

Career Education and Guidance

The importance of Careers Education and Guidance is fully acknowledged within the school curriculum. The Careers Department aims to provide all students with the information and support necessary to help them make informed decisions about their future career choices. Careers education is delivered through the Education for Employability Programme in Years 8-10, continues as Learning for Life and Work (LLW) in Years 11 and 12 and is delivered through the Sixth Form Pastoral Programme. LLW is also available as a GCSE option. Within the careers programme, emphasis is placed on the development of personal awareness and on the acquisition of skills needed to make sound educational and career choices. Guidance is provided by specialist teachers and outside agencies who give pupils opportunities to discuss their aptitudes and interests and obtain advice on possible career paths. Pupils are encouraged to undertake extensive personal research of their chosen occupational areas, using available computer packages and relevant literature.

The school organises a number of events to complement the taught careers programme. In conjunction with Young Enterprise a number of one day programmes are delivered

to all pupils in Years 8 -10. These programmes are based on the principle of learning by doing where students are encouraged to work together to run their own companies. Volunteers from business are brought into the classroom to work with teachers and pupils. The school also organises information evenings for pupils and hosts a biennial Careers Convention where pupils and their parents can meet with representatives from a wide range of professions and industry.

Our senior pupils are offered the opportunity to explore and develop their knowledge of Higher Education and the world of work. All Year 13 pupils participate in one week's work experience. Year 14 pupils avail of the opportunities to attend the annual Open Days in the local Universities and take part in a Mock Interview evening with experienced interviewers who assess and discuss their individual performances. The school also takes part in the Cambridge Shadowing Scheme and has links with Pembroke and Corpus Christi colleges where pupils spend a number of days shadowing students and assimilate the atmosphere of student life in these notable seats of learning.



Work Experience