

Dormston School – Careers Programme 2023 – 2024

This is programme for 2023/24. Events will be added to this programme throughout the year as and when they become available.

Whole School

Activity	Details	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered *See below
Displays	Career based displays are placed around school, with subject specific career related displays in key areas.	Increased awareness and profile of careers at Dormston School.	2, 4
Visiting Speakers	Careers focused visiting speakers throughout the course of the academic year. Some sessions for whole year groups (assembly slots, off timetable lessons)	Students have an improved awareness of the variety of jobs and careers available. They also have gained knowledge of the skills and qualifications required and the realities of the current labour market.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
National Apprenticeship Week 5 -11 February 2024	Whole school information and promotion of apprenticeships as post 16/18 pathway	Raise awareness of apprenticeship routes to support informed choices at Post 16/18	2, 3 ,4, 5, 6, 7
National Careers Week (6 –11 March 2024)	Classroom based activities, workshops, employer engagement and drop-in sessions to celebrate NCW.	Raise awareness and aspirations of all students.	2, 3 ,4, 5, 6, 7
Student Voice	Student voice (formal and informal) used to gather views and understanding of careers. Student Leadership Team to contribute to & evaluate ongoing careers provision.	School aware of the strengths and areas for development which can then be used to inform future planning.	1, 2, 3
Parental Engagement	Engagement via meetings, school website, Parents/Options/Post 16 Evenings and newsletters at key points throughout the academic year.	Increased parental awareness of the variety of careers available within the local area, nationally and within key areas.	1, 2, 5, 7
Staff Feedback	Feedback from staff on careers related events and programmes to contribute to & evaluate ongoing careers provision.	School aware of the strengths and areas for development which can then be used to inform future planning.	1, 2, 3

Year Based Activities

Year 7

Activity	Date	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered *see below
Wolves Mentoring Programme (Selected Students)	Autumn Term 2023 & Spring Term 2024	Instil self-belief, raise confidence during transition and raise aspiration to reduce potential NEET	2, 3, 4, 5
Motivational Speaker (Assembly)	Autumn Term 17 November 2023	Emphasise importance of resilience, hard work and dedication. Raise aspiration.	2, 3, 5, 7
Life Skills – World of Work NHS COMPETITION (including Employer Engagement)	Spring Term 2024	Raise aspiration and increase knowledge of transferable skills/attributes required for World of Work, University Life, LMI.	1, 2, 4, 7
National Apprenticeships Week	Spring Term 5 -11 February 2024	Raise aspiration and increased knowledge of apprenticeship career pathways & labour market information.	2, 3, 5
National Careers Week Curriculum Focus/activities	Spring Term 6 -11 March 2024	Link relevance of curriculum learning to careers	2, 3, 4, 5
National Careers Week Employer Assembly delivered by Metrobank	Spring Term 8 March 2024	Employer interaction. Increase knowledge of skills and pathway	2, 5

Year 8

Activity	Date	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered *see below
Wolves Mentoring Programme (Selected Students)	Autumn Term 2023 & Spring term 2024	Instil self-belief, raise confidence and aspiration to reduce potential NEET	2, 3, 4, 5
PSHE – Changing World of Work	Spring Term February 2024	Greater understanding of job sectors/future jobs and employment needs, especially relating to transferrable skills.	2, 3, 4
National Apprenticeships Week	Spring Term 5-11 February 2024	Raise aspiration and increased knowledge of career pathways & labour market information delivered by external providers	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
‘Challenging Stereotypes’ Activity	Spring Term 7 February 2024	Challenge stereotypes in the world of work. Opportunity to meet with employers from numerous job sectors.	2, 3, 4, 5
National Careers Week Curriculum Focus/activities	Spring Term 6 -11 March 2024	Raise aspiration, increased knowledge of career pathways, LMI and link curriculum learning to world of work.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
National Careers Week Apprenticeship Assembly delivered by DWP	Spring Term 7 March 2024	Greater understanding of Apprenticeships at Post 16/18 (to comply with PA Legislation)	2, 3, 5

Year 9

Activity	Date	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered * see below
Wolves Mentoring Programme (Selected Students)	Autumn Term 2023 & Spring Term 2024	Instil self-belief and raise aspiration to reduce potential NEETs	2, 3, 4, 5
PSHE My Career / My Future	Spring Term January 2024	Gain knowledge & skills to raise awareness of personal skills & strengths	2, 3, 4, 5
Assembly delivered by Pete Small, Independent Careers Advisor	Spring Term 11 January 2024	Inform students of all pathways available Post 16/18, including apprenticeships and T Levels (to comply with PA Legislation)	2,3,8
National Apprenticeship Week	Spring Term 5 -11 February 2024	Raise aspiration and increased knowledge of career pathways & labour market information delivered by external providers.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
GCSE Options Evening	Spring Term 29 February 2024	Students and parents have the opportunity to access information relating to GCSE study at Dormston and future pathways (post 16 & 18) including local FE establishments, training/apprenticeship providers & YETI. Students make well informed option choices to maximise achievement	1, 3, 7, 8
National Careers Week (Curriculum Focus/activities)	Spring Term 6 -11 March 2024	Raise aspiration, increased knowledge of career pathways, LMI and link curriculum learning to world of work.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
National Careers Challenge	Spring Term 6 March 2024	Employer engagement and interaction. Explore future careers. Employer focus and increased knowledge of career pathways and skills	2, 3, 5, 5
Work Experience Student Launch	Summer Term 11 June 2024	Inform pupils the importance and benefits of WEX	2, 5, 6
Work Experience Parent Launch Evening	Summer Term 18 June 2024	Inform pupils and parents the importance and benefits of WEX	2, 5, 6

