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future
starts here

Beechwood Park School

CAREERS POLICY

Website: www.beechwoodpark.com

Policy Number:	BWPS – 007
Policy Applicable To:	Whole School – including EYFS
Policy Revised By:	JWA
Last Review Date:	May 2025
SLT Reviewed Date:	May 2025
Governors Reviewed Date:	n/a
Next Review Date:	May 2027

OVERVIEW:

This policy covers the School's approach to Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

Beechwood Park provides high quality careers advice and guidance, to support our high achieving and ambitious pupils. This is developed throughout a pupil's time at School and is always supportive of their aspirations, strengths and skills.

At Beechwood Park, we believe careers education inspires our pupils in their life-long learning journey through equipping them with the information, skills and positive values to flourish in later life. It is designed to open their minds to what is possible.

We provide pupils with age-appropriate information, explore attitudes and values and develop skills to empower them to make positive decisions about their future. Our pupils learn about different jobs and pathways, while developing the vital personal, social, academic and emotional skills that will underpin their time in school, and adult lives.

The objectives of careers provision at Beechwood Park are to:

- prepare pupils for life post-education
- ensure pupils develop an understanding of different career paths
- ensure pupils experience a culture of high aspirations and equality of opportunity, in which diversity is celebrated and stereotypes are challenged
- develop pupils' employability skills e.g. communication, collaboration, creativity, problem-solving, enterprise, resilience, and leadership
- inspire pupils to chase and achieve their dreams
- instil a healthy attitude towards work
- develop the skills and attitudes necessary for success in adult and working life
- ensure pupils are aware of the range of opportunities which are available to them in continued education and training
- enable pupils to benefit from links fostered between the School, local businesses, and other education establishments
- enable pupils to experience the world of work through careers talks and enterprise activities
- offer extra assistance and guidance to enable pupils to reach their potential

Parents are informed about the Careers Policy through School communications and it is available on the School website.

Roles and responsibilities

The Careers Lead in the School is the Head of PSHE and Future Skills.

The Careers Lead ensures that effective Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance is built into the Future Skills curriculum, the PSHE Programme of Study and into the Top Form Elevate programme.

Form teachers and the Careers Lead deliver the elements of careers education that are within PSHE, using the materials provided by the Head of PSHE. They also provide pupils with targeted

support as the need arises, consulting with subject specialists and outside agencies where appropriate. All staff contribute to the implementation of this policy through their role as Form Teachers, Class Teachers and as subject specialists.

Legislation (statutory regulations and guidance)

This policy is underpinned by Sections 42A, 42B and 45A of the Education Act 1997, and has due regard to the DfE's statutory guidance, 'Careers guidance and access for education and training providers', which was last updated in January 2023.

Other documents that inform the School's Careers Policy include:

- Equality Act (2010)
- Children and Social Work Act (2017)
- Education Act (2011)
- Section 72 of the Education and Skills Act 2008
- Schedule 4 (15) of the School Information (England) Regulations 2008

The Careers Policy supports/complements the following School policies:

- BWPS PSHE, RSE and SMSC Policy
- BWPS Equal Opportunities (Pupils) Policy
- BWPS Pupil Conduct
- BWPS Anti-Bullying
- BWPS Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy

Student Entitlement and Provider Access

All pupils in Years 7 and Top Form are entitled:

- to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options;
- to hear from a range of providers about the opportunities they offer through events and presentations;
- to understand how to make applications for employment and apprenticeships, as well as the full range of academic and technical courses.

A provider wishing to request access should contact the Head of PSHE and Future Skills.

Curriculum design

The School delivers Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance through PSHE, Future Skills and the Top Form Elevate programme. An overview of the learning in each year group is in the PSHE and Future Skills Programmes of Study.

The Pre-Prep School

Careers Education in the Pre-Prep School helps pupils to make connections between themselves and the outside world. It aims to make them more aware of the different jobs and roles people take on in their own homes, in School and in the local community. By educating our pupils about

the people who help them, we are showing them the systems in place to ensure that they live in a safe and supportive community.

Pupils use props and costumes from different job sectors in their play. Staff select books that expose pupils to less obvious jobs and ensure that stereotypes are avoided.

Where appropriate, parents are invited into the classroom to participate in activities designed to help their children explore different roles and pathways.

Prep - Middle School

In the Prep – Middle School, pupils build on what they have learned in Pre-Prep. Children are given opportunities to reflect on their achievements, qualities, and skills. These skills are explored further in Future Skills lessons. Pupils continue to develop in self-confidence, learning to make individual presentations and to build the skills that they will need in senior school admission assessments and beyond.

In PSHE pupils use the Step Into the NHS resources to explore a wide range of careers and help them better understand that all NHS careers are open to them, whatever their gender or background. Other career paths are explored and pupils are given the opportunity to research into people who are famous in their fields.

Prep – Upper School

The Upper School Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance programme has been developed in line with the eight Gatsby benchmarks for ensuring best practice and to meet the requirements of the Department for Education's statutory guidance. The benchmarks are:

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. Experience of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

In their Future Skills lessons, pupils develop skills in writing CVs, letters of application, presentations, and interviews. They research a range of careers and learn about pathways to those careers. In PSHE, pupils explore stereotypes in the workplace and develop their personal, social and employability skills.

During the Top Form Elevate programme, pupils undertake a half day enterprise experience, and a series of careers talks from external providers and from parents, both past and present. Most recently this has included talks from a barrister, an author, a linguist, a sports journalist, a medical researcher, a charity worker, an arctic explorer and a civil servant.

Equality of provision

Careers Education at Beechwood Park encourages respect for other people, with particular regard to the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. These are as follows:

- a) Age
- b) Disability
- c) Gender reassignment
- d) Marriage and civil partnership
- e) Pregnancy and maternity
- f) Race
- g) Religion or belief
- h) Sex
- i) Sexual orientation.

Our careers programme helps to counteract the formation of stereotypes and unconscious biases, which can begin to take a hold early in pupils' lives. This includes notions about what constitutes a 'boys' job' or a 'girls' job', or links between class, ethnicity, disability, or geography, and the world of work.

Safeguarding

Visitors/external agencies that support the delivery of Careers Education will be required to follow the protocol set out in the BWPS Visiting Speaker Policy.