



Careers Newsletter for Year 10

Welcome to the first edition of what will be a termly careers update for parents and carers. This newsletter will update you with national and local information on events and opportunities to enable you to support your child with their plans for the future. At St Edward's we place a real importance on providing high quality careers provision as we feel that it is essential that our students have aspirations and goals to strive for, in order to maximise their academic success.

What does careers provision look like at St Edward's?

We aim to run an extensive yet bespoke careers programme for each year group and the individuals that belong to it. We believe that quality careers provision should include the following aspects, during a students' time with us:

1. To raise awareness of different careers and opportunities that are available to students.
2. To encourage students to explore and challenge their expectations about their aspirations and goals.
3. To understand the pathways into different careers i.e. what qualifications are needed, which universities offer certain courses etc.
4. To facilitate students' access to one to one, high quality careers advice and guidance with qualified advisors and mentors.
5. To give students opportunities to speak to individuals from different sectors of business to learn what it is like to actually work in that industry.
6. To optimise links with business & industry for the benefit of our students.

Meet the Experts

Amanda Fripp is St Edward's careers advisor from Ansbury. Ansbury deliver expert independent careers and employability information, advice, guidance, support and training to benefit children, young people, adults, the economy and community. Ansbury will support students at every stage here at St Edward's by:

- Offering one to one advice and guidance to any student.
- At aged 13/14, help students to choose GCSEs and to start career planning.
- At aged 16, help students to plan their next step and make decisions about employment, training, further and higher education i.e. A levels, other post 16 study, apprenticeships etc.
- At aged 18, help to plan higher education courses, support with UCAS applications and investigating specialist courses or careers.
- At aged 18, help to explore alternatives to full time education (i.e. sponsored degrees, school leaver programmes, apprenticeships)
- To help plan productive gap years and volunteering opportunities.



After each meeting students will receive focused action plans which can be discussed at home and used to support students to move forward. Amanda is with us every Wednesday and offers students one to one careers advice and guidance. Students can refer themselves via their tutors, or the self referral forms outside the year leaders' office; staff can also refer a student. Amanda can be found in the year leaders' office.

One resource open to all students is the Ansbury website <https://www.ansbury.co.uk> which is full of advice and guidance about all career paths and ideas. It also includes a great online service called Career Comp@nion which students can log onto and "Live chat" with a professionally qualified careers advisor. All they need to do is go to https://www.ansbury.co.uk/Schools_Page.html and click on the St Edward's badge.

Dorset Youth for Christ

St Edward's is also fortunate enough to have another fully qualified careers advisor working with us, Aaron Rigby. Aaron works with St Edward's in a similar way to Amanda with the remit of advising and guiding students on the opportunities available to them. He also acts as a mentor to students who the school identify would benefit from some more intensive work with him. Aaron is also with us every Wednesday. Aaron works on behalf of Dorset Youth for Christ, a Christian organisation who offer guidance, advice and mentoring to young people in order for them to make the right choices to secure a successful future. Aaron is working in partnership with St Edward's as part of a larger project facilitated by the Southern Universities Network.

Southern Universities Network (SUN)

The Southern Universities Network (SUN) is a collaborative partnership comprising of Higher Education providers across Hampshire, Dorset and the Isle of Wight. The SUN has been tasked with increasing higher education participation by helping schools and colleges find outreach activities across the South to engage their students in Higher Education. It is our part in the project that means we have been fortunate enough to secure Aaron Rigby which enables these students to access one to one careers advice and guidance; as well as other opportunities such as residential university visits, university student mentors, UCAS application assistance, higher level apprenticeship advice and experience; plus many more opportunities that raise our students' aspirations.

Kudos

As part of the careers guidance and education programme we deliver at St Edward's, students have access to a career based computer programme called Kudos. Kudos will give students all the information they need to make important decisions about future careers and what subjects, courses and training they can do to reach their career destination. It is a fantastic resource that provides a great starting point for a conversation with students about their career aspirations. Even if students are unsure of what careers they might be interested in, Kudos can give ideas based on what they like and dislike, which subjects they like or dislike etc. Students can also discover what careers their subjects can lead to and what subjects are needed for careers and university courses.

