Whytrig Middle School

Careers Information for Staff

Staff Role in Supporting Careers Education

At Whytrig Middle School, all staff play a vital role in guiding and supporting pupils. All staff have knowledge, experiences, and understanding of the world of work and can provide valuable information and advice to pupils. Staff are encouraged to help direct pupils towards opportunities, whether through informal conversations, opportune encounters, or within planned curriculum activities. It is essential that staff have access to up-to-date information to provide accurate, reliable guidance that helps pupils explore possible destinations and make informed choices about their future.

The Gatsby Benchmarks

At WMS we use the Gatsby Benchmarks to shape and evaluate our careers strategy and programme. These eight benchmarks provide a framework for delivering high-quality careers education:

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

Labour Market Information

The world of work is constantly evolving, influenced by social, political, and economic changes, including the impacts of Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic. Staff should be familiar with accurate labour market information (LMI) across different industrial sectors. For the North East region, four specific growth areas have been identified: advanced manufacturing, digital, energy, and health and life sciences.

Careers Across the Curriculum

We recognise that every department can contribute to careers education within their teaching. Staff can support pupils in many ways, including:

- Strategically signposting careers sectors and roles that link to topics, themes, or units of study
- Emphasising employability skills (transferable skills) in short-term, medium-term, and long-term planning, including engagement with the Skills Builder programme in tutorials
- Participating in National Careers Week or integrating careers-focused activities when appropriate in curriculum planning
- Creating engaging careers displays within classrooms or departmental areas
- Organising employer talks (face-to-face or virtual), activities, and enrichment trips
- Using the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) *My Learning My Future* subject resources
- Incorporating North East Ambition resources into subject planning
- Using MYPATH - Why Bother? resources in lessons

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Personal Guidance (BM8)

If a pupil requires additional support with their future planning, we can arrange for them to speak to an impartial careers advisor via SVHS. Please contact Helen Campbell for more information.

Useful Sources of Information

- Youth Employment UK
- BBC Careers Guidance Resources
- The Careers and Enterprise Company
- I-could Teaching Resources
- NHS Careers Resources
- Step into the NHS
- T- Level Resources for Teachers and Advisors
- STEM Learning Careers Resources
- Careers Planner for 11-14 year-olds (UCAS)
- Our Future – Key Stage 2 Start resources
- Enterprise Games and competitions