Central Futures Programme

Date: September 2025

Introduction

The School's careers education is delivered through our Central Futures programme. Through delivering this programme the school aims to provide all of our students with the qualifications, skills, confidence and support they need to access the best possible university courses, vocational training places and career opportunities and to support them in being successful within rapidly changing economic and social environments.

Careers Leader Details

Our Careers Leader is Chris Barker, a Deputy Headteacher who can be emailed at barkerc@cfbs.islington.sch.uk. If you are interested in supporting the School's careers programme, or making an offer to volunteer in the delivery of one of our core programmes, you should contact our Central Futures Coordinator, Caroline Browne, who can be emailed at brownec@cfbs.islington.sch.uk.

Our Careers Policy, which outlines the aims of our careers curriculum, can be found on the School website, alongside our Provider Access Policy, which will be a useful reference for any universities, businesses, or training providers that want to support the school. We are always looking for support in delivering the following core events and programmes, all of which are detailed in the Central Futures Partner Involvement Document on the school website:

- Mentoring
- Work Experience
- Career Insights Assemblies
- Workplace Visits
- Day In The Life Lessons
- University Visits
- Vocational/Apprenticeship Insights

The careers programme has been written to ensure compliance with the Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance and the most recent Ofsted framework.

Programme Aims

- The School will ensure that it maintains and links with employers in order to provide:
  - Full-time and part-time employment opportunities;
  - Careers talks and industry speakers;
  - Vocational learning opportunities;
  - Work experience and internships.

- The School will give the opportunity to send every Year 12 out on high-quality work experience.

- That every student will have high-quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities, which will differ at each Key Stage.

- The School will support departments to develop vocational links to support the delivery of their subject and support the progression of students in their related careers, particularly in STEM subjects and English.

- The School will lead on the development of student workplace skills through a curriculum delivered in the mainstream curriculum, the co-curricular programme and through tutor time and assemblies, which will differ at each Key Stage.

- The School will ensure that every student will have opportunities to learn from employers about work, and visit places of work and that this will:
    - Be recorded systematically;
    - Be shared with students and parents;
    - Be monitored to encourage all students to participate;
    - Done for all students every year they are at school;
    - Include 2 weeks' worth of work experience during Key Stage 3 and 4;An additional workplace visit by the end of Key Stage 5.

- The School will ensure that all students should be taught the full range of learning opportunities available to them at the end of each Key Stage, including:
    - Information on apprenticeships, further education colleges, independent training providers and universities;
    - At least one meaningful visit to universities by the end of Key Stage 4;
    - At least two meaningful visits to universities by the end of Key Stage 5.
    - Raising aspirations of all students;
    - Challenging stereotypical thinking, including in terms of race and gender;
    - A meaningful encounter with sixth form colleges by the end of Key Stage 4.

- The School will identify and record destinations of leaving students in Years 11, 12 and 13, and will return to these destinations annually to review success rates in student destinations which:
    - Will be done for at least three years;
    - Will be shared with the local authority where necessary.

- The School will coordinate a series of programmes to support all students secure their first-choice destination and to minimise the risk of students not securing further education or employment.

- The School will manage a strong application process for university or careers in Key Stage 5, including personal statement, CV and interview support.

- The School will maintain independent careers guidance, as well as one-to-one interviews with an informed member of staff:
  - By the end of Key Stage 4;
  - At least twice by the end of Key Stage 5;
  - At least twice for students with special educational needs and disability by the end of Key Stage 4.

- The School will evaluate its careers against its objectives to ensure high-quality delivery.

