

Careers Education at Stoud High School



Intent

Stroud High School is committed to providing a high-quality, progressive Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme that equips every student with the **knowledge, skills and confidence** to make informed decisions about their future pathways. Our intent is to ensure that all students leave SHS fully prepared for the next stage of their education, training or employment, with a clear understanding of the opportunities available to them and the skills required to succeed.

Our careers provision is designed to inspire ambition and to broaden horizons. It supports students in developing self-awareness, exploring a wide range of career options, and building the competencies needed to thrive in an ever-changing world of work

Design

Stroud High School delivers its Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme through a carefully planned, progressive and inclusive model from Year 7 to Year 13. Our implementation ensures that every student receives consistent, high-quality careers learning that reflects our intent and leads to strong, measurable outcomes.

We have deliberately built our careers curriculum around the following GATSBY benchmarks so that we:

- **Have a stable careers programme:** A coherent, well-structured programme is delivered across all year groups, strategically managed by June Fletcher and coordinated by Kim Harris, our qualified Careers Leader from SGS College careers service who provides independent and unbiased careers advice and oversees quality assurance, staff training and continuous improvement. Careers education is embedded within PSHE, subject curriculum pathway and whole-school enrichment opportunities
- **Ensure access and learn about career and labour market information:** Students and families have access to up-to-date labour market information through assemblies, tutor activities, employer talks, digital platforms and careers events. This ensures students understand growth sectors, future skills needs and emerging opportunities both locally and nationally.
- **Aim to address the needs of each student:** Provision is personalised and inclusive. Students with SEND and those from disadvantaged backgrounds receive targeted support, including tailored guidance interviews, priority access to employer encounters and additional transition support at key stages

- **Link curriculum learning to careers:** Subject teachers integrate career-related learning into lessons, highlighting real-world applications of knowledge and skills. Departments work with employers, universities and alumni to contextualise learning and demonstrate its relevance to future pathways
- **Provide encounters with employers and employees:** Students participate in multiple meaningful encounters with employers through talks, workshops, careers fairs, mentoring and enterprise activities. These interactions broaden understanding of different industries, roles and career journeys
- **Engage with experiences of workplaces:** Students engage in workplace visits, work shadowing and work experience (both virtual and in-person). These experiences help them develop an authentic understanding of professional environments, expectations and employability skills
- **Provide encounters with further and higher education:** Students explore a full range of post-16 and post-18 pathways through visits, taster days, talks, workshops and events with sixth forms, colleges, universities, apprenticeship providers and technical education routes
- **Provide support and personal guidance:** Every student has access to one-to-one guidance from a qualified careers adviser at key transition points. Additional appointments are available for students requiring further support, ensuring all students can make confident, well-informed decisions

Through this structured and intentional implementation, Stroud High School ensures that every student receives the guidance, experiences and support needed to progress successfully into further education, higher education, apprenticeships or employment.

Impact

Stroud High School's careers programme has a clear and measurable on students' readiness for their next steps. Through a structured, inclusive and aspirational approach, students develop the **knowledge, skills and confidence** needed to make informed decisions about their futures and to thrive in an evolving world of work.

As a result of our careers provision, students:

- **Understand themselves:** They gain a strong sense of identity, recognising their strengths, interests and aspirations, and understanding how these relate to future pathways
- **Explore a wide range of career pathways:** Students broaden their horizons through exposure to diverse industries, employers, and further and higher education providers, enabling them to make ambitious and well-informed choices
- **Develop essential employability skills:** Communication, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, resilience and independence are embedded across the curriculum and through employer encounters, preparing students for real-world expectations

- **Make informed, ambitious and realistic decisions:** With access to high-quality guidance and labour market information, students confidently navigate key transition points and select pathways that align with their goals
- **Transition successfully into their next stage:** The majority progress to leading universities, while others secure competitive apprenticeships or employment, demonstrating the strength and breadth of our careers support

Through this impact, Stroud High School ensures that every student is equipped to shape their own future with **clarity, confidence and purpose**, leaving SHS as a motivated, informed and empowered young adult ready to contribute positively to society.

Stroud High School is proud of its vibrant and diverse alumni community. Our former students go on to excel in a wide range of fields, and their experiences play a vital role in inspiring the next generation. The introduction of the SHS Alumni Network strengthens our careers education programme by providing students with real-world insight, role models and connections that broaden their understanding of future pathways.

Our alumni contribute to the school in a variety of meaningful ways:

- **Sharing career journeys:** Former students return to speak in assemblies, workshops and subject lessons, offering honest and relatable perspectives on university, apprenticeships and employment
- **Supporting employer encounters:** Alumni working in a wide range of industries help facilitate talks, mentoring sessions and networking events, giving students access to authentic workplace experiences
- **Providing workplace opportunities:** Many alumnae offer work experience placements, workplace visits or virtual insights, helping students understand professional environments and develop key employability skills
- **Acting as role models:** Their achievements demonstrate the breadth of possibilities available to SHS students and reinforce the school's culture of ambition, resilience and aspiration

The [SHS Alumni Network](#) is an important part of our commitment to ensuring students receive high-quality, relevant and inspiring careers education. By maintaining strong connections with former students, we create a dynamic link between school learning and the world beyond SHS, helping every student to envision and pursue their own future with confidence.

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