



KINGSWOOD  
SECONDARY  
ACADEMY



Recognising Excellence  
in Careers, Employability  
and Enterprise

# Community Careers Newsletter

## Introduction

Welcome to the Kingswood Secondary's Aspiration and Careers Newsletter for the parents, carers and community we serve.

In each issue we will bring you an update on:

- (i) The Aspiration and Careers related opportunities available for students in different year groups within the Academy and the local area
- (ii) What Aspiration and Careers related activities your child(ren) have participated in and the upcoming events
- (iii) How the Academy is meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks (see page 2), framework of 8 guidelines that define the best careers provision in schools that as part of the Government's Career Strategy, all schools are required to work towards
- (iv) A range of careers and career sectors to help our students aim higher and consider options they have not previously known about or had awareness of

## Careers Team

All staff have a contribution to make in raising the aspiration level of students in the Academy, however the team with responsibility for planning, co-ordinating and delivering the Aspiration and Careers programme across the school comprises

Jon Lawson, Senior Deputy Principal with SLT responsibility

Ian Doherty, Careers Advisor with Prospects: [Ian.Doherty@Prospects.co.uk](mailto:Ian.Doherty@Prospects.co.uk)

Beth Hardy, Aspiration and Careers Lead: [bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)

**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

**GATSBY**  
**GATSBY**  
**BENCHMARKS**  
**WHAT ARE**  
**THEY?**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Every school and college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by pupils, parents, teachers and employers	Every pupil, and their parents, should have access to good-quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities. They will need the support of an informed adviser to make best use of available information	Pupils have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each pupil. A school's careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout	All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. For example, STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of future career paths	Every pupil should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.	Every pupil should have first-hand experiences* of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.	All pupils should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and in the workplace.	Every pupil should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a careers adviser, who could be internal (a member of school staff) or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all pupils but should be timed to meet their individual needs

# The Gatsby Benchmarks

As part of the Government Careers Strategy all schools have to work towards achieving all 8 Gatsby Benchmarks. Schools that demonstrate a strong commitment to providing the highest quality Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance to students across all key stages can achieve the quality standard, Career Mark, an award the Academy achieved in July 2018. This includes:

- a) Knowledge of curriculum based career pathways
- b) One-to-one guidance to meet individual student needs
- c) Local Labour Market Information (LMI)
- d) The opportunity to meet employers and Further / Higher Education providers
- e) Experiences of workplaces

COVID-19 has presented several challenges to meet these standards but the opportunity to develop and use virtual encounters and online resources to support students in making informed decisions for their future careers

## Academy Website



The Academy website has been recently updated, the Aspiration and Careers section is found under “Our Academy”. This is where information, advice and guidance for parents, carers and students in each Key Stage is located and where links to external websites can be accessed, giving the most up-to-date support and relevant material from a variety of organisations including Colleges; Universities; Apprenticeships; Traineeships and Employers.

## Careers across the curriculum



We are currently embedding Aspiration and Careers related activities into all faculty areas. Students will benefit from understanding how knowledge they gain in each subject can help them pursue career pathways, how and why this can be applied to a range of jobs and practical applications of subject-specific knowledge from the perspective of someone working in these fields, e.g. being able to interview a pilot who uses Maths concepts in their daily job (aeronautics).

If you feel you could contribute in any way to our developing curriculum-based career programme please contact Beth Hardy at [bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)

## Job of the Week



Every week the Academy website Aspiration and Careers section is updated with a new Job of the Week, a showcase of a different career to inspire members of our community. Each job factsheet has essential information on the role, responsibilities, sectors in which people in these roles work and the qualifications needed to get into this career. Normal working hours and salaries are also included alongside labour market information.

The jobs included are decided by members of the Academy but if there are any careers you would like to see represented please contact

[bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)

Jobs currently on the website include: Accountant; Architect; Barrister; Botanist; Dentist; Design Engineer; Firefighter; Forensic Scientist and Hairdresser

Jobs planned for January / February 2021 include Ophthalmologist; Paramedic; Personal trainer and Photographer

<https://barclayslifeskills.com/educators/support/your-guide-to-the-jobs-of-the-future/>



## Personal Guidance



“Every student should have opportunities for a guidance interview with a Careers Advisor, who could be internal (a member of school staff) or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level”

We engage the services of Prospects, a careers guidance organisation that provides students with clear, impartial advice through a team of Level 6 qualified Careers Advisor, Ian Doherty has worked with the Academy for many years encouraging and inspiring students in making decisions about further education and careers based on their interests, courses and passions. He meets with students in Years 8, 11 and 13 to support them at important stages in decision-making, e.g. selecting G.C.S.E. options, post-16 and post-18 pathways. More information regarding these transition points can be found on the Academy website under “Aspiration and Careers”

# Information for Parents / Carers



In conjunction with SEMLEP (South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership) the Academy have selected eight key skills that students will develop across the curriculum. These have been identified by a range of local employers as skills they actively seek in their employees and as such are the areas we need to encourage our students to develop to give them the best chances of employment. The eight **core competencies** are:

INITIATIVE

TEAMWORK

CREATIVITY

RESILIENCE

ORGANISATION

PROBLEM-SOLVING

COMMUNICATION

DIGITAL LITERACY



## Class Charts Announcements



Alongside the website the Academy Twitter account gives regular updates on courses, apprenticeships and work experience opportunities as well as other Aspiration and Careers activities you can choose to participate in with your child(ren). Class Charts announcements regularly advertise the same experiences and provide information about and from local employers and colleges.



@Kingswood\_Acad



## Assemblies



Students have the chance to meet local colleges, apprenticeship providers and employers face-to-face in year group assemblies or virtually through form groups (COVID-10 dependent).

If you have any suggestions for content you would like to see and read about in the next issue of the Community Careers Newsletter please email Mrs Hardy on [bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org](mailto:bhardy@kingswoodsecondaryacademy.org)