

St John Bosco College Careers Curriculum

Curriculum Intent

At St John Bosco College, we believe that every student deserves the opportunity to explore their talents, raise their aspirations and make informed choices about their future.

Our Careers Curriculum supports students from Year 7 to Year 13 to understand themselves, discover the opportunities available to them and develop the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to succeed in education, employment and adult life.

Through careers education, employer encounters, workplace experiences, personal guidance and curriculum learning, students gain a better understanding of the pathways available to them, including university, apprenticeships, T Levels, further education and employment.

The curriculum is carefully planned and progressive, ensuring that students build their careers knowledge and employability skills over time. It is aligned to the Gatsby Benchmarks, monitored through Compass+ and forms an integral part of the school's Personal Development programme.

Inclusion and Belonging

At St John Bosco College, we want every student to feel valued, supported and confident about their future. We believe that all young people, regardless of their background, abilities, interests or aspirations, should have access to high-quality careers education and opportunities that enable them to achieve their potential.

Our Careers Curriculum helps students explore the full range of pathways available to them, including university, apprenticeships, T Levels, further education, training and employment. Through employer encounters, workplace experiences, careers events, personal guidance and curriculum learning, students develop the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to make informed decisions about their future.

Careers education is embedded throughout school life and linked to our STRIVE values. Students are encouraged to recognise their strengths, raise their aspirations, develop resilience and understand how their learning connects to future opportunities. We are committed to ensuring that all students, including those with SEND, disadvantaged students, EAL learners and those requiring additional support, can fully participate in and benefit from our careers programme.

We regularly review participation, engagement and destination outcomes through Compass+, student voice, parent feedback and quality assurance activities. This helps us identify and remove barriers, celebrate success and continually improve our provision. Our aim is that every student feels a strong sense of belonging, understands the opportunities available to them and is fully prepared for successful progression into adulthood.

Year 7 – Discover

Big Question

Who am I and what opportunities are available to me?

Students will learn:

- What careers are.
- How skills are developed.
- The importance of aspirations and ambition.
- How school subjects link to future opportunities.
- How careers challenge stereotypes.

Key Experiences

- Careers assemblies.
 - Employer encounters.
 - IntoUniversity Programme.
 - Curriculum careers links.
 - Tutor activities.
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Year 8 – Explore

Big Question

What careers and pathways are available?

Students will learn:

- Different career sectors and industries.
- Workplace skills employers value.
- Labour market information.
- Future employment opportunities.
- The importance of transferable skills.

Key Experiences

- Employer workshops.
 - Careers assemblies.
 - Industry encounters.
 - IntoUniversity Programme.
 - Subject-linked careers learning.
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Year 9 – Focus

Big Question

How do my choices influence my future?

Students will learn:

- The relationship between GCSE options and future pathways.
- Different Post-16 routes.
- The value of qualifications.
- How interests and strengths influence career decisions.

Key Experiences

- Careers Fair.
 - Options guidance.
 - Employer encounters.
 - University engagement.
 - Careers lessons.
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Year 10 – Plan

Big Question

What skills do I need to succeed?

Students will learn:

- Employability skills.
- Professional behaviours.
- Communication and teamwork.
- Workplace expectations.
- Career planning skills.

Key Experiences

- Year 10 Work Experience.
 - Cisco STEM Festival.
 - Employer talks.
 - Careers workshops.
 - Personal Development sessions.
 - Workplace awareness activities.
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Year 11 – Decide

Big Question

What is my next step?

Students will learn:

- Sixth Form pathways.
- College pathways.
- Apprenticeships.
- T Levels.
- Application and interview skills.

Key Experiences

- Careers Fair.
 - Guidance interviews.
 - Post-16 events.
 - Employer encounters.
 - College and Sixth Form engagement.
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Year 12 – Prepare

Big Question

How do I prepare for life after Sixth Form?

Students will learn:

- Higher Education pathways.
- Apprenticeships and employment routes.
- Professional networking.
- CV writing and applications.
- Workplace expectations.

Key Experiences

- WorkSkills Programme.
- University and Apprenticeship Information Events.
- Black Tech Fest.
- BIMA Digital Day.
- Investment 20/20.
- University visits.
- Employer encounters.
- Work experience.

- Careers Fair.
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Year 13 – Progress

Big Question

How do I successfully transition into adulthood?

Students will learn:

- Application processes.
- Interview techniques.
- Professional communication.
- Financial awareness.
- Independent decision-making.

Key Experiences

- University application support.
 - Apprenticeship application support.
 - Mock interviews.
 - Employer networking.
 - Alumni engagement.
 - Personal guidance interviews.
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Curriculum Impact

By the end of Year 13, students will:

- Understand the full range of education, training and employment pathways.
 - Be able to make informed decisions about their future.
 - Demonstrate key employability skills, including communication, teamwork, problem-solving and resilience.
 - Understand local and national labour market opportunities.
 - Have meaningful encounters with employers, workplaces, universities and training providers.
 - Be confident in making applications for further education, apprenticeships, training or employment.
 - Successfully progress into Higher Education, apprenticeships, training or employment.
 - Understand how their learning, skills and experiences prepare them for adult life.
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Monitoring and Evaluation

The Careers Curriculum is reviewed termly through:

- Compass+ Reports
- Gatsby Benchmark Analysis
- Student Voice
- Parent Feedback
- Employer Feedback
- Destination Data
- Quality Assurance Activities
- Participation and destination analysis for SEND, disadvantaged and other key student groups

This enables us to continually evaluate and improve our provision, ensuring that all students have access to meaningful careers experiences and are well prepared for their next steps.

By working closely with students, parents, employers, universities, training providers and apprenticeship organisations, we ensure that our careers programme remains ambitious, inclusive and responsive to the needs of our school community.