



Lord Grey Academy

CAREERS INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

At Lord Grey we have an active careers programme for our young people, with the aim of ensuring that students have high aspirations for their career and work choices, and are beginning to develop their employability skills so that they are best-placed to access the widest possible range of options when they leave school.

A new report has recently been published, the Gatsby Report, which provides a benchmark for best practice, that we are working hard towards. The key elements of this are:

- a stable careers programme
- learning from career and labour market information
- addressing the needs of each pupil
- linking curriculum learning to careers
- encounters with employers and employees
- experiences of workplaces
- encounters with Further Education and Higher Education
- personal guidance.

We are proud of the work that we do relating to careers and employability and are constantly striving to improve. Some of the activities and support our students can benefit from are listed below.

Careers Days for Year 7 - Year 10 Students which Focus on a Wide Range of Areas. In the past these have included Curriculum Vitae writing, interview practice, familiarisation with job adverts and job descriptions, information about Higher Education, apprenticeships and workshops on option choices. We have been fortunate to have the support of employers and universities with many of these career days.

Career Workouts – Provide an opportunity for students to meet with a wide range of employed people and find out more about their role. We find this widens their thoughts regarding future employment and also develops employability skills.

Careers Fair - An opportunity for students, parents and carers to meet with a wide range of employers, apprenticeship providers, colleges and universities.

Careers Talks – These are from a wide range of professionals and locally employed people, focusing on specific employment areas that students can choose to attend. In the past these have included speakers from sectors as diverse as performing arts, accountancy, law, motorsport and the armed forces.

Workshops from Universities and Apprenticeship Providers – These workshops allow interested students to find out more about the various pathways available to them, and ask questions, to help them to determine the routes that best fit their needs.



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Signposting to Work Experience Opportunities – Although we have unfortunately not been able to offer work experience to all Year 10 students this year, we do seek to signpost students to relevant work experience opportunities wherever possible. Interested students can speak to the Careers Officer who will give them advice about potential opportunities that they may wish to pursue. Last year, through contacts the school has, students successfully organised their own holiday placements in nursing and health and social care, as well as law and a wide range of other volunteering opportunities.

Access to High Quality Careers and Labour Market Information – Through the careers section on Moodle, we aim to direct students to reputable and up-to-date sources of careers and Labour Market Information, which is highly important to them as they may key decisions about their future. Some of the websites we recommend can also be found on this page.

Careers in the Classroom – We are actively looking at ways to increase opportunities to relate careers learning and employability to individual subject areas, as we know that this is an important way to widen aspirations and also to encourage students to fully engage in their lessons.

Personal Guidance – We have Careers Officer, who has strong links with local Further Education, Higher Education and apprenticeship providers, as well as local employers. They are qualified to provide individual careers advice and has worked in the education sector for a number of years, primarily with young people, at key transition points in their lives. They are able to provide individual careers appointments for students, where requested by the students themselves, parents, staff or other key stakeholders. Regular drop-in opportunities are also available and all Year 11 students undertake a careers tutorial session, which ensures an understanding of the Post-16 options available.

Careers Information Websites

www.plotr.co.uk

www.icould.com

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/>

Job Explorer Database – can be accessed via Moodle (a licensed product)

Apprenticeship Information and Find an Apprenticeship Service

www.getingofar.gov.uk

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship>

General Information, Options and Choices, Work Experience and Higher Education Alternatives

www.studentladder.co.uk

www.notgoingtounic.uk

Higher Education Opportunities

www.ucas.com

<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>

Higher Ideas – accessed through Moodle (a licensed product)



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How Can Parents Help?

Sometimes parents ask how they can help in terms of providing information and support. Here are some suggestions that you may wish to consider.

- Looking at some of the websites above with your son or daughter and familiarising yourself with them long before they reach the relevant year group. This will help them with future planning and thinking about their goals and aspirations for the future as well as their employability skills.
- Talk to them about the world of work in general terms – what you like and dislike about your own role, the jobs of those they know and come into contact with, some of the challenges and realities of the working world – as this helps them to build up a picture of what they want from work.
- Encourage students to be independent in their research – but using the websites above is a good starting point.
- If your son/daughter has a careers appointment, they will be emailed an action plan. Encourage them to discuss this with you.
- Help them to weigh up the advantages and disadvantages of different routes and how these may suit them as individuals.
- Encourage them to start planning early – for example, we encourage students to start thinking about their plans for the end of Year 11, when they are in Year 10, or before.
- If they take part in a Careers Day they will have a booklet full of work at the end of the day – encourage them to bring this home and share it with you and discuss what they have learnt.
- Attend our Careers Fair with your son or daughter.
- Consider getting involved in one of our career workout events with Worktree. No preparation is needed, just an hour of your time to come and talk to students about your job in small groups of 5 or 6. Find out more at <http://worktree.org/>
- Link with us on Twitter and encourage your son or daughter to check Moodle regularly for details of careers news, speakers and updates.

We regularly seek feedback from our partners on the value of our careers provision, if you have any comments or suggestions please do let us know.

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