

CEIAG The Deanery High School & 6th Form College

Careers Programme 2025 -2026

Careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) provides a bridge via which students move not only to further education, vocational training or employment, but to the next stage of their development as members of society and as such is an essential part of the support we offer to all our students at The Deanery CE High School & 6th Form College. We aim to provide a rounded, fair and challenging careers programme for all our young people that challenges stereotypes, raises aspirations and showcases the equality of opportunity that is accessible to today's learners if they are given the right guidance.

In the current fast changing landscape of careers in today's technology rich climate, it is more important than ever that we can provide the best range of subject specific careers guidance possible to excite and engage our young people in order to prepare them for jobs that as of yet do not exist. As recommended by the Government, we have adopted the Gatsby Benchmarks (www.gatsby.org.uk/education/focus-areas/good-career-guidance) as a foundation for measuring the quality of the CEIAG that we provide, making good use of, as recommended, the Compass tool to track our progress against the Benchmarks over time.

Effective careers support can help to prepare young people for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life; it can help them to make decisions and manage transitions as learners and workers. As options for young people become more varied and complex, it is vital that we support them to develop the knowledge and key employability skills they need to make informed choices for their future. As a result, the careers programme has a whole-school remit designed to complement the rest of the school curriculum.

Students are encouraged to take an active role in their own career development, so the careers programme emphasises student participation with a focus on self-development; learning about careers and the world of work; and developing career management and employability skills.

Career Programme – Aims & Objectives

The Deanery careers programme aims to:

- encourage students to be ambitious, broaden their horizons and explore their own career aspirations throughout their life at school
- ensure students' readiness to take their next step in their learning or career.

The objectives for the careers programme are:

- helping students to understand the changing world of work and allow them the opportunities to investigate and research careers and job opportunities
- facilitating meaningful encounters with employers for all students
- supporting positive transitions post-16 and post-18
- enabling students to develop the research skills to find out about opportunities
- helping students to develop the skills, attitudes and qualities to make a successful transition into the world of work
- encouraging participation in continued learning, including further and higher education and apprenticeships

- supporting inclusion, challenging stereotyping and promoting equality of opportunity
- contributing to strategies for raising achievement, particularly by increasing motivation.

Delivery of the Careers programme

All students from year 7 onwards will have access to a comprehensive and impartial programme of careers and work-related learning activities. This will include formal delivery of dedicated CEIAG topics in form time, PSHE lessons, within subject lessons, external visits, internal presentations and collapsed timetable events. At key points in Year 9, Year 11 and 6th form there will be additional support and activities as students make significant choices related to their education and future pathways.

All staff are actively involved in the delivery of CEIAG through their role as both Form tutor and subject teacher and are encouraged to involve themselves in the career aspirations and progression routes of the students with whom they come into contact. The pastoral staff take a special interest in the future developments of the students in their particular year groups.

In addition to the planned careers programme a range of activities and events will be planned throughout the year and information regarding opportunities will be circulated to pupils via pupil bulletins, email and through our social media channels. Pupils are therefore encouraged to check regularly for updates.

SEN

The department supports students with special educational needs. This may take the form of additional support for options selection, attending review meetings, and identifying specific careers opportunities appropriate to the student's particular needs. We offer opportunities for work related learning through schemes such as mentoring, disapplication (a special exemption from the National Curriculum given to a school) and extended work experience.

Equal Opportunities

The school's Equal Opportunities Policy is in place and requires all members of the school community to be valued and respected. Support for options choices in Year 9 and CIAG are given with reference to equal opportunities. The SLS and Form Tutor Programme encompasses Equal Opportunities.

Year 7 - pupils will have the following opportunities:

Aims: To raise awareness of a wide range of careers and pathways. To identify personal traits, strengths and skills. To develop confidence and have expectations of themselves and for their futures.	Learning Outcomes: Students can list a range of careers and pathways. Students begin to identify their personal likes, strengths and skills.	Term1: PSHE Career related activities, transition and settling in Skills Builder Activities 	Term2: PSHE Career related activities UNIFROG activities  Skills Builder Activities  National Careers Week Activities (2 nd – 6 th March 2026)	Term 3: PSHE Career related activities UNIFROG activities  Skills Builder Activities 
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Year 8 - pupils will have the following opportunities:

Aims: To develop awareness of a wide range of careers and pathways. To identify personal traits, strengths and skills. To develop confidence and have expectations of themselves and for their futures.	Learning outcomes: Students can list a wider range of careers and pathway. Students can identify personal traits, strengths and skills and can link these to careers. Student can identify a range of ambitions which align with their interests and preferences.	Term1: PSHE Career related activities Alumni Careers event Skills Builder Activities 	Term2: PSHE Career related activities UNIFROG  Skills Builder Activities  National Careers Week Activities (2 nd – 6 th March 2026)	Term 3: PSHE Career related activities UNIFROG  Skills Builder Activities 
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Year 9 - pupils will have the following opportunities:

Aims:	Learning Outcomes:	Term1:	Term2:	Term 3:
To prepare for GCSE options considering how these link to future careers pathways and progression routes. To explain the importance of STEM subjects and their importance to a wide range of careers. To link curriculum subjects to careers and use this knowledge to inform their GCSE option choices	Students build on personal strengths and begin to link skills to specific careers enabling realistic and informed decisions at key transition stage. Students can link curriculum subjects to careers. Students understand the importance of STEM subjects to a range of careers. Students can identify and challenge stereotyping and discrimination. Students can make informed decisions to support their GCSE option choices.	PSHE Career related activities UNIFROG  Skills Builder Activities  Choosing GCSE Options Exploring GCSE subjects and the links to careers so that pupils make informed choices regarding options. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme launched  Options programme including – Subject assemblies Subject Taster lessons Options Interviews & Guidance	PSHE Career related activities Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  Skills Builder Activities  Annual Careers & Further Education Fair National Apprenticeship Week (9th – 13th Feb 2026) National Careers Week Activities (2nd – 6th March 2026)	PSHE Career related activities Career Drop in sessions Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  Independent Careers Guidance Interviews (Identified pupils) Gifted and Able 6th Form experience day Skills Builder Activities 

Year 10 - pupils will have the following opportunities:

Aims:	Learning outcomes:	Term1:	Term2:	Term 3:
To gain knowledge of how the world of work is changing and how this might impact on students' own careers. To explain and evidence how they are developing their employability skills	To understand how the world of work is changing and how this might impact on their own career choices. To identify and develop personal employability skills To be able to use LMI to identify career opportunities	PSHE Career related activities Skills Builder Activities  Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  6th Form Open Evening	PSHE Career related activities Skills Builder Activities  Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  UNIFROG 	PSHE Career related activities Career Drop in sessions UNIFROG employability Skills, what do employers look for. Building a personal profile.  Y10 Careers Event

To recognise the skills and qualities developed in and out of school which will make them employable		Careers Cafes WMBC Believe in your Future sessions	6th Form Open Evening Annual Careers & Further Education Fair Careers Cafes National Apprenticeship Week (9th – 13th Feb 2026) National Careers Week Activities (2nd – 6th March 2026)	Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  Careers Guidance Interviews (Identified pupils) CV Workshop 6th Form Information Sessions Skills Builder Activities 
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Year 11 - pupils will have the following opportunities:

Aims: To make well-informed realistic choices for post 16 transition. To be able to link post 16 pathways to progression routes and future careers. To have an appropriate intended destination	Learning outcomes: Students can identify post 16 pathways Students are aware of the advantages and disadvantages of each post 16 pathway. Students understand how post 16 pathways align to their interests and future careers. Students are able to link their post 16 and post 18 options to future careers including the best progressions routes through to specific goals. Students have a completed CV and cover letter.	Term1: Careers Guidance interviews Careers Cafes UNIFROG  Post 16 Pathways – Which way and what to study after GCSE's. opportunity to explore range of pathways and subjects post 16. Skills Builder Activities  WMBC Believe in your Future sessions Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  6th Form Open Evening	Term2: Careers Guidance Interviews Careers Cafes PSHE Career related activities Skills Builder Activities  Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  6th Form Open Evening Annual Careers & Further Education Fair National Apprenticeship Week (9th – 13th Feb 2026) National Careers Week Activities (2nd – 6th March 2026)	Term 3: PSHE Career related activities Duke of Edinburgh award scheme  Further Education and pathways guidance on results day
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	Students complete a mock interview with an employer.	Mock Interview: CV Workshop Personal Statements Letters of application Interview Skills		
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Careers Guidance Interviews

All students in KS4 will have a personal careers interview with our school based qualified careers advisor – Mrs Mahon. Alongside careers guidance impartial information on post-16 options will be discussed. A full report is produced and kept on file in school and can be accessed by all teaching staff. Additionally, the report is accessible to pupils and parents are made aware when interviews have taken place. Some students require several such interviews throughout the duration of KS4 and the needs of all individual pupils will be addressed. Careers Guidance for pupils with SEND will occur at various stages from year 9 onwards, such interviews will be conducted with LSA staff alongside the career’s advisor. All Students can book additional appointments should they feel that they would benefit from more guidance and advice. Parents can contact the school’s Careers Leader Mrs Martin or Careers Advisor – Mrs Mahon should they want to discuss any careers related matter relevant to their child.