Kudos is accessible online and we are encouraging the use of it at home to involve parents and carers with the important decisions students have to make about their future options. Kudos will help students to assess their interests and skills, as well as letting them explore and research different education and career options; enabling them to make informed decisions about their future. Students can get their personalised login from their tutor. To access the program please visit www.cascaid.co.uk/login and click on the 'Login or Register' button.

All CASCAID programs come with a comprehensive range of support materials including the Parents'/Carers' Guide to Careers Education & Guidance. This guide will help parents understand the options available to students at each transition stage. To view the Parents' /Carers' Guide please visit www.cascaid.co.uk/support/products/kudos/getting-started/guides/ Scroll to the bottom of the page to download the guide. At St Edward's our aim is to ensure that all students have the resources to fully explore and research their future options in order to make informed choices. We hope that you find Kudos useful and informative.

As students start the second term on of their new GCSE courses we aim to support students in every way we can to ensure their success. Careers guidance and mentoring can play a huge part in raising students aspirations and career goals. So far this term the year 10s have been involved in several initiatives to facilitate this.

Mentoring

St Edward's really values the importance of careers guidance and strives to give students the opportunity to consider what careers path they might like to take after school based education. This is why we are delighted to have been offered to take part in an Employer Mentoring Programme by Ansbury Guidance. The programme offers students the opportunity to be mentored by a range of business people from an array of sectors and Industries. The programme also allows students to experience and develop skills and insights such as learning to budget, writing a CV, learning about Tax and National Insurance, developing interview techniques, as well as being able to ask questions about what different areas of business are really like.

**For any questions about careers provision at St Edward's,
please contact Mr A Bousfield, Assistant Headteacher**

Careers fair

Last term saw approximately 50 year 10 students attend the second annual careers fair at St Aldhelm's Academy. Students had the chance to talk to over 70 businesses from various sectors about the world of work. Both local and national companies were represented and career opportunities explained, whether it was apprenticeship, vocational or graduate level entry. The students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and gained a great deal from the experience.

Mock Interviews

All year 10 students will be able to undertake a mock interview with a member of Poole Bay Rotary Club which will give them the experience of how to present themselves well in interviews. Students will also receive guidance in writing their CV's and letters of application in their English lessons; and will be given individual and general guidance on interview techniques.

CareerPilot

St Edward's has teamed up with CareerPilot to aid our students with their career aspirations. Students received a workshop on what CareerPilot is and how to use it to their benefit in December. CareerPilot is an online platform offering a wealth of impartial information about routes to higher level study in the South of England. It helps students to identify their GCSE, post-16 and post-18 options with sections dedicated to qualifications, finding providers and researching job sectors. All progression pathways are included, enabling students to make informed choices about work-based, vocational, and academic opportunities.

Once students are registered, they can record and save information in their **Student Zone** and bookmark pages which interest them. Here they will have access to a range of career tools, including:

- **Higher Education Skills Map** for post-16 students and a new **Pre-16 Skills Map** for younger students, where they can link their experiences and achievements to skills valued within education and employment. This boosts self-confidence and serves as a great platform for drafting applications and personal statements.
- **My Job Sectors** with access to 22 job sectors which link to hundreds of job profiles. The site provides key facts about the roles both in the South and UK-wide, information on getting in, and case study videos. The **Careerometer** tool also allows students to compare up to three job profiles at a time.
- **My Providers** where students can search local schools, Further Education colleges, training organisations and universities, being signposted to their websites via quick links and saving those they are interested in exploring further

-

The platform also hosts other useful zones:

Parent Zone

helpful information and FAQ answers, with 'What every parent needs to know' quiz

Adviser Zone

a bank of resources to assist in planning and delivering career-related lessons

Reporting Zone

enables teachers, advisers and SUN representatives to view students' saved choices and add comments; this can also be used to inform planning of activities and interventions which will best meet the students' needs

Apprenticeship Talks

One of our main priorities is to ensure that all students are fully informed about what options they have when moving on after their year 11 examinations, and discerning the next step in their education. Of course we would love our students to stay onto our 6th form, however we also realise this isn't the right choice for everyone; so we aim to let students know all of the possibilities available. One way in which we will do this for our year 10's is to invite external speakers in to talk to them about other options they have. In the new year, one of our apprenticeship providers, Paragon, will give students information about what apprenticeships really are, what they involve and who provides them in the local area.

For further updates please find us on:



@stedwardspoole