Key Stage Overview

Assembly Programme

<table>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Year</td><td colspan="3">Term</td></tr>
<tr><td>Autumn</td><td>Spring</td><td>Summer</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">7</td><td></td><td>Built environment careers</td><td>Technology careers</td></tr>
<tr><td>Skills Builder Launch - World of work & essential skills; What is a career?</td><td>Creative careers</td><td>Sport & leisure careers</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">8</td><td></td><td>Careers related to Maths</td><td>Careers related to Drama & Music</td></tr>
<tr><td>Careers related to English</td><td>Careers related to Science</td><td>Careers related to Art</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">9</td><td rowspan="2"></td><td rowspan="2">Creative careers</td><td>Media careers</td></tr>
<tr><td>Technology careers</td></tr>
<tr><td>Environment & green careers</td><td>Post-16 options – choosing your GCSEs</td><td>Why go to university?</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">10</td><td>Built environment careers</td><td>Healthcare careers</td><td>HE provider – Post-16 choices & university</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">Creative & media careers</td><td rowspan="2">Finance & banking careers</td><td>FE/Apprenticeship provider – post-16 choices & vocational/apprenticeship pathways</td></tr>
<tr><td>FE/Apprenticeship provider – post-16 choices & vocational/apprenticeship pathways</td></tr>
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11	Post-16 choices & choosing A level/vocational subjects	FE/Apprenticeship provider – post-16 choices & vocational/apprenticeship pathways	EXAMS
	FE/Apprenticeship provider – post-16 choices & vocational/apprenticeship pathways	FE/Apprenticeship provider – post-16 choices & vocational/apprenticeship pathways	
		Why go to university?	
12	How to write a CV	Post-18 pathways	HE provider – choosing the right university and course
	Work experience: why it's important	Work Experience Application Launch	FE/apprenticeship provider – post-18 choices & choosing vocational/apprenticeship pathways
13	Year 13 Application Timelines	HE provider – university and finance	EXAMS
	Vocational pathways + gap year options	HE provider – transitioning to university	

Tutorial and PSHE Programme

Year	Careers Units: PSHE		
	Year	**Term**	**Workbook**
KS3	**7**	Summer	Careers
	8	Autumn & Spring	Planning for the future and careers
	9	Autumn & Spring	Options and careers

Year	Autumn	Spring
12	Setting career goals	How to choose your university subject
	Personal branding: your CV and online profile	Comparing UK universities
	Post-18 choices: university, apprenticeships, employment	Applying to an apprenticeship in the UK
	Preparing for a personal guidance one-to-one	What makes a top US applicant
	How to network and be enterprising	US university finance and what you need to know
	Wellbeing: balancing life, learning and work	Making the most of UK university visits
	What makes an employer good to work for	Drafting your personal statement
13	Finalising your Personal Statement	Coping with change: entering the world of employment
	Preparing for a university interview	UCAS next steps: firm and insurance choices
	Preparing for an apprenticeship or job interview	Coping with change: moving away to university

	Preparing for an employer assessment day	Results day and Clearing: what you need to know
	Should all employers adopt a four-day week?	**EXAM REVISION**

Experiences

Key Stage	External Visits		
	Year	**Term**	**Experience**
KS3	**9**	Summer	University visit
KS4	**10**	Summer	Workplace visit
KS5	**12**	Summer	Work Experience placement
	13	All year	2x University visit

Careers in Curriculum

All pupils will receive labour market information (LMI) at the start of each topic in every subject as part of their knowledge organiser. This will include:

- Career pathways related to the topic of study
- Salary ranges for careers outlined
- Essential skills that will be learned throughout the topic of study that relate to the world of work

Resources

The programme is led by the Deputy Headteacher responsible for Careers, and coordinated by the Central Futures Coordinator. The one-to-one careers advice is delivered by the School's Careers Education Information, Advice and Guidance Coordinator, Dionne Shaw, who can be emailed at shawd@cfbs.islington.sch.uk.

The School runs a careers website called at http://centralfutures.co.uk. This is updated with opportunities and experiences for our students, as well as providing a bank of resources for them to use. This is linked to from the School website, where the Careers Policy, Provider Access Policy and supporting documents are found.

The School works in partnership with Slaughter and May and The Access Project to deliver The Key Project, which provides free one-to-one tutoring in one subject for one hour a week, as well as one-to-one mentoring and advice delivered through The Key Project Coordinator.