All pupils in year 9 will have an Options Interview with a senior member of staff.

Careers drop in session are available at lunchtimes in the careers room where students have access to a range of careers resources.

Business of Interviews – Mock Interview Day

This is compulsory for all Year 11 pupils. Pupils are invited to attend a mock interview in order to gain experience for when real interviews happen. These mock interviews are kept as real as possible. Each pupil applies for and is interviewed by a representative from a number of local and national industrial links, at a venue away from school. Pupils are given deadlines for when the completed application forms must be handed in, then a time when they must attend their interview. At the end of the session, employers are invited to select the candidate who impressed them the most.

In addition to the planned annual careers programme, throughout the year there will be opportunities for pupils to take part in a wide range of trips to various Further and Higher Education establishments, Apprenticeship providers and employers. Careers Cafes hosting visiting speakers from a range of establishments providing pupils with the opportunities to engage face to face with such providers. The School Careers Rooms has a range of careers resources that pupils can access and borrow.

Employer Links

Subject areas have links with employers, organisations & alumni who are often invited in to deliver sessions or speak with students, e.g.

Engineering- MBDA, NicePak, BAE and Sellafield links, NETWORK Rail - talks from alumni, current apprentices and work experience opportunities

Health and Social Care- Talks from medics and health experts

Public Services- Army, Royal Navy, RAF, DWP, HMRC, Police

Art- Artist workshop sessions

Science – What to expect studying medicine, talks from alumni

Food Studies – links with further education colleges, local and national establishment and local chefs.

Sixth Form

The Sixth Form careers programme focuses on pathways post-18, and regular forums with employers, HE institutions etc form part of the programme.

PSHE

The Sixth Form PSHE programme has a heavy focus on preparation for life after college. Sessions include:

- Talks delivered by universities relating to choosing courses, university life and budgeting
- Talks delivered by universities relating to writing personal statements
- Apprenticeship talks
- Student Finance talks
- Unifrog sessions (see below)
- Local and national employer talks

In addition, many of the tutorial sessions during PSHE days and Monday morning tutorials have a careers focus, e.g. creating a 'vision'.

Tutorial / PSHE Programme

Our tutorial programme incorporates a number of different themes. The programme has a detailed focus on careers. The programme provides opportunity for students to explore their options post 18 and create goals to achieve their chosen pathway. Students are able to identify skills require for their chosen pathway and develop those which are needed. Support is provided for the completion of UCAS and other application forms, through group tutorials and one-to-one discussions (between student and progress tutor). Our assembly themes allow our students to explore their futures, create a vision and identify and develop personal employability skills.

Unifrog

The Sixth Form subscribes to 'Unifrog' which all students have access to. This allows students to easily search for university courses and all available apprenticeships across the country. Students can compare courses and apprenticeship opportunities to tailor to their individual strengths and areas of interest. Employers from Unifrog come into college to speak with each year group at a relevant time to enable them to make the most of the resource. Unifrog has a careers library with information about a wide range of careers, salaries and routes into the career. Students utilise Unifrog to construct their CV, Personal Statement, record key competencies and engagement in activities.

UCAS

Students are supported in the UCAS application process by their Progress Tutor, Assistant Head of Sixth Form and Head of Sixth Form. The UCAS application process involves visits to the UCAS exhibition, college visits to HE conferences, promoting summer schools and a personal statement workshop at Edge Hill University. The support sessions begin in April of the L6th year and continue until the deadline in January of the U6th year.

Careers Advisor

All sixth form students in KS5 will have at least 1 personal careers interview with our school based qualified careers advisor – Mrs Mahon. Mrs Mahon offers impartial and independent advice on an individual basis to all students. A full report is produced and kept within the student's progress documentation. Appointments are scheduled to minimise disruption to students' timetables. Each student will have at least one appointment when in L6, and a further appointment in U6. Some students may require additional guidance throughout the duration of their course and as Mrs Mahon is based in house this can be facilitated.

Through specialist post-16 careers advice all students are helped to plan for a successful future whether that be at university, apprenticeship or employment.

Enhancement

Our Enhancement Programme consists of 4 options – Work Experience, Teachers of Tomorrow Programme, The College Programme and EPQ. All these have links with preparation for future careers.

Within our Enhancement Programme, students have the opportunity to access work experience placements on Wednesday afternoons for the duration of the L6th year. Students have the opportunity to undertake unpaid, voluntary work experience, that will enhance their prospects and inform their possible future career path.

The Teachers of Tomorrow programme is designed for students who wish to pursue a career in the educational sector. Representatives from Edge Hill University will deliver workshops throughout the academic year to develop your skills in readiness for pursuing a career in education. Students have the opportunity to participate in a campus visit to Edge Hill University, speaking with current students studying there. The programme supports students during the application and interview process.