Year 10

Activity	Date	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered *see below
Creative Careers Workshop BOA Academy (selected students)	Autumn Term 16 November 2023	Raise aspiration. Increase knowledge of careers available in creative industries and LMI.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
National Apprenticeship Week	Spring Term 5 -11 February 2024	Raise aspiration and increased knowledge of career pathways & labour market information delivered by external providers.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
PHSE -Post 16 Pathways & Work Experience Prep	Spring Term March 2024	Increase knowledge of all post 16/18 learning pathways available enabling student to make realistic and appropriate choices. Prepare students for WEX placement	2, 3, 7, 8
National Careers Week Activities/Curriculum Focus/activities	Spring Term 6 -11 March 2024	Raise aspiration, increased knowledge of career pathways, LMI and link curriculum learning to world of work.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
CV Workshop Delivered by external providers (Central St Michaels Sixth, Dudley & Halesowen Colleges)	Summer Term 11 April 2024	Prepare pupils for post 16 pathways and employment. Interact with FE providers (Central St Michaels Sixth, Dudley & Halesowen College).	2, 3, 7, 8
Work Experience Week	Summer Term 15 – 19 April 2024	Students have first-hand experience of work place environments. Raise aspiration. Awareness of transferable skills	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
1:1 Interviews with YETI	Summer Term April 2024 onwards	Improved aspiration and understanding of career options available linked to potential future progression by providing independent careers advice and guidance	1, 2, 3, 8
Visits to FE and HE Establishments	Summer Term 4 July 2024	Gain insight and raise awareness of opportunities on offer at FE and HE providers. Raise aspiration.	2, 3, 4, 7

Year 11

Activity	Date	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered *see below
Post 16 Assembly Delivered by FE Provider & ASK Apprenticeships	Autumn Term 12 September 2023	Increase knowledge of post 16 learning pathways and entry requirements. Increase knowledge of all apprenticeships Post 16 & Post 18. Provide Labour Market Information	2, 3, 7
1:1 Interviews with YETI (Continued from Year 10)	Autumn Term September 2023 onwards	Improved aspiration and understanding of career options available linked to potential future progression. Where identified students with issues (academic, personal, career pathways) can be referred as appropriate	2, 3, 8
PHSE – Post 16 Guidance and Support	Autumn Term 12 September 2023	Increase knowledge of post 16 learning pathways and entry requirements.	2, 3, 8
The Real Apprentice Event (The Apprenticeship Works)	Autumn Term 28 September 2023	Students gain direct access to employers, apprenticeship providers, FE establishments and training providers to make informed Post 16 choices	2, 3, 5, 7
PSHE - Post 16 Preparation	Autumn Term September/October 2023	Provide support and guidance with post 16 applications. Preparation for Post 16 Evening	2, 3
Post 16 Evening	Autumn Term 3 October 2023	Students and parents have the opportunity to access high quality information relating to ALL post 16 pathways including local FE & HE establishments, training providers, employers & YETI.	2, 3, 5, 7, 8
Next Steps Questionnaires (1)	Autumn Term October 2023	To target careers support. Identify any possible NEETs.	3, 8
Employer Workshop Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (Selected Students)	Autumn Term 9 October 2023	Inform students on different careers and pathways into Surveying. Enhance team working, communication and creativity skills	2, 3, 4, 5
University Campus Visit (Aspire to HE) (Selected Students)	Autumn Term 17 October 2023	Raise aspiration. Understanding of routes into HE. Discover transferable skills. Assist students making informed Post 16 / 18 decisions.	2, 3, 7, 8

A Level Advice/Guidance Workshop (Delivered by King Edwards V1)	Autumn Term 24 October 2023	Increase knowledge and provide support on A Levels including applications and personal statements	3, 7, 8
Creative Careers Workshop BOA Academy (selected students)	Autumn Term 16 November 2023	Raise aspiration. Increase knowledge of careers available in creative industries and LMI.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
Informal Drop-in College Sessions (Atrium)	Autumn Term Dates throughout Autumn Term	Provide informal support and guidance with Post 16 pathways, courses and applications	2, 3, 8
National Apprenticeship Week	Spring Term 5-11 February 2024	Raise aspiration and increased knowledge of career pathways & labour market information delivered by external providers.	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
Apprenticeship Workshop (1) Delivered by ASK to interested students (after school)	Spring Term 19 March 2024 20 March 2024	To provide advice/guidance to students with the apprenticeship process and registration onto gov site	2, 3, 8
National Careers Week Curriculum Focus/activities	Spring Term 6 -11 March 2024	Raise aspiration, increased knowledge of career pathways, LMI and link curriculum learning to world of work.	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
Apprenticeship Workshop (2)	Spring Term 23 April 2024	To provide support students with the apprenticeship process and applications & CVs	2, 3, 7, 8
Next Steps Questionnaires (2) Compulsory information collection required by Local Authority	Spring Term March/April 2024	To target careers support. Identify any possible NEETs. Information sent to LA	3, 8

Staff CPD

Activity	Date	Impact	Gatsby Benchmark(s) Covered *see below
Curriculum Leaders Meetings	As calendared	Raise profile of careers. To keep staff updated on careers legislation & school policies/events	1, 4
Staff CPD	Various	Provide staff with relevant CPD opportunities to support with linking the curriculum with the real world of work, LMI and post 16/18 pathways available to students.	1, 2, 4

*The eight Gatsby benchmarks of Good Career Guidance

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education

8. Personal guidance

Louise Dawes – Updated December 2024