***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:***

* Me and my school.
* Jobs in my class.
* Being a friend.
* Jobs in my school.
* Listen and do.
* My favourite things.
* Work skills.
* Running a stall.
* Recycling projects.
* Working Safely in the kitchen.
* Planning a party.
* Fundraising project.
* What do I want to be?
* Meeting role models.

***Key Stage 3:***

* Interests, Aspirations and Goals.
* Adapting to new environments.
* Following Instructions.
* Real World (Role) Play.
* My Skills, Compare and Contrast
* Skills and Qualities for the World of Work.
* What do I want to be?
* Careers awareness
* Handling problem situations
* Fundraising project
* Real world employment- Visits & Meeting role models.
* My Strengths and action points
* Skills and qualities for the world of work.
* Jobs in my community.

***Key Stage 4/5***

* Preparation for Work- Workplace research. (Accredited)
* Care Home/Charity Shop. (Accredited)
* Community Project/Car Wash. (Accredited)
* Sweet Treats. (Accredited)
* Stonebridge City Farm/Adventure Service. (Accredited)
* Café (Accredited)
* Vocational College Links
* Work Experience in a Local Charity Shop. (Accredited)
* Work Experience in the Academy. (Accredited)
* External Work Experience Placement. (Accredited)

***Gatsby Benchmark & Compass+.***

The Government’s new 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 of the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks.

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](http://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**, **Lindsey Norton**, whose role is to co-ordinate all the careers and employability activities across the Academy.

Email: [lnorton@foxwood.notts.sch.uk](mailto:lnorton@foxwood.notts.sch.uk)                                Telephone: 0115 9177202

In addition to the work done within the classroom, all students in Year 9 and above have access to independent impartial careers advice and guidance from a fully qualified and registered *Careers Advisor, Lynn Addison 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. We have a planned Employer’s day for the summer term 2022, where local employers will come and do sessions with the students.

In November 2021, we held a transition event at the academy. This event received great feedback from students, parents/carers and providers. This event was 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 have planned to host our hugely successful informal ‘coffee mornings’ focusing on Transition where parents/carers are able to find out more about the support available to young people to aid with their transition from Foxwood Academy. This event is planned for February 2022.  
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.

***Pre SEARCH***

As part of our preparing for adulthood curriculum, some of our students are provided with the opportunity to complete a year’s internship at school. Within this year, the students are provided with different opportunities to access work experience, both internally and externally, alongside completing their qualifications.

This information will be reviewed in March 2023.