



Abbeyfield Whole School Strategic Careers Plan
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Cross phase work

The following table shows all career-based activities which apply to the whole school:

Activity	Details	Impact	Any Gatsby Benchmarks links
Displays	Career based displays are placed around the school. Subject specific career related displays in key areas/ classrooms.	Increased awareness/ profile of careers	GB4
Enrichment	Abbeyfield School Careers Challenge. Students to create a CV profile, careers research, complete an interview, log onto Unifrog and complete a task. All enrichment activities are linked to employability skills.	Learners will receive a certificate, photo and mention in the schools newsletter. Encourages them to think about their future and learn more. A personalised tailored approach.	GB3
Careers Hub/ Library	Careers hub is available to all year groups during break times. With a wide range of resources on offer to suit all age groups. An updated copy of HEAP always available for up-to-date University information.	Student will have up-to-date information available at all times.	GB2
Parental engagement	Careers have a section in the parent newsletter that goes out weekly – advertising the latest careers news within the school and wider environment. Careers will have a stand at all the parents evenings. This will either be a face to face	Parents are up-to-date with key information. Regular up to date labour market information shared. Tailored guidance to each year group and different stages of the year.	




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	<p>interaction or a table of information and a link to find out more.</p>		
<p>IAG</p>	<p>External Careers Interview and Guidance – Timely Advice contracted to complete 50 days this academic year – offered to all year groups but focussed on 11 and 13.</p>	<p>Students received tailored careers advice individualised to each student. Each meeting gives each student targeted, meaningful guidance that directly raise aspirations and broaden their understanding of future opportunities.</p> <p>During the meeting, up to date LMI is naturally discussed, including information about jobs in demand, average salaries, required qualifications and skills, apprenticeship and training current availability, and future predictions for employment sectors.</p> <p>The meetings aim to challenge stereotypes and broaden horizons – pushing students to explore beyond traditional or familiar careers.</p> <p>SEN students are allowed more time in their meeting. EHCP student meetings are followed up with an email home outlining what was discussed and links to support further.</p>	<p>GB8 GB3 GB2</p>
<p>National Apprenticeship Week</p>	<p>Resources sent to teachers to present in lessons – focussing on apprenticeships linked to subject area. Parents sent home useful resources and links to National Apprenticeship websites for further reading. A representative from Starting Off Apprenticeships to host a break time drop in session for students.</p>	<p>Raising awareness of National Apprenticeship week and the opportunities available locally. Students will hopefully gain more knowledge and understanding of what apprenticeships entail, and entry requirements.</p>	<p>GB4 GB7 GB5</p>
<p>National Careers Week</p>	<p>Resources sent to teachers and parents to share with students as much as possible. Teachers are to present to students about their career history – a template will be sent and teachers to personalise</p>	<p>Raising awareness of Careers across the school.</p>	<p>GB4</p>



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	<p>and discuss with the class. Teacher career profile posters to be displayed on their staff room doors. Careers Hub open that week for students to come and take part in fun games linked to careers. Guest speakers in at various points.</p>		
<p>Pop up events</p>	<p>Events that will be offered to us throughout the year will be taken up as much as possible – tailored to those who they are most suited to. Focussing on disadvantaged and vulnerable groups to offer them the best opportunities available.</p>	<p>Ensuring any barriers are overcome as much as possible and all students have access to opportunities.</p>	<p>Various</p>
<p>PSHE – careers</p>	<p>Please see PSHE schedule for more detail</p>	<p>PSHE is a key part of preparing students for life beyond school. Many of the skills, knowledge and attitudes taught in PSHE directly support students career readiness, employability, and future decision-making. Within the PSHE schedule – we have a variety of lessons which relate to careers and futures. Within the lessons – they aim to challenge misconceptions and stereotypical thinking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develops core employability skills • Supports personal awareness essential for career choices • Teaches decision making and planning skills • Builds confidence and self esteem • Enhance financial literacy • Improves communication and interpersonal skills • Supports mental health and wellbeing • Promotes equality, respect, and understanding • Provides knowledge of rights, responsibilities and safety • Links with CEIAG – LMI, career activities, pathways, employability sessions, guest speakers. 	



