



Ref: MW/SW

Wednesday 8th October 2026

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Supporting Your Child to Explore Their Future

Dears Parents and Carers,

Although choosing a career may seem a long way off for pupils in Key Stage 3, these years are an important time for young people to begin thinking about their future.

At this stage, we are **not asking pupils to decide what they want to do when they leave school**. Instead, we want to encourage them to explore the many different possibilities available to them, discover new interests and begin to understand how the subjects they study and the skills they develop can open doors in the future.

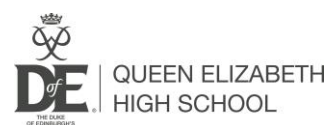
The world of work offers an enormous range of opportunities, including careers that young people may never have heard of or considered. We would therefore encourage pupils to **look as widely as possible**, rather than focusing only on jobs they already know about or those pursued by family and friends.

Parents and carers can play a really important part in this process. We would be grateful if you could encourage your child to:

- talk about subjects and activities they enjoy and the skills they are developing;
- find out about a wide variety of careers and workplaces;
- consider careers they may not previously have thought about;
- talk to family members and friends about their jobs and the routes they took to get there;
- take advantage of careers activities and opportunities offered through school;
- keep an open mind about their future.

Most importantly, please reassure your child that **they do not need to have everything worked out yet**. Career ideas often change as young people learn more about themselves and the opportunities available to them. The aim during Key Stage 3 is simply to become curious, ask questions and explore possibilities.

By beginning these conversations now, we can help pupils approach future choices with greater knowledge, confidence and ambition.



Thank you for your continued support in helping your child to think positively and broadly about their future.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Watkiss', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs M Watkiss
Careers lead