

Westbourne Academy Careers Strategy

Vision statement

At Westbourne Academy we aim to create well rounded individuals that have the confidence and self-awareness to make informed choices about their future options. We will ensure that all students are given the opportunity to explore the progression pathways available to them. They will gain insight into different education, training and career options. We shall fully prepare them for future opportunities, by honing their interview and CV writing techniques.

We have used the ACEG framework to identify 7 key aspects of learning. It is intended that these will be integrated within the Curriculum, linked back to and measured against individual activities arranged for student participation throughout an academic year.

Aspect of learning 1- Self awareness

What is it about?

Qualities, skills, attitudes and values, needs and interests, aptitude and achievements. Self-image and identity, confidence and self-esteem, self-understanding, structured review and reflection, personal constructs, life roles.

Why is it important?

Low self-understanding affects quality decisions and CV's

Outcome for Academy students

Describe yourself, your strengths and your preferences.

Aspect of learning 2- Exploring Careers and Career development

What is it about?

Concept of Career, Career metaphors, Career development processes including career development in employment, career as a dimension of citizenship/volunteering, developing personal points of view about challenging and controversial issues relating to careers.

Why is it important?

Individuals see the relevance of their studies to their lives and work now and in the future. People can expect to have more changes of career direction in their lifetime than before.

Outcome for Academy students

Describe different ways of looking at people's careers and how they develop.

Aspect of Learning 3 – investigating work and working life

What is it about?

Economic and gift work, how labour markets work, benefits of work, job satisfaction, work/life balance, full-time, part-time, flexi-time, shift, night work, hot desking, working from home, consultancy, freelance and working for yourself, organisational cultures, work roles.

Why is it important?

Changing technologies are transforming existing work activities, creating new ones and making others redundant. Young people need to be aware of the different ways of working.

Outcome for Academy students

Identify different kinds of work and why people's satisfaction with their working lives varies.

Aspect of Learning 4- Preparing for employability

What is it about?

Basic skills, literacy, numeracy, ICT, soft skills such customer care, teamwork, time management, personal organisation, business awareness, working to a high standard, global mind-set, volunteering and work experience.

Why is it important?

Government initiatives, employers concerns over young people's readiness for work.

Outcome for Academy students

Recognise the qualities and skills needed for employability and provide evidence for those you have demonstrated both in and out of school.

Aspect of Learning 5 – Identifying choices and opportunities

What is it about?

Knowledge of qualifications, routes and pathways. Networking and negotiation.

Why is it important?

Valid insights into careers opportunities and specific routes available.

Outcome for Academy Students

Research your education, training apprenticeship, employment and volunteering options

Aspect of learning 6- Planning and deciding

What is it about?

Goal/target setting, action planning, decision making styles and strategies, problem solving, influences/networks of support.

Why is it important?

Students need skills to make sense of main factors when considering subjects and their usefulness for a future career, along with their interest and perceptions of their ability in a subject. Importance of realistically high aspirations, importance of having good planning processes and an actual plan.

Outcome for Academy Student

Know how to negotiate and make plans and decisions carefully to help get the qualifications, skills and experience needed.

Aspect of learning 7- Handling applications and selection

What is it about?

CV's, application forms, letters of application, self-marketing and applying online, interviews, second stage selection methods, record keeping.

Why is it important?

Employers concerns over young people's readiness for work

Outcome for Academy students

Know how to prepare and present yourself when going through a selection process