

Subject overview for: Careers

1. Subject overview

The goal for careers education in schools is to prepare young people for the future, enabling them to understand how the decisions they make today can support them to secure qualifications, make important decisions about their education post-16 and begin to acquire the skills they need to achieve the occupation they are seeking.

Careers at JMHS is guided by the 8 Gatsby Careers Guidelines:

1. A stable career 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

Careers at JMHS supports students by presenting all of the information they will need in order to make the key decisions about their futures. Through guided tutor time PSHE sessions regularly held every week, as well as visits to workplaces, educational institutions and careers events held at the school, we push to make sure that no matter what type of career a student is interested in, they will have access to all of the information they will need to achieve their goals.

To support careers education throughout their time at JMHS, we use 'Unifrog' regularly in every year. Students can use the information, modules and resources on 'Unifrog' to track their careers knowledge, build their own CV and learn more about the world of work. This supports students who have not quite made their choices yet, as well as those who have a clear path in mind for their future.

Each student's careers education is tracked and monitored through bookwork completed in tutor times and through the 'Start' website, as well as our own tracking of events and opportunities taking place. We aim to provide students with regular and targeted careers guidance so that the only decisions they need to make involve how they will take their next steps.

2. Key Stage Three summary (Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9)

Students will be introduced to a range of skills and information that will serve as the foundation for their careers education throughout their time at JMHS. These lessons will fit in with the curriculum across a range of subjects to ensure that knowledge gained is relevant to the stages the students are at.

Year 7

Autumn Term 1 – What are my skills?

Autumn Term 2 – What are the soft skills?

Spring Term 1 – What are the different types of careers?

Spring Term 2 – What are the different types of qualifications?

Summer Term 1 – How can I organise and manage my life?

Summer Term 2 – What is public speaking?

Year 8

Autumn Term 1 – What are some key organisational skills?

Autumn Term 2 – How can part-time work benefit me and what are my rights?

Spring Term 1 – How did your teachers get to where they are today?

Spring Term 2 – How do careers change as time progresses?

Summer Term 1 – How are different subjects important to my future career choices?

Summer Term 2 – How is teamwork an essential skill?

Year 9

Autumn Term 1 – What are my goals and how do I reach them?

Autumn Term 2 – How important are my option choices?

Spring Term 1 – What am I looking for in a career?

Spring Term 2 – What is LMI and what can I learn from it?

Summer Term 1 – Who are the major national employers?

Summer Term 2 – Why are GCSEs important and what happens after?

3. Key Stage Four summary

Careers focusses on informing students about their options post-16, the importance of the subjects they are taking and giving them important understanding of the key skills that can help them to succeed. This part of the curriculum aims to open their eyes to the wider impact that their choices in school will have on the rest of their lives.

Year 10

Autumn Term 1 – What are my options post-16 and post-18?

Autumn Term 2 – How are different subjects important to my future career choices? Spring Term 1 – What is it like at John Masefield Sixth Form?

Spring Term 2 – Am I an independent learner?

Summer Term 1 – What is STEM?

Summer Term 2 – How are public speaking skills important?

Year 11

Autumn Term 1 – Am I on track for post-16?

Autumn Term 2 – What is a CV and how can I apply for jobs?

Spring Term 1 – What do I need to do to prepare for my GCSE exams?

Spring Term 2 – How can I improve my Organisation Skills?

4. Contribution to preparing for life in modern Britain/equalities

Careers education also involves strengthening what are known as the “soft skills”. These are skills that employers look for when recruiting but do not involve any qualifications, including but not limited to:

- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Public speaking
- Professional writing
- Teamwork
- Leadership
- Professional attitudes
- Work ethics
- Career management

- Intercultural fluency

We aim for all students to at the very least be aware of how these soft skills can make them more employable and, more importantly, will enable them to function effectively in an adult workplace.

Now more than ever, students also need to be aware of the importance of technology in the workplace. Careers at JMHS aims to enable students to understand how essential it is to be computer literate and have a basic understanding of everyday ICT skills including sending professional emails and creating key documents using the standard MS Office software suite.

Through our education on labour market information, we also aim to show students which jobs are out there and where to go to find them. We cover the basics of employment in the local area as well as large employers nationally and internationally, pushing the significance of understanding additional languages and other cultures in the workplace