

Gatsby Benchmarks:

1. A stable careers programme
Every school and college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by pupils, parents, teachers and employers.
2. Learning from career and labour market information
Every pupil, and their parents, should have access to good-quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities.
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
Pupils have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each pupil.
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers.
5. Encounters with employers and employees
Every pupil should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace.
6. Experiences of workplaces
Every pupil should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience.
7. Encounters with further and higher education
All pupils should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them.
8. Personal guidance
Every pupil should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a careers adviser, who could be internal (a member of school staff) or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level.

Useful Contacts:

School: 01384818945 info@pens-meadow.dudley.sch.uk
Connexions: 01384 811400 connexions@dudley.gov.uk

Careers Programme



PensMeadowSchool

Living, Growing, Learning

Information for
Parents and Carers

At Pens Meadow School the person responsible for Careers Provision and Development is Michal Pawlowicz, Deputy Headteacher.

Our duty is to secure independent careers guidance for all pupils from Year 7 to Year 14. It is intended to expand advice and guidance, so they are inspired and motivated to fulfil their potential.

“Good career guidance can have a profound impact on social mobility, as it ensures that each and every young person, whatever their needs, background or ambitions, knows the options open to them to fulfil their potential.”

Purpose of implementation of careers programme:

- Prepare pupils for the transition to life after Pens Meadow
- Support pupils in making informed decisions which are appropriate for them
- Provide pupils with well-rounded experiences
- Develop personal characteristics such as social skills, communication, independence and resilience
- Inspire and motivate pupils to develop themselves as individuals and live as independently as is possible

Careers Provision

- All pupils at Pens Meadow School take part in world of work activities through taking responsibilities for class jobs and visits to various places of work
- Visitors in to school and offsite visits support pupils in developing their understanding of a range of different post 19 pathways
- All pupils from Year 7 have access to advice and guidance, including from our Connexions advisor
- Pupils have access, through school arranged or facilitated events, to relevant careers events hosted in various locations
- Pupils have at least two encounters with education or training providers in each Key Stage from Year 7 onwards.

Key Stage 3

- Pupils learn about different trades and jobs
- Pupils have regular opportunities to apply their learning
- Pupils visit various places of work
- Pupils engage in transition to Post 14 provision

Key Stage 4

- Pupil pathways onto accredited and vocational courses are planned and prepared for in KS4
- Pupils take part in work experience activities
- Pupils take part in Enterprise projects across the school year
- Projects are a key part of the KS4 curriculum
- Pupils take part in next steps events

Key Stage 5

- One-to-one meetings with families, the school team and Connexions Advisor in Years 12 to 14 informs individual routes into Post 19 provision and appropriate and meaningful work-related learning opportunities
- Curriculum and provision are designed to maximise opportunities for students to access world of work as well as prepare them for college provision after leaving Pens Meadow School
- The overall organisation of work-related learning is undertaken by lead post 16 staff who liaises with the whole team to ensure the most relevant and engaging opportunities are taken. Families are informed and communicated with throughout the process and a work experience agreement form and work experience information form are completed. All pupils on placement are covered by the employers' insurance and places of work are risk assessed by school staff.