The College Programme is a course consisting of 6 taught units and a work experience unit, studied on a rotational basis each Wednesday afternoon.

- One of the taught units is titled 'Unifrog – Employability and Futures' within this unit students will complete sessions on goal setting, university subject research, finding the right apprenticeship, discovering your competencies, work experience - how to contact the employers and work experience – how to write your CV and covering letter.
- The final cycle with the College Programme includes apprenticeship talks, UCAS registration, Unifrog activities, work experience summaries, personal statements sessions, guest speakers and university visits.

Elite Programme

The Elite programme is designed to raise aspirations and provide opportunities in addition to student subject choices. The programme supports students who wish to study at a prestigious university or pursue a higher level apprenticeship. The programme provides opportunities for students to discover a suitable course to pursue post 18, support them during the application and interview process and help develop essential skills to prepare them for degree study.

By participating in the Elite Programme students may be eligible for the HE Plus programme, Extended Project Qualification, university visits, guest speakers and workshops and leadership opportunities. All designed to help our students to make informed choices about their futures.

Year 12 (Lower 6th)

Aims	Learning Outcomes:	Overview: In Year 12, lessons include post-18 options, covering both university and alternatives to university. Students have the option to take up work experience placements as part of the school's enhancement programme.		
To be able prepare for post 18 options by linking post 18 pathways to progression routes and future careers. To make well-informed realistic choices for post 18 transition. To recognise the skills and qualities developed in and out of school which will make them employable. To link curriculum subjects to careers and use this knowledge to inform their GCSE option choices	Students can identify post 18 pathways. Students are aware of the advantages and disadvantages of each post 18 pathway. Students can make informed decisions to support their post 18 choices. Students can identify and develop personal employability skills. Students build on personal strengths and begin to link skills to specific careers enabling realistic and informed decisions at transition stage. Students understand how post 18 pathways align to their interests and future careers. Students are able to link their post 18 options to future careers including the best progressions routes through to specific goals.	Term1: Careers Guidance interviews Tutorial Programme - VESPA tasks. PSHE Programme – Planning for the future sessions Unifrog sessions – Launch, Recording  Post 18 intentions, University/Apprenticeship searches, explore the careers & subject libraries. HE Plus Programme begins. Oxbridge Conference. Enhancement Programme begins. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme Subject Specific Activities Opportunities circulated.	Term2: Careers Guidance interviews Tutorial Programme - VESPA tasks. Annual Careers & Further Education Fair. National Careers Week Activities (2nd – 6th March 2026) UCAS convention. NW Skills Exhibition. HE Plus Programme continues. Enhancement Programme continues. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme Subject Specific Activities Opportunities circulated.	Term 3: Careers Guidance interviews Tutorial Programme – VESPA tasks. PSHE Programme – Readiness for Work sessions Visit to Edge Hill University for Personal Statement workshop and HE exploration. Final Enhancement cycle: Apprenticeships talks UCAS registration UNIFROG activities  Work Experience Summaries Personal Statements Guest Speakers University Visits HE Plus Programme concludes. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. Subject Specific Activities Opportunities circulated

	Students can link curriculum subjects to careers.			
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Year 13th (Upper 6th)

Aims	Learning Outcomes:	General: In Year 13, students are supported through the post-18 application processes, including UCAS and apprenticeship, work-related or college options.		
		Term1:	Term2:	Term 3:
To make well-informed realistic choices for post 18 transition. To be able to link post 18 pathways to progression routes and future careers. To have an appropriate intended destination. To recognise the skills and qualities developed in and out of school which will make them employable.	Students can identify post 18 pathways. Students are aware of the advantages and disadvantages of each post 18 pathway. Students can make informed decisions to support their post 18 choices. Students can identify and develop personal employability skills. Students build on personal strengths and begin to link skills to specific careers enabling realistic and informed decisions at transition stage. Students understand how post 18 pathways align to their interests and future careers. Students are able to link their post 18 options to future careers including the best progressions routes through to specific goals.	Careers Guidance interviews Tutorial Programme - VESPA tasks. PSHE Programme – Readiness for Work Sessions UK University Search University and Apprenticeships Fair at Old Trafford. Apprenticeship Sessions Employability Sessions UCAS & Other Application Support Opportunities circulated.	Careers Guidance interviews Tutorial Programme - VESPA tasks. PSHE Programme – Planning for the future Tutorial Programme – Employability skills & Final choices. Annual Careers & Further Education Fair. National Careers Week Activities (2nd – 6th March 2026) Duke of Edinburgh award scheme	Careers Guidance interviews Tutorial Programme - VESPA tasks. Higher Education and pathways guidance on results day. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme

