Foxwood Academy's Career Strategy.

Preparing our young people for life beyond Foxwood has always been central to the work we do. Foxwood has a long and successful history of helping students develop their understanding about the world of work; from finding out about what people do in different jobs, to a wide range of work experience and entrepreneurial activities. The Preparing for Adulthood 'Employment' strand of the curriculum is already highly developed and consists of the following areas of learning:

Primary:

- Acts of Kindness
- Jobs in my class
- Real world play
- Adapting to new environments
- Following instructions
- Jobs around school
- Working alongside others
- Job roles in the community
- My Skills
- Volunteering and fundraising
- Jobs in my classroom
- Real world visits
- Meeting role models
- My Goals
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Key Stage 3:

- Supporting charities or volunteering and fundraising
- Jobs in my classroom
- Real world jobs
- Skills and interests
- Following instructions
- Jobs around school
- Working alongside others
- Jobs in the community
- Future aspirations

Key Stage 4/5

- Vocational College Links
- Building a personal/vocational profile
- Work experience (internal and external)
- The world of work – Careers awareness

Gatsby Benchmark & Compass+.

The Government's Careers Strategy (December 2017) has given us the opportunity to review our offer using the Compass Toolkit and to develop it further to ensure we are covering all the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks. These benchmarks are reviewed every term by our Careers Leader, Laura Wright.

The careers strategy is part of the government's plan to make Britain fairer, improve social mobility and offer opportunity to everyone.

Gatsby Benchmarks

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

Links to further information:

Careers strategy: making the most of everyone's skills and talents.
www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-strategy-making-the-most-of-everyones-skills-and-talents

The SEND Gatsby Benchmark Toolkit.

https://www.talentinocareers.co.uk/send-gatsby-benchmark-toolkit.pdf

Careers strategy: making the most of everyone's skills and talents
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-strategy-making-the-most-of-everyones-skills-and-talents

Whilst we acknowledge that all of our students may not make transition into in paid employment, we do believe that all of our young people and their parents/careers will need support when planning for the future, beyond their time at the Academy.

The Academy has a designated **Careers Leader**, **Laura Wright**, whose role is to co-ordinate all the careers and employability activities across the Academy.

Email: laura.wright@foxwood.notts.sch.uk Telephone: 0115 9177202

In addition to the work done within the classroom, all students in Year 8 and above have access to independent impartial careers advice and guidance from a fully qualified and registered *Careers Advisor, Jenny Hallam Ideas4Careers Ltd.*

Our Careers Advisor works with all groups of students and runs one-to-one 'interviews' for individuals. The interviews are adapted to the individual needs of the student e.g. conversation, using symbols, drawing and with or without TA support.

They provide the opportunity for each young person to think about and voice what they would like to do Post 16 or 18 and what their career aspirations might be. Students might need information about the range of options available to them, thinking about what a job might involve or checking out what skills or qualifications they may need. A careers action plan is then written which is fed into the EHCP reviews for each student and actioned accordingly.

We have set up links with the Careers and Enterprise Company and now have a Careers and Enterprise Advisor who works closely with Laura Wright (14-19 tutor). We are in the process of developing our links with local employers and business people so that students will have the opportunity to hear from real employers what skills they are looking for, and what types of jobs are available locally. We also hope to involve them in mock interviews. Each academic year, we run several Employers Days for all secondary aged pupils. These employers days are differentiated for the different key stages and pathways. In the past we have welcomed local employers such as Hovis, St Mowden, LUSH, Amazon, Tesco, DoughNotts, Nottingham Forest Football Club and many more.

Every year we also hold a Transition Event for the 14-19 Phase pupils. This event always receives great feedback from students, parents/carers and providers. This event is a great opportunity for parents/carers to hear from and speak to a range of local employment, training and college providers to begin to find out the range of provision on offer. We also hold an annual coffee morning focusing on transition where parents/carers can find out more about the support available to young people to aid with their transition from Foxwood Academy. This event is planned for October 2026.
We have had extremely positive feedback from students, parents/carers, external providers and staff about these events and plan to continue holding these events every academic year.
Throughout the academic year, students will also be given the opportunity to visit different colleges and attend open days. This ensures that students are given a range of experiences of different providers that are suitable for them and what opportunities are out there.