



## **CAREERS POLICY**

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## **SANDYMOOR ORMISTON ACADEMY**

### **Commitment**

Sandymoor Ormiston Academy is committed to providing a planned programme of Careers Education and Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) for all students in years 7 – 11. We aim to develop student employability skills and inform about local, national and international labour market information, guide students to explore and develop career ideas and high aspirations, educate students on the complete spectrum of post 16 and post 18 pathways and prepare them for successful post 16 or post 18 transitions. CEIAG is an integrated aspect of Sandymoor Ormiston Academy's SMSC and Personal Development (PD), SEND, Equal Opportunities, Looked After Children and Provider Access policies and ensures Academy students are prepared for life and work in Britain today by:

- raising aspirations and increasing motivation
- encouraging the development of personal responsibility and resourcefulness
- fostering key learning skills (recording and reviewing experiences and achievements; target setting; planning ahead)
- bringing relevance to other areas of the curriculum
- contributing to the development of information and communication skills
- providing a foundation for lifelong learning within a rapidly changing world
- encouraging students to contribute to local, national and international economy

Career is defined as "an individual's pathway through learning and work". Careers Education and Information, Advice and Guidance sets out to enable all individuals to become effective planners and managers of their own careers in a rapidly changing world of learning and work. In this way children and learners will get a good start and are well prepared for the next stage in their education, training or employment.

All young people, regardless of their race, sex and academic abilities need a planned programme of activities to help them make decisions and plan their careers, both in school and after they leave. The 2018 Careers Statutory Guidance places a duty on a school to give all students in years 7-11 access to careers education and impartial information, advice and guidance. This includes an expectation for educators and training providers of approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships to be given access to all students in year 8 to year 13 to inform them of courses and qualifications as alternatives to academic and school-based routes. We here at Sandymoor Ormiston Academy have developed this and gives all students access from years 7-11.

In practice, this may take the form of a visit from our local FE Colleges or training provider of apprenticeships and technical options. Sandymoor Ormiston Academy's Provider Access Policy Statement includes more detail. In addition, schools are expected to meet the Gatsby Benchmarks as well as being strongly recommended to use the Quality in Careers Standard (for which Career Mark is a Licensed Awarding Body) to externally assess.

This policy was developed and will be reviewed every three years through discussions between all stakeholders.

Students Attending Sandymoor Ormiston Academy are entitled to the following with regards to Careers:

- For the Gatsby Benchmarks to be met to ensure outstanding CEIAG.
- To receive relevant careers guidance and have access to independent careers information and guidance, including labour market data where relevant.

To receive a stable careers programme from Year 7 that continues until they leave school in year 11.

- To receive personal advice that helps the student achieve their individual careers goal – whether that is Further or Higher Education, an apprenticeship or training or employment.
- To be equipped with the necessary skills to prosper in HE and employment
- To have relevant knowledge to make realistic and achievable goals based on their own interests and skill, whilst taking into account local job market and relevant entry requirements.
- To receive up to date information about careers and skill-developing opportunities.
- To understand how different subjects help keep different options open.
- Opportunity to access additional help, whether this need is generated from a change of decision, personal circumstances or additional needs.
- To have meaningful and helpful encounters with employers and other education providers.
- A week's work experience in year 10, and then another week in year 11 depending on exam season ending.

Students are expected to:

- Put in effort and fully engage with CEIAG activities in both subject and PD lessons, assemblies and sessions with local employers and educators.
- Meet deadlines
- Utilise the available careers resources.
- Participate in Academy run workshops.
- Attend information events such as our annual Careers Fair.
- Ask for guidance if unsure about anything or struggling.
- Use study and research space, such as the Careers Library area appropriately and with respect for others.
- Take advantage of opportunities offered outside school, such as signing up for Academy trips and participating in PD lessons.

The aims of our CEIAG programme is that students will:

**Understand themselves and develop their capabilities to make realistic career decisions**

- assess their own needs, interests, values, aptitudes and aspirations

- reflect on these matters and develop the knowledge, self-reliance, key skills and other capabilities required for working life

#### **Investigate careers and opportunities to make informed career decisions**

- understand changing patterns of careers and work
- find out about local, national and international opportunities in education, training and work
- gain direct experience of work as part of the curriculum Implement their career plans
- develop an increasing autonomy in making decisions and implementing career planning
- review and evaluate their decisions and cope with change
- gain access to sources of further help and weigh up the advice offered
- acquire skills for making effective transitions

#### **Develop career management skills to help manage transitions through education into work**

- decision-making
- action planning
- negotiating
- self-presentation

#### **Value individual difference and promote equality**

- having regard for and valuing individual difference to develop a positive self-image, increased self-confidence
- broadening career aspirations and horizons
- challenging stereotypes and discrimination, including self-stereotyping by students and the stereotypes they hold of others so that any gaps in achievement between different groups of children and learners are narrowed.
- addressing barriers faced by individuals that limit opportunities, thus helping all young people to achieve their full potential, for example young people with learning difficulties who are capable of employment
- supporting students who make non-traditional choices

