

Avon Park School Careers Document Overview 2022/2023

Introduction

Avon Park School are committed to meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks. Avon Park School provides a relevant and engaging careers curriculum which meets the differing needs and requirements of our pupils. Through Avon Park's three key areas of Academic Pathways, Preparation for Adulthood and Personal Development careers is integrated within a connected curriculum and is always supportive of their abilities, strengths and skills.

Aims and purpose

- Prepare pupils for the transition to life after Avon Park School as part of the school's Preparation for Adulthood
- Support pupils in making informed decisions which are appropriate for them linked to Avon Park's Academic Pathway area
- Provide pupils with well-rounded experiences linked to Avon Park's Personal Development area and Cultural Capital.
- Develop personal characteristics such as social skills, communication, independence and resilience linked to Avon Park's Personal Development area
- Motivate pupils to develop themselves as individuals and live as independently as possible and develop positive futures aspirations

This document summarises the statutory guidance and recommendations. It then outlines the provision of careers education, work experience and provider access.

Statutory requirements and recommendations

The careers provision at Avon Park School is in line with the statutory guidance developed by the Department for Education, which refers to Section 42A and 45A of the Education Act 1997.

This states that all schools should provide independent careers guidance from Years 8 -13 and that this guidance should:

- be impartial
- include information on a range of pathways, including apprenticeships
- be adapted to the needs of the pupil

In addition, the school is compliant with the careers guidance that the government set out for delivery from 5 January 2018: 'Careers Guidance and Inspiration for young people in schools.' This states that all schools must give education and training providers the opportunity to talk to students about approved technical qualifications and apprenticeships. Further information relating to this is set out later in this document, under Provider Access.

Careers, Information, Advice and Guidance

All pupils have access to the following:

- Avon Park School Functional Living Skills (FLS) - Careers and preparing for life after Avon Park School is a fundamental aspect of our FLS curriculum
- Visitors in to school and offsite visits which support pupils in developing their understanding of a range of different post 16 pathways.

- All pupils from Year 8 have access to impartial information advice and guidance from Prospects- the UK's leading provider
- Pupils will be given the opportunity to attend age appropriate careers and careers advice events such as Big Bang and The Skills Show
- School partnership with local and national companies, colleges, universities to provide STEM opportunities and careers assemblies and experiences

Key stage 1

- Careers is embedded within PSHE where jobs are investigated through activities and role play
- Differentiated STEM termly activities
- Careers content through PSHE such as:
 - Who am I? What am I good at?
 - Inspirational people
 - Recycling Enterprise projects
- 'Work experience' challenges through Functional Living Skills

Key stage 2

- A continuation of careers via PSHE through a connected, sequenced curriculum to support future planning, social skills and academic engagement
- Year 5 and 6 experience impartial and independent careers sessions
- Termly STEM days with opportunities of support from local and national companies
- Careers content through PSHE such as:
 - Enterprise projects
 - Charity fund-raising
 - Roles and responsibilities
- Through Functional Living Skills, pupils will investigate jobs in the community, jobs in my family and the roles and processes of charities

Key Stage 3

- At least one meaningful encounter with an employer each year from year 7
- Pupil pathways onto accredited and vocational courses are planned and prepared for in KS3
- Pupils take part in Enterprise projects across the school year
- STEM events and projects are a key part of the KS3 curriculum
- Year 9 pupils and their families invited to relevant careers and skills fairs such as the Coventry and Warwickshire Careers Event
- Enterprise opportunities such as charity fund-raising and 'Grow £10' challenges
- Year 9 Options Evening; support for Year 9 parents/carers.

Key Stage 4 (in addition to KS3 ongoing provision)

- One-to-one meetings with families, the school Careers Leader and Prospects Advisor in Year 10 and Year 11 informs individual routes into Post 16 provision and appropriate and meaningful work experience opportunities
- Pupils in Year 10 or 11 undertake Work Experience, work exposure and work based placements and opportunities.

- Pupils in Year 10 and 11 have the opportunity to access different training providers to develop the variety of experiences they have to support informed choices about future education, training and employment pathways
- Participation in Skilled Up programme to build up a portfolio of desirable employee qualifications and qualifications as well as 'Ready to Work' skills.
- A range of visits (or virtual visits) to colleges to help inform choices.

The overall organisation of work experience is undertaken by the school Careers Leader who liaises with the Senior Management Team to ensure the most relevant and engaging opportunities are taken. Families are informed and communicated with throughout the process and a work experience agreement form and work experience information form are completed. All pupils on placement are covered by the employers' insurance and places of work are risk assessed by the Careers Leader in liaison with the CSW work experience database.

Providers Access Policy Statement

All alternative provision providers are quality assured through rigorous checklists to ensure suitability, quality assurance and safeguarding is at the highest possible standard.

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing the access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Pupil entitlement

All pupils at Avon Park School in years 8-11 are entitled to the following careers guidance:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point;
- to hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships – through options events, assemblies and group discussions and taster events;
- to understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure:

A provider wishing to request access should contact Sharon Palmer-Booth or Ed Wright Telephone 01788 524448 , Sharon.Palmer-Booth@Witherslackgroup.co.uk or Edward.Wright@Witherslackgroup.co.uk

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our school careers programme and school curriculum, will offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents/carers