

Staff responsible for Careers and Preparing for Adulthood:

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## **Careers Education & Guidance Policy 2018**

### **Introduction**

Our Careers Education and Guidance Policy at Derrymount School incorporates the aims of the school as well as recent initiatives in careers education in relation to the Gatsby Benchmarks.

The planned programme of study helps students to understand their interests, strengths and weaknesses in relation to the world of work and lifelong education therefore helping them to both identify their choice of career and their pathway towards it.

It incorporates planned activities that use the context of work to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding that are useful in a work setting, including learning through the experience of work, about work and working practices and an emphasis on learning the skills for work.

Students learn about different careers and opportunities for training, apprenticeships and volunteering and investigate further education options.

### **Gatsby Benchmarks**

This policy is written in conjunction with the requirements for the Gatsby Benchmarks:

- Benchmark 1: A stable careers programme
- Benchmark 2: Learning from career and labour market information
- Benchmark 3: Addressing the needs of each pupil
- Benchmark 4: Linking curriculum learning to careers
- Benchmark 5: Encounters with employers and employees
- Benchmark 6: Experiences of workplaces
- Benchmark 7: Encounters with further and higher education
- Benchmark 8: Personal guidance

## **Curriculum**

We follow the National Curriculum subjects until Y9.

From Y9 pupils take English, Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and PHSE.

They also choose from a range of Options some of which may be taken as an accredited course or as an Enrichment subject. Our Options may include:

Adventure School (Duke of Edinburgh Award)

Art and Design

Astronomy

Computer Science,

Dog Care and Business Enterprise

First Aid

German

Health and Social Care

History

Home Cooking

Landbased studies

Music

Sport and Leisure.

All pupils follow Titan independent travel training.

## **Accreditation**

Our students work towards the following accreditation from Year 9 onwards and into P16 at the appropriate level:

English and Maths, GCSE or Functional skills.

Biology, Chemistry and Physics. Entry Level or GCSE.

They also take Options which include accredited and enrichment courses.

Options include:

BTECS in Art and Design, Sport and Leisure, Health and Social Care

Titan (independent travel training)

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver Awards. As part of the Duke of Edinburgh program students may also achieve NICAS L1 and L2 Rock Climbing awards.

First Aid

Professional Dog Walker Certificate from the British College of Canine Studies

The following are offered as Enrichment programs but may be offered as GCSE if appropriate:

German

History

Astronomy

### **Work Experience**

Our students participate in work experience across a wide range of settings including:

Center Parcs, Sainsburys, Wilkos, Barnados, John Lewis, Theatre Royal, a local restaurant and garage.

Our pupils also experience a range of special events and visits to support them in choice of career and possible pathways towards it. These include college visits, work experience, fundraising enterprises, work based learning, industry days and mock interviews.

### **Younger pupils**

Our younger pupils also have opportunities to learn about the world of work and we provide many opportunities for them to develop independence through a range of activities which include:

Forest Schools

Animal Care

Technology club

Performing Arts

Cooking

Personal Health and Hygiene

Titan Independent Travelling

In addition they participate in a range of special events such as a Jobs Fair and mini enterprises to raise money for the school or local charities.

