



Careers Newsletter for Year 8

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.

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

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.

Ansbury Employer Mentor Program

St Edward's really value the importance of careers guidance and strive to give students the opportunity to consider what careers path they might like to take after Education, which is why we are delighted to have been offered the chance 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 allows students to experience and develop areas such as learning to budget, writing a CV, learning about Tax and National Insurance and interview techniques as well as students being able to ask questions about what different areas of business are really like.

For further updates please find us on:



@stedwardspoole



Year 8 Stem Event

Last year, year 8 had the opportunity to take part in and attend the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) event. The event was to celebrate the UK's first European Maritime Day and is hosted in a different country every year, so having Poole selected as the host is a unique, once in a life-time opportunity for our students. The STEM event was designed to inspire local students and give them a taste of working in marine engineering. The event saw 20 teams from 9 different schools across Bournemouth and Poole take part in an engineering challenge supported by local businesses and academics.

The challenge set to students was titled 'Saving Life at Sea' and the aim was to produce a device capable of lifting an unconscious casualty out of the water without putting any crew member at risk, or capsize the boat during recovery. During the day, the team of five expert judges circulated and spent time with every group, grading them on the quality and feasibility of their idea as well as their team work, cooperation, and presentation.

At the end of the day, each school had to 'pitch' their idea in front of a packed lecture theatre and in front of the judges and other special guests. The awards were then handed out and our students were ecstatic to discover that one of our teams had been announced as runners up and the second team were announced as overall winners. Both teams were then rewarded with a VIP tour of HMS Hurlworth where they were given the opportunity to learn about different parts of the ship. We are already excited about attending future events like this.

Project Wise

In year 8 we begin to encourage students to think about possible career aspirations and goals. One way in which we achieve this is for students to be exposed to different external speakers and experiences that provoke their thinking process. One of these experiences is happening on the 22nd January in the form of an enterprise day, where the students will be able to experience being an entrepreneur for the day. We are working in partnership with the Support and Mentoring Enabling Entrepreneurship charity. The charity launched project WISE in May 2016 which provides self-employment awareness workshops for children of school age. The WISE project meets benchmarks for Good Career Guidance and is suitable for students of all learning types and abilities.

The aim of the project is to give every student in education across Dorset access to self-employment information through specialist workshops and mentoring in addition to the careers information already provided by schools.

The purpose of the project is to provide an opportunity for students in education across Dorset to look at the world of work differently. On the WISE project, young people will learn specific self-employment information to help them make an informed choice about their future career direction.

Project Outcomes

In delivering the outcomes for the project, WISE will be expected to demonstrate the impact on young people. This should include, as a minimum, the following individual outcomes:

- Young people gain suitable self-employment awareness in order to make a balanced decision about their future career direction.
- Young people will understand the different opportunities that come from being employed, self employed and entrepreneurship.
- Young people will appreciate the advantages and disadvantages between being employed or self-employed
- Young people will acquire and demonstrate employability and business planning skills
- Young people will be better prepared for the world of work with the necessary skills, attitudes, experience and motivation
- Young people are supported in exploring their career ideas compatible with their needs, interests, skills, experience, aspirations and background.
- Young people have developed skills that will enable them to explore self-employment as a viable career option.
- Young people will have the opportunity to work with employers and mentors.
- Young people have improved self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Young people are further integrated into the wider school community.