Sandymoor Ormiston Academy endeavours to follow the Gatsby Benchmarks, Careers Enterprise and Employability Framework – CDI 2018, PSHE 2020 Framework and other relevant guidance from the DFE, QCA and Ofsted as it appears. Sandymoor Ormiston Academy follows the statutory guidance for careers guidance published in January 2018 (which replaces the guidance released in March 2015 and updated in April 2017). Since 2015, Section 29 of the Education Act 2011 places schools under a duty to secure access to independent careers guidance for their students in school years 8-13. Careers at Sandymoor Ormiston Academy therefore:

- identifies a Careers Leader with representation on Academy Leadership Team

- works towards continually meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks
- provides a programme of careers education for all students in Years 7-11
- provides access to independent careers guidance for students in Years 7-11 that is presented in an impartial manner and promoting the best interests of the students to whom it is given and includes information on all options available in respect of post 16 and post 18 education or training including options
- works with careers services to ensure that students have access to a wide range of up-to-date information and reference materials

At Sandymoor Ormiston Academy we:

- ensure that the curriculum in Years 7 to 11 encourages students to develop their self-awareness, understanding of the world of work and the underpinning skills and attitudes that lay the foundation for career planning in later years
- provide a CEIAG programme for post-16 students that extends their career learning and meets their individual needs
- promote the involvement of employers working with our children and learners across the curriculum
- ensure choices about the next stage of their education, employment, self-employment or training, where relevant, are from independent careers advice and guidance

Good quality CEIAG provision depends on an effective working partnership between the school and Halton Careers Service. We undertake to negotiate a Partnership Agreement annually with Halton Careers Service to support this. An Independent Careers Advisor is available upon request to all students with meetings held on the top floor breakout space. Individual interviews are held with all year 11s as well as other identified students throughout the year. Year 9 are given group meetings to help with option choices. The Careers Advisor liaises with the SEND Lead to support students and parents and works one-to-one with students to complete FE and Apprenticeship applications and give interview advice. They are also, where possible, in attendance at careers events and parents evenings.

### **Provision**

- Management

The Careers Leader is a member of the Academy Leadership Team, who is line managed by the Principal, they are responsible for co-ordinating the CEIAG programme and line manages the Head of PD, SEND Lead, independent Careers Advisor, and works closely with the Curriculum Leads and Pastoral Heads as necessary.

- Staffing

All members of staff are expected to contribute to the CEIAG programme through their roles as tutors and subject teachers. Careers education is primarily planned, monitored and evaluated by the Careers Leader in consultation with the Head of PD. CEIAG is delivered through the PD programme, which is delivered in weekly PD lessons. CEIAG is also delivered during tutor time lessons in each year group. Each Curriculum area support and monitor the embedding of Careers in their subject by all staff in the department. Where relevant, employability skills are developed with the support of the Head of PD

(as highlighted in the latter's policy), so that children and learners are well prepared for the next stage of their education, employment, self-employment or training. Teaching Assistants and Heads of Year in all years also support students where necessary and at relevant points such as when writing C.V.s and applying for apprenticeships, post 16 courses and university. All year 10 and 11 students will have access to work experience so that they are well prepared to respect others and contribute to wider society and life in Britain today. They are supported through the process of work experience by their tutors, Head of years, Careers advisor and the Careers Leader. All year 11 students will receive 1-1 guidance, sometimes twice a year, where students discuss their progress and plan their future targets/pathway. The Halton Careers Service careers adviser will provide specialist careers guidance and a careers plan to all year 11 students and other students who express or show a need for this thus ensuring impartial guidance. The Academy has a careers library where there are many resources for all students to access. The Careers Leader is supported by a link governor.

- Curriculum

The CEIAG programme, which can be found on Sandymoor Ormiston Academy's website, is provided to all students and includes careers education lessons delivered during weekly PD lessons, tutor time, careers guidance activities (group work and individual interviews), information and research activities, work related learning (including one week's work in year 10 and one week in year 11) in Years 7 to 11. Other focused events e.g. Careers and Apprenticeship weeks, talks by outside speakers will occur throughout the year where appropriate to meet our students needs and is in line with our Provider Access policy. Work experience preparation and follow-up take place during tutor-time. Students are encouraged to follow career paths that suit their own particular strengths, skills and interests without stereotyping. All students are given the same opportunities and diversity is encouraged and celebrated.

- Resources

Funding is allocated in the annual budget and also through our participation in the Liverpool City Region Careers Hub. Careers information is available in the Careers library and on the internet. The Head of PD organises the teaching resources for the careers modules in PD and the AP for PD organises the sessions for tutors and assemblies. The National Careers Service Resources and other relevant websites, signposted on Sandymoor Ormiston Academy's Careers web pages, can be accessed by parents, students and relevant staff to find up to date information and advice. Through our participation in the Liverpool City Region Careers Hub we have the support offered by the Careers and Enterprise Company to further inspire our Academy students about the opportunities offered by the world of work and to ensure we are meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks. Outside organisations are used to ensure students receive independent and impartial information. This will range from individuals talking about their careers to organisations such as Young Enterprise who help make links between businesses and educators

- Staff Development

Training for staff delivering CEIAG as part of PD will take place during INSET days and on a 1-1 basis as needed throughout the year. Training for subject staff to develop employer links will occur primarily through staff development time and on a 1-1 basis as necessary. A training session is on the CPD induction cycle for all new members of staff (and others who want a refresher) whether they are new to the profession or an experienced teacher. Opportunity is also available to discuss any aspect of CEIAG from implementing strategies to delivering relevant information – in Sandymoor Ormiston

Academy's weekly SWAY briefings when needed. The Careers Leader has the Level 6 Award in Careers Leadership by Career Connect.

- Parental Support

There is a section on Sandymoor Ormiston Academy's website that staff, students and parents can access that includes information to support parents and includes contact details for further support from us. A careers desk is always available at parent consultation evenings if anyone would like to discuss anything with either the Careers Leader or our independent Careers Adviser. The Careers Leader also ensures careers information is presented at transition point, such as year 9 and 11 options events, to parents.

- Internal and External Links

Sandymoor Ormiston Academy is supported by a variety of individuals and organisations both internally and externally. These include links with local 14-19 Providers when required, Liverpool City region careers hub as well as a range of colleges, universities and local businesses. The Careers Leader also liaises regularly with the local Halton Enterprise Co-ordinator and our Enterprise Advisor. Sandymoor Ormiston Academy is part of the Liverpool City region careers hub and regularly attends Halton and Liverpool City Region Hub meetings – sharing good practice - as well as Hub Employer Cornerstone Meetings. We are also involved with OAT (Ormiston Academies Trust) National for Careers support. Links with parents/carers are maintained using a variety of methods (parental leaflets, letters, options evenings, Post 16 Evenings, parents evenings, Academy web-site and newsletters, social media feed).

- Assessment, Monitoring and Evaluation

The delivery of CEIAG is monitored by the Head of PD, SLT and the Careers Leader via learning walks and book looks, in line with Academy policy, and learning walks during tutor sessions and assemblies. Schemes of work are reviewed annually by the Careers Lead in liaison with the Head of PD, to ensure that the activities and objectives are suitable to meet the outcomes. The Careers Programme is also reviewed by the Careers Leader annually to identify gaps and areas for improvement in our CEIAG provision and will reflect the changing nature of our students' needs and inform our Careers Programme. Evaluations after Career events will be gathered informally from staff, students and external providers (colleges, universities, employers) by general discussion. It will also be collected more formally through evaluation sheets issued at the end of an event to all participants – delivery and students. All staff are regularly encouraged to provide feedback, as they see fit, to the Careers Leader/Head of PD about any part of the Careers Programme. Surveys are conducted annually by the Careers Leader to gain staff, student and parental views. The Careers Leader meets regularly with the Enterprise Co-ordinator (the Enterprise Advisor are also invited); termly completion of the Compass+ evaluation. Student destination data and NEET information will also be considered and compared to how children and learners have progressed from their different starting points and what they have achieved so that they can progress to the next stage of their education into courses that lead to higher-level qualifications and into jobs that meet local and national needs. A log of employer engagement and career related activities within the Academy will be maintained by the use of Compass+ and rated against the suitability, usefulness and quality of this provision to help determine future use. The Partnership Agreement with Halton Careers Service is reviewed annually and includes discussion on supporting students who are SEND.

- Handling Sensitive and Controversial Issues

The nature of CEIAG means that Sensitive and controversial issues may arise. Any issues arising should immediately be reported to the named DSL at Sandymoor Ormiston Academy and dealt with in line with the relevant Academy policies and approaches. Referrals will be made only by the named member of staff, via CPOMS and must be dealt with Sensitive by all parties involved. PD teaching staff include the Careers Lead and Head of PD; training is available via The National College.

#### Quality Assurance Framework

Sandymoor Ormiston Academy completes the Careers and Enterprise Company's Compass Tool on a half termly basis to monitor the progress towards meeting the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks as part of our statutory duty. We received accreditation of CEIAG by Quality in Careers Standard award in June 2020, provided by Career Mark to quality assure the provision of CEIAG delivered at our Academy. Career Mark is important as we want our students to achieve high standards, see the value and relevance of their learning, both to themselves and the working world and to make good choices that are successful for them. Using Career Mark enables Sandymoor Ormiston Academy to deliver the best possible careers education and employability skills development programme, which is sophisticated, integrated and effective. We are being revalidated in February 2023.

#### Staffing plan

Careers Lead – Senior Assistant Principal

Head of PD and Humanities – Assistant Principal for SMSC

Planning for tutor sessions and assemblies – Assistant Principal for Personal Development

Other PD teaching staff – HO History, MFL teacher, RE teacher