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<p>Extra Curriculum Clubs</p>	<p>Duke of Edinburgh Award (lead by Eva Passmore). The award links strongly to careers and a students future because it develops the exact skills and qualities employers, colleges, and universities look for.</p>	<p><u>Builds essential employability skills:</u> teamwork, communication, problem-solving, leadership, time management, organisation, resilience and perseverance. <u>Demonstrates commitment and motivation:</u> shows you can stick to something over time, manage multiple commitments, your willingness to volunteer and learn new skills, and that you're proactive and driven <u>Provides real experience for applications and interviews.</u> <u>Enhances CVs, apprenticeships and UCAS applications.</u> <u>Encourages Independence and confidence:</u> Gives them the ability and confidence to make decisions, builds independence and maturity. <u>Volunteering supports career exploration:</u> gives students insight into sectors like care, teaching, youth work, charity work, sport or environmental work. <u>Skills section builds career-relevant abilities:</u> eg. Photography, coding, first aid, cooking and catering,, mechanics, languages, music, media and creative studies.</p>	<p>GB4 GB5 GB6</p>
	<p>Tech Club (led by Clive Hewson). Direct, real world skills could be used within Theatre and performing arts, live events and concerts, TV & Film production, media and broadcasting, technical production companies, event management, and entertainment technology.</p>	<p><u>Develops technical skills used in real industries:</u> students gain hands-on experience with lighting design and operation, sound engineering, stage management, AV equipment, special effects and backstage technology. <u>Builds strong transferable skills:</u> problem solving, teamwork, creativity, communication, responsibility and reliability, time management, and calmness under pressure. <u>Gives experience for CVs, apprenticeships and Interviews:</u> 6th form, colleges and Universities, creative/ media courses, apprenticeships (digital media, engineering), part time jobs. <u>Encourages career exploration:</u> gives students a taster of careers within roles like lighting technician, sound technician,</p>	<p>GB4 GB6</p>



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		<p>stage manger set designer or builder, film/ tv production, broadcast engineer, events coordinator</p> <p><u>Builds confidence and leadership.</u></p> <p><u>Provides real responsibility:</u> health and safety awareness, working with expensive equipment, time-sensitive live events.</p> <p><u>Enhances creativity and digital literacy:</u> including STEAM fields, digital media, gaming, graphic design, audio production, and creative technology.</p>	
	<p>PE Extra-Curricular Clubs (led by Matthew Roach)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boys football (y7,8,9,10 & 11) - Club & Teams • Girls football (y7/8 & 9/10) - Club & Teams • Basketball (y7/8, 9, 10 & y11/sixth form) - Club & Teams • Netball (y7/8 & y9/10) - Club & Teams • Badminton (y7/8 & y9/10) - Club & Teams • Girl's fitness (y7-11) - Club Only • Boy's fitness (KS3 & KS4) - Club Only • Girls Rugby (y7/8) - Club & Teams • Boy's Rugby (y7) - Club & Teams • Gymnastics (y7-9) - Club Only • Trampolining (y7-11) - Club Only • Tennis (y7-11) - Club & Teams • Athletics (y7-11) - Club & Teams • Rounders (y7-11) - Club & Teams • Volleyball (y7-11) - Club Only • Cricket (y7-10) - Club & Teams 	<p><u>Develop key employment skills:</u> builds skills employers look for in ANY industry – teamwork, communication, leadership, resilience, self-discipline, determination, time management (linking to careers in teaching, police, engineering, health care, retail, customer service, hospitality, business and more).</p> <p><u>Builds confidence and character:</u> helping students to push themselves, try new things, take on challenges, deal with winning and losing, and grow in confidence.</p> <p><u>Supports physical and mental wellbeing:</u> better focus, improved motivation, higher performance in school, and more energy and confidence - healthy habits established now help students succeed in education, work and life.</p> <p><u>Develops leadership opportunities:</u> leading warm-ups, helping coach younger years, organise equipment, support school teams – linking to future roles such as coaching, teaching, sports leadership, youth work and community sport – also looks great on CV's and personal statements.</p> <p><u>Links directly to sports and health careers:</u> PE teacher, sports coach, physiotherapist, sports psychologist, fitness instructor, personal trainer, sports scientist, nutritionist, professional athlete support roles, referee or sporting officials, leisure centre of gym careers.</p>	<p>GB4</p>



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<p>ABBNEYFIELD SCHOOL Creative Education Trust</p>		<p><u>Strong CV, UCAS and apprenticeship examples:</u> gaining examples to talk about in interviews. <u>Helps students discover their interests:</u> trying a range of sports helps them to identify what they enjoy, where their strengths lie, and if they want to pursue sport-related GCSE's, BTEC's or degrees.</p>	
	<p>Performing Arts (led by Tia Sylla) The Performing Arts club build confidence, teamwork, creativity and resilience. It gives students real skills for any career while opening pathways to theatre, film, TV, music and the wider creative industries. The club develops confident, expressive, work-ready young people.</p>	<p><u>Builds confidence and communication skills:</u> develops the most sought-after employability skills including speaking clearly, presenting to others, confidence in new situations, listening and responding, and working with different people. Essential for any job but especially customer service, healthcare, business, retail, public service and leadership roles. <u>Strengthens teamwork and collaboration:</u> working as a team, supporting each other, handle pressure together, share responsibility, and solving problems creatively. <u>Develops creativity and imagination:</u> think creatively, express ideas, try different approaches, and being innovative. Important skills in careers such as marketing, media, design, advertising, education, digital content, gaming and more. <u>Builds resilience and perseverance:</u> handling nerves, taking feedback, handle setbacks, perform under pressure and practicing regularly – helps with exams, interviews, apprenticeships, university and the workplace. <u>Links directly to the creative industry careers:</u> acting, theatre production, directing, stage management, choreography, scriptwriting, costume design, set design, film and TV, music and vocal performance, arts administration, lighting and sound design (also links to Tech club), and community arts and youth work. <u>Offers excellent CV and interview talking points.</u> <u>Encourages emotional intelligence</u></p>	<p>GB4</p>




