

FUTURE CHOICES



YEAR 7

SUMMER EDITION

YEAR 7 FOCUS

Reasons and Relevance

Welcome to the Year 7 Summer edition of the Future Choices newsletter.

The focus in Year 7 is to get students to begin to think about the person they are and the person they wish to grow to be. What skills, qualities and values do they currently possess and which do they need to develop? Also, which careers are best suited to the set of skills, values and qualities they display.

We would like to encourage parents and carers to talk with their children about the world of work and the endless opportunities open to them. Actively exploring their ideas helps to develop students' self-awareness and encourages them to appreciate the relevance of why it is important to think about the future.

HOW THE ST EDWARD'S VIRTUES PROMOTE EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

The virtues that we reward our students play an integral part in developing their employability skills. A couple of examples are;

Discipline → **Planning & organising**

i.e. Use of the student planner to record homework and important dates. Remembering equipment for lessons.

Courage → **Leadership, Problem solving & being enterprising**

i.e. Having the courage to lead others to solve a problem or take a risk to achieve their goals.

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Transferable skills needed by an individual to make them 'employable'.

1. Communication
2. Teamwork
3. Problem solving and decision making
4. Being enterprising
5. Planning and organising
6. Using ICT
7. Using mathematics
8. Leadership

ENCOURAGING DREAMS

The Future Choices newsletter is only one strand of careers education within St Edward's. We believe careers education starting in Year 7, is vital to help our students form the foundations of future successful career management. Students in Year 7 are at an important stage in becoming aspirational; so when your child says they are going to be an astronaut or an Olympian, should you smile and say "yes of course you are", or offer them the reality check of how statistically likely they are to achieve such great heights?

It is important to remember that when you encourage dreams, you actually encourage self-belief, a necessary factor for achievement. Children share dreams and aspirations with family members as part of developing a view of themselves in the future, and beliefs that they are able to 'be somebody'. They are developing dreams of their future selves and they will adjust dreams to their realities as they mature.

Hope is an essential factor as hopeful thinking by children allows them to set goals and to work towards achieving those goals. Parents and carers encourage hopeful thinking by communicating a positive view of a child's ability to have a future, and faith in their ability to achieve their goals. Connecting their realities to future possibilities gives them hope and encouragement that they have a future. A parent or carer noticing drawing and cartooning skills in an individual child, makes the child and those around them aware these are a valuable talent and cartooning skills have a potential use in a future career. This is exciting news for a child who discovers their talents may connect to work.

THE NATIONAL PICTURE

The following careers are currently the top 3 most in demand in the UK, this trend is expected to continue for many years;

- **Engineering** (all specialisms)
- **Healthcare occupations** (Drs, Nurses, Midwives, Social workers etc)
- **Art and entertainment occupations** (Digital artists, 2D/3D design, Dancers, Choreographers, Musicians, Graphic designers, Producers, Directors)





YouTube fashion and beauty blogger Zoella

IN THE NEWS

A survey of 13,000 British children aged 7 to 11 asked about future career aspirations has shown that children would rather be a YouTube star than a pop singer or actor. The authors of the report *Drawing the Future* said there has been a shift in aspirations towards social media and gaming.

Commenting on the findings, Andreas Schleicher, Director for Education and Skills, OECD, said: "All children, regardless of their social background, where they live or the jobs their parents do, should have the same chance to meet people doing a wide range of jobs to help them understand the vast opportunities open to them."

Read the Article in full at;

www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/01/19/revealed-top-career-aspirations-todays-primary-school-children/

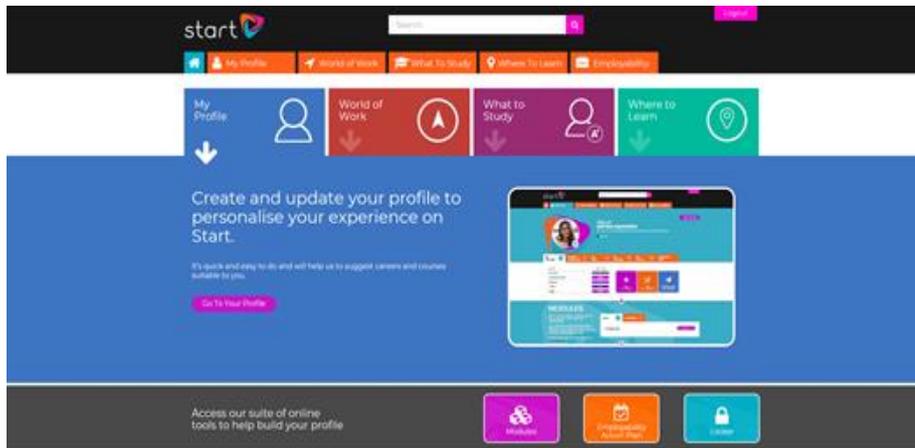
GATSBY

The Gatsby benchmarks introduced in 2011 describe all of the elements of good careers guidance. They include the best practice in career guidance from around the world. We believe that these provide a strong framework for us to ensure all students access the very best careers information, advice and guidance.

For Year 7 students it is important to note that one of the benchmarks puts a specific focus on students participating in at least one meaningful encounter with an employer, every year, from the age of 11.

HOW?

We will use our close links with industry through Dorset Young Chamber to give our students access to real employers who will help them to understand what a range of careers actually involve on a day to day basis, as well as reaffirming the employability skills we know will make them successful. However, parents and carers can also help by actively encouraging their children to talk with family members, friends of the family and neighbours that work in a wide range of different fields. This would be of great benefit.



NEXT EDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Analysis of student career aspirations including key trends.
- How St Edward's promotes key employability qualities within the curriculum.
- The future is exciting; digital careers.

USEFUL WEBSITES

www.icould.com

Video clips of real life storytellers sharing an inside view of their current job and they reveal how they got there.

www.careersbox.co.uk

These films show real people doing real jobs and are useful for giving insights into careers across all sectors.

www.startprofile.com

Helps children to explore different careers and helps them match their skills with possible careers. Designed for parents and carers to support their children.

Ansbury Live Chat

Access careers information, advice and guidance through a live web chat. Alternatively search career interests via careercomp@nion.

www.ansbury.co.uk/Schools_Page.html

Click on the St Edward's school logo.

Username : firefighter99

Password: firefighter99