



Careers Guidance Policy

September 2024

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Policy Status	Date:	Review Date
Approved by LAC	4 th February 2025	September 2025
Reviewed by SLT	September 2024	September 2025

Careers Education, Information and Guidance Policy

Isaiah 30:21

“Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, ‘This is the way; walk in it.’”

Derby Cathedral School is a Christian community that welcomes students, families and visitors of all faiths and none. The diversity and richness of such a family brings depth and a vibrancy to our core.

Students of Derby Cathedral School are given every opportunity and challenged to be the best that they can be, demonstrating FAITH in all they do.

- **Fellowship** - Collaborating with others, we treat everyone with respect, dignity and kindness.
- **Aspiration** - We are ready to learn and grow, striving to be the best that we can be in every aspect of our lives.
- **Integrity** – We demonstrate fairness, equality and honesty.
- **Tenacity** – We are determined and resilient when faced with challenges.
- **Humility** - We are gracious, calm and understand the importance of forgiveness.

All students will be well prepared for their next step into future education, training and employment. They will be happy, healthy, confident, life-long learners who ‘experience life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10)

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1. Aims

This policy aims to set out our school's provision of impartial and informed careers guidance for our pupils. This includes the ways in which pupils, parents, teachers and employers can access information about our careers programme. This policy applies to all schools that provide secondary and post-16 education.

High-quality careers guidance is important for our pupils' futures, and our provision aims to:

- Help pupils prepare for the workplace, by building self-development and career management skills
- Provide experience and a clear understanding of the working world
- Develop pupils' awareness of the variety of education, training and careers opportunities available to them
- Help pupils to understand routes to careers that they're interested in, and to make informed choices about their next step in education or training
- Promote a culture of high aspirations and equality of opportunity

2. Statutory requirements

This policy is based on the Department for Education's (DfE's) statutory [Careers guidance and access for education and training providers](#).

This guidance refers to:

- The Education Act 1997
- The Education and Skills Act 2008
- The School Information (*England) Regulations 2008

This policy is also in line with the more recent [Skills and Post-16 Act 2022](#), which came into force on **1 January 2023**. It explains that our school must provide a minimum of **6 encounters** with technical education or training providers to all pupils in years 8 to 13. For more detail on these encounters, see our provider access policy statement, which you can find on our website in the careers section.

This policy is also in line with the Education (Careers Guidance in Schools) Act 2022. This came into force on 1 September 2022, and amended the existing duty in The Education Act 1997, so that:

- Our school must now secure independent careers guidance from year 7 (instead of from year 8, previously)
- As an academy in England, we're now required to provide and publish careers guidance

The above guidance requires that schools publish information about their careers programme on their website. This policy includes this information and shows how our school complies with this requirement.

This policy complies with our funding agreement and articles of association.

We also act in line with our statutory duty under the 'Baker Clause', to be impartial and not show bias towards any route, be that academic or technical. This policy should be read in conjunction with our provider access policy statement, which sets out how our school meets this duty, and can be found on our website in the careers section.

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 Careers leader

All schools that provide secondary and post-16 education must have a named careers leader. This named person must be a member of the senior leadership team or work closely with the senior leadership team.

The careers leader will:

- Take responsibility for developing, running and reporting on the school's career programme
- Plan and manage careers activities
- Manage the budget for the careers programme
- Support teachers to build careers education and guidance into subjects across the curriculum
- Establish and develop links with employers, education and training providers, and careers organisations
- Work closely with relevant staff, including our special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO) and careers adviser, to identify the guidance needs of all of our pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and put in place personalised support and transition plans
- Work with our school's designated teacher for looked-after children (LAC) and previously LAC to:
- Make sure they know which pupils are in care or are care leavers
- Understand their additional support needs
- Make sure that, for LAC, their personal education plan can help inform careers advice
- Review our school's provider access policy statement at least annually, in agreement with our Local Academy Committee
- Work with the schools Enterprise Advisor and Enterprise Coordinator

3.2 Senior leadership team (SLT)

SLT will:

- Support the careers programme
- Support the careers leader in developing their strategic careers plan

- Make sure our school's careers leader is allocated sufficient time, and has the appropriate training, to perform their duties to a high standard
- Allow training providers access to talk to pupils in years 8 to 13 about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships, and set out arrangements for this in our school's provider access policy statement
- Network with employers, education and training providers, and other careers organisations

3.3 The Local Academy Committee

The Local Academy Committee will:

- Provide clear advice and guidance on which the school can base a strategic careers plan which meets legal and contractual requirements
- Appoint a member of the Local Academy Committee who will take a strategic interest in careers education and encourage employer engagement
- Make sure independent careers guidance is provided to all pupils throughout their secondary education (11 to 18 year-olds) and that the information is presented impartially, includes a range of educational or training options and promotes the best interests of pupils
- Make sure that a range of education and training providers can access pupils in years 8 to 13 to inform them of approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships
- Make sure that details of our school's careers programme and the name of the careers leader are published on the school's website
- Make sure that arrangements are in place for the school to meet the legal requirements of the 'Baker Clause', including that the school has published a provider access policy statement

3.4 Careers Link Trustee

- Understand and Support the Careers Programme in the Trust.
- Work with the secondary school Link Member for Careers.
- Oversee Strategy and Reporting.

4. School's career programmes

The school will have an embedded careers programme that aims to inform and encourage pupils to consider their career options, and take steps to understand their choices and pathways. The school shall provide statutory independent careers guidance to pupils from year 7 onwards.

The career programme will have been developed to meet the expectations outlined in the **Gatsby Benchmarks**:

1. A stable careers programme with a careers leader
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. Experience of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

The programme will not show bias towards any particular career path, and promotes a full range of technical and academic options for pupils.

The programme is structured in a way that builds upon previous years, and the overarching aim is divided between the Key Stages so that pupils are encouraged to think appropriately about their future. The school provide aims, objectives and activities for each year group.

The school will ensure that all pupils, by the age of 14, have accessed labour market information to inform their own decisions on study options. Pupils will be provided with the necessary links and information that will enable them to access this. The school will make use of local enterprise partnerships to provide pupils with presentations and workshops on the local labour market and employer expectations. The information provided through the partnership will be used to shape career guidance and workshops in schools.

To support social mobility, the school will work to raise pupils' aspirations and tackle stereotypical assumptions. Interventions will be used to tackle gender stereotypes; arrangements will be made for pupils to talk to employees who work in non-stereotypical jobs to raise awareness of the range of careers that STEM qualifications lead to. This includes, but is not limited to, the annual school STEM Day, which showcases a range of STEM careers and a Women in Engineering event organised in partnership with the Enterprise Advisor who is an employee at Rolls Royce. The school will engage with widening participation initiatives, including Realising Opportunities (KS5) and encourage student engagement to raise aspirations and support positive destination outcomes.

The school will use labour market information, such as job roles, pay and vacancies, to inform pupils about the trends and opportunities in each industry. Information about a diverse range of progression pathways will be shared with pupils, including technical routes, to strengthen their capacity to make effective choices. Students will also have access to the Unifrog platform which contains a wealth of labour market information.

The programme will be reviewed termly against the benchmarks to ensure it remains on target. This will be done via the termly Compass review which is completed with the support of the Enterprise Coordinator, Enterprise Advisor and SLT member with responsibility for Careers. The Enterprise Coordinator is K Turner, the Enterprise Advisor is Lauren H and the SLT member with responsibility for careers is Mr A McIntyre.

Key Stage 3

The school will clearly outline the aims, objectives and activities which will be achieved in the Key Stage 3 careers programme. This will support pupils in their planning and choices of GCSE subjects.

Key Stage 4

The school will clearly outline the aims, objectives and activities which will be achieved in the Key Stage 4 careers programme. The Key Stage 4 careers programme aims to help pupils research and understand their choices and routes into education and training.

Key Stage 5

The school will clearly outline the aims, objectives and activities which will be achieved in the Key Stage 5 careers programme. The Key Stage 5 careers programme supports pupils in planning for their future, including university and alternative pathways.

4.1 Pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND)

We expect that the majority of pupils with SEND will follow the same careers programme that meets the Gatsby Benchmarks as their classmates, with adjustments and additional support as needed.

Our careers leaders will work with teachers and, where appropriate, professionals from relevant organisations, to identify the needs of our pupils with SEND and put in place personalised support and transition plans. This may include meetings with pupils and their families to discuss education, training and employment opportunities, supported internships and transition plans into higher education.

Careers leaders may, as appropriate, invite adults with disabilities to visit and share their experience and advice.

4.2 Access to our careers programme information

A summary of our school's careers programme is published on our schools website, including details of how pupils, parents, teachers and employers can access information about the careers programme.

Pupils, parents, teachers and employers can request any additional information about the careers programme by contacting the school's Careers Leader.

4.3 Assessing the impact on pupils

Our career programme is designed so pupils can give feedback, and their progress measured as they move through the Key Stages. We measure and assess the impact of the programme's initiatives through reviewing destination data, surveys and compass reviews.

5. Links to other policies

This policy links to the following policies

- Provider access policy statement
- Child protection policy
- Curriculum policy

6. Monitoring and review

This policy, the information included, and its implementation will be reviewed annually.

The next review date is September 2026.