

Teachers' Guide to Careers

At Settlebeck School, we recognise the crucial role that teachers play in helping students navigate their career paths. This guide provides you with information, strategies, and resources to integrate careers education into your teaching and support students as they explore future opportunities.

Why Careers Education Matters

- **Holistic Development:** Career guidance supports students' personal and academic growth, helping them understand the relevance of what they're learning to their future careers.
 - **Motivation:** When students see the real-world applications of their studies, they are more likely to be engaged and motivated.
 - **Informed Decision-Making:** With effective career education, students can make informed choices about their future options, whether that be further study, apprenticeships, or entering the workforce.
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How to Integrate Careers Education into Your Lessons

As a teacher, you have the opportunity to inspire students and show them how their current studies relate to the world of work. Here are some ways to incorporate careers education into your subject:

1. Highlight Career Relevance

- In every lesson, draw connections between the subject matter and potential career paths. For example:
 - **Math:** Show how mathematics is used in engineering, finance, architecture, and technology.
 - **English:** Link skills in communication and writing to careers in journalism, marketing, and law.
 - **Science:** Discuss how scientific knowledge is applied in health, medicine, research, and environmental careers.

2. Promote Transferable Skills

- Emphasise the skills students are developing through their studies that will be valuable in the workplace, such as problem-solving, critical thinking, teamwork, and communication.

3. Use Real-World Examples

- Share stories and examples from your own career, or invite guest speakers from various industries to talk about their career paths and experiences. This helps make the connection between school and the world of work more tangible.

4. Encourage Reflection and Research

- Assign tasks that encourage students to research different careers related to the subjects you teach. For example, a history project could explore how historical knowledge is applied in professions like archaeology or law.
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Key Career Events and Activities

As part of Settlebeck School's commitment to career education, we organise several events and activities throughout the year to help students explore their options. These include:

- **Careers Fairs:** Students can meet employers, apprenticeship providers, and college representatives to learn more about post-16 options.
- **Workshops and Talks:** Employers, industry professionals, and alumni are invited to give talks or run workshops on different career paths.
- **Work Experience Placements:** Year 10 students participate in work experience to gain hands-on knowledge of various careers.
- **Career Guidance Appointments:** Students can book one-to-one sessions with our Careers Advisor for personalized advice on career choices.

As a teacher, you can help facilitate and promote these opportunities by encouraging students to participate and helping them prepare for these events.

Supporting Students with Career Planning

1. Offer Career Advice During Lessons

- Be proactive in helping students explore their interests and career ideas. If you notice a student excelling in a particular area, suggest career paths where they could use those skills.

2. Signpost to Resources

- Direct students to careers resources like the National Careers Service, Career Pilot, and Prospects.ac.uk, which offer career advice, job profiles, and pathways information.

3. Discuss Post-16 Options

- Encourage Year 9 and 10 students to start thinking about their next steps after school. Discuss different pathways, such as A-levels, T-levels, apprenticeships, and vocational courses.

4. Encourage Soft Skills Development

- Many employers look for candidates who not only have technical skills but also possess soft skills like leadership, time management, and adaptability. Encourage students to develop these skills through extracurricular activities or group work.
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How to Access Support

Settlebeck School offers a wide range of support for teachers to help deliver career education effectively:

- **Careers Advisor:** Our dedicated Careers Lead, **Sally Ingham**, is available for one-to-one sessions with students and can assist in guiding them on career pathways. You can contact them at ingham@settlebeck.org
 - **Workshops and Resources:** Career-focused lesson plans and activities are available for integration into your teaching. Please contact the Careers Team for more information.
 - **Career Development Training:** We offer professional development sessions for teachers who want to learn more about careers education and how to incorporate it into their lessons.
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Top Tips for Teachers Supporting Careers Education

1. **Promote Career Awareness Early:** Encourage students to start thinking about careers as early as possible, especially when they are selecting GCSEs.
 2. **Incorporate Careers Discussions:** Include career-focused discussions during lessons, asking students to consider how what they are learning might be applied in the real world.
 3. **Support Career Events:** Help students prepare for careers fairs, workshops, and other events by discussing what they might expect and how to make the most of these opportunities.
 4. **Be a Role Model:** Share your own career journey with your students, highlighting the challenges and successes you've experienced in your professional life.
 5. **Stay Updated:** Keep informed about changes in career trends and the education system so you can provide the best advice to your students.
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Need More Support?

If you have any questions or need additional resources, please contact the Careers Lead at ingham@settlebeck.org. We are here to support you in helping our students achieve their full potential and make well-informed career choices.

By integrating career education into your teaching and promoting the importance of future planning, you are making a vital contribution to the success and aspirations of our students.
