



HHS

**SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD
WITH THEIR FUTURE
CAREER PLANS**

A GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD WITH THEIR FUTURE CAREER PLANS

It is Government policy that all young people leaving education from 2014 onwards will need to remain in learning until they are 18.

This policy means that schools have a responsibility to ensure their students are aware of all the pathways which could be available to them. These include:-

- Full time education in a school or college
- Work-based learning eg Apprenticeship
- Part-time education or training if employed, self- employed or volunteering for more than 20 hours a week

Students will receive information on options available to them through the school in PSHCE lessons, Assemblies and careers events. However, as parents and carers, you can play an important part in supporting your child at different stages in their school career.

Below are a few useful hints and tips:-

YEARS 8 and 9

- All students will receive an options booklet in PSHCE lessons. Encourage them to read it carefully in and out of school as it contains lots of useful information about choosing options.
- www.helpyouchoose.org is the 14-19 careers advice website for Norfolk and has a whole section of information about choosing options. It also has information about full-time courses and qualifications, apprenticeships and job hunting as well as a link to the National Careers Service website www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk This website has a whole section for 13-16 year olds and allows them to make contact with an external Careers Adviser via telephone, e mail or webchat. It also has good careers information in the 'Job Profiles' section.
- Make sure you come to relevant Options Evenings in school (Year 9 Thursday 5 February; Year 8 Thursday 30 April)

YEAR 10

- Discuss post 16 plans in more depth. If they are thinking of full time education do they want to do academic study like A levels or would they prefer the more

vocational, practical approach of BTEC qualifications? Discuss their preferred learning style.

- If they won't get the required grades for A Level or other Level 3 courses, then discuss Level 2 courses. Colleges offer a wide range of Level 2 courses in vocational subjects like Health and Social Care, Sport, Business, Animal Care and it is always possible to progress from Level 2 to Level 3 with the right grades.
- If they are thinking of applying for an Apprenticeship, what kinds of jobs would they consider? Again, direct them to www.helpyouchoose.org for information on jobs and apprenticeships and the National Apprenticeship website www.apprenticeships.org.uk
- Are they planning to do work experience? Listen out for announcements about any meetings and encourage them to attend. Work experience can be a useful way of trying out a career idea and, in some cases, can lead to the offer of a part time job or the offer of a full time job/apprenticeship when they leave school.

YEAR 11

- All Year 11 students will receive a booklet called 'Choices at 16' at the beginning of the Autumn Term. Encourage them to read it as it contains lots of useful information about courses and apprenticeships, as well as general information about transport and money for studying. It also has a useful calendar of what to do when, on the back pages.
- All Year 11 students will be registered on the www.helpyouchoose.org website in ICT lessons during the Autumn Term. This can be used to make applications to 6th Forms and Colleges via the 'My Account' section.
- Encourage them to attend 6th Form and College Open Days in the Autumn Term – these should be advertised on www.helpyouchoose.org which has links to school/college websites.
- Encourage them to apply for full time courses by the end of the Autumn Term. Applications can be made online on www.helpyouchoose.org but be aware that Hellesdon Sixth Form does not accept online applications and students will need to collect an application form at the 6th Form Open Evening or from the Sixth Form helpdesk.
- Discuss back up plans. What will they do if they don't get the grades? It might be sensible to apply for a Level 2 course as well as a Level 3 course or a Level 1 course as well as a Level 2.

- If they are looking for a job/apprenticeship, get them to start their job searching from the Autumn Term onwards. Jobs are advertised in the 'Jobs' section of www.helpyouchoose.org and there is also a link to the national Apprenticeship website www.apprenticeships.org.uk which they can also browse for vacancies and register to receive vacancies. However, lots of jobs are never advertised so encourage them to search on company websites and to start 'networking' by using contacts which could include family, friends, employers where they did work experience, to suggest potential employers to contact. Again, it is worth discussing back up plans. It might be sensible apply for a college course as well, in case they can't find a job.

DO THEY NEED MORE IN-DEPTH GUIDANCE?

- All pupils are entitled to receive careers guidance, although many may not require in depth guidance and will be able to decide their next steps on the basis of advice and information given in school and with help and support from teachers and Mentors. However, others may need more support.
- Guidance Advisers from Children's Services will see a limited number of students from Year 9 onwards. Their focus is to work with those who are at risk of becoming NEET (not in employment, education or training).
- The school's Careers Adviser, Mrs. Rosie Warnock, is available to see other students. If you feel your child needs careers guidance then please E mail her on rwarnock9nr2@nsix.org.uk or tell your son/daughter to fill in a self-referral slip in the library and hand to the librarian (forms are on the library counter). From September, there will be a post box outside the careers office (opposite A3) and pupils will be able to place interview requests in the box.

Rosie Warnock

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