/about/careers-information->

Our Careers Programme is published on the Academy website, under About – Careers Information (as above) (GBM 1). Feedback is always welcome from our stakeholders – please email careers@bexhillacademy.org

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

Please do not hesitate to contact our Lead for Careers and Employability, Donna Mills, if you have any questions about our Careers Provision at Bexhill Academy. Email careers@bexhillacademy.org or ring 01424 730722.



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