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<p>ABBEYFIELD SCHOOL Creative Education Trust</p>		<p><u>Develops discipline and commitment:</u> showing they can meet deadlines, rehearse consistently, prepare for performances, and manage their time around schoolwork.</p>	
	<p>Student Leadership Roles (led by Claire Wawrzesta) Becoming a student leader helps develop confidence, leadership, communication and responsibility. It gives students real examples for CVs and interviews and prepares them for any future career by building the skills employers value most.</p>	<p><u>Develops leadership skills employers want:</u> responsibility, decision-making, initiative, reliability, confidence to lead others, and the ability to take charge of tasks or projects – highly valued skills in every career sector. <u>Builds excellent communication skills:</u> strong communication skills are essential for interviews, customer service, management, and public facing roles. <u>Strengthens teamwork and collaboration.</u> <u>Provides real experience for CVs, applications and interviews.</u> <u>Shows commitment, responsibility and trustworthiness:</u> demonstrates maturity, trust, good behaviour, responsibility, and commitment to the school community. <u>Helps builds confidence and independence:</u> believe in themselves, step out of their comfort zone, and speaking to new people. <u>Encourages problem-solving and initiative.</u> <u>Shows community involvement and volunteering.</u></p>	<p>GB6</p>
	<p>Volunteer Librarians (led by Megan Gilbert) Volunteering as a school librarian builds confidence, organisation, communication and responsibility. It provides strong examples for CV and interviews and links to careers in education, administration, customer service, and public services. It helps students to become confident, reliable, and work-ready young people.</p>	<p><u>Builds key employability skills:</u> organisation, time management, attention to detail, responsibility and reliability, customer service, communication skills and using systems and following procedures. These transferable skills are useful in any job, from retail to administration to public services. <u>Develops confidence and people skills:</u> interact with students and staff, help with book enquiries, and support younger students. Encourages independence and initiative</p>	<p>GB6 GB4</p>



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		<p>Provides real experience for CVs, apprenticeships and interviews.</p> <p><u>Supports literacy and academic skills:</u> improves reading, develop research skills, strengthen information handling, and be more organised with their own learning.</p> <p><u>Links to careers in education, administration and the public sector:</u> librarian, teaching, education support roles, publishing, archiving and information management, admin and office work, customer service, and community and public service roles.</p> <p><u>Shows commitment and community spirit</u></p> <p><u>Helps build a positive reputation:</u> trustworthy, kind, helpful and dependable.</p>	
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Year based specific activities:

Year	Activity	Description/ Impact	Any Gatsby Benchmarks links
7	PSHE – An Introduction to Careers and Careers workshop	Session 1 includes a guest panel of Alumni, and a spinning wheel in which they get to either ask a question, or be asked a question. Alumni are a mixture of apprenticeship students, college and 6 th form. Session 2 will be a careers session with up to date LMI as well as a guest speaker.	GB7
	The Business Game Level 1	10 x boys selected to take part in a boys project at University of Northampton, focussing on confidence and team building, skills to support them with their future career. Various guest speakers also bought into the project.	GB7 GB5



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8		PSHE – 2 x workshops	Session 1 includes a guest panel of Alumni, and a spinning wheel in which they get to either ask a question, or be asked a question. Alumni are a mixture of apprenticeship students, college and 6 th form. Session 2 will be a careers session with up to date LMI as well as a guest speaker.	GB2 GB5 GB7
		Barclays Life Skills	10-15 employees from Barclays to run a Barclays Life Skills workshop. 1 hour workshop x 3 classes. 2 classes from this year group completed this last year and we aim to put a final session on by the end of next academic year to ensure ALL of this year group take part.	GB5 GB4
		The Business Game Level 2	10 x boys selected to take part in a boys project at University of Northampton, focussing on confidence and team building, skills to support them with their future career. Various guest speakers also brought into the project.	GB7 GB7
9		PSHE – 2 x workshops (LMI)	Session 1 includes a guest panel of Alumni, and a spinning wheel in which they get to either ask a question, or be asked a question. Alumni are a mixture of apprenticeship students, college and 6 th form. Session 2 will be a careers session with up to date LMI as well as a guest speaker.	GB2
		Careers Fair	Annual careers fair in which we invite around 40 local and national companies into the school. This includes organisations within business and education. Students in years 9, 10, and 12 will get to walk around and talk to different companies. To ensure that it is meaningful and also fun, we have added a competition into this event – if a student has a meaningful interaction with an employee then they will be given a sticker. If they get enough stickers on their card, they then get entered into a prize draw. This has worked well for the past 2 years and helped with participation and meaningful encounters. We offer a quiet/ extra session in the morning where students from disadvantaged, SEN, or vulnerable backgrounds are allowed to take part first and away from the crowds.	GB5 GB7
		Medical Mavericks	Students get to ‘become a doctor’ for the day, getting hands-on with real life medical training equipment. They will have a 15 minute careers talk about jobs within the NHS, followed by a 45 minute practical session where they walk around the room testing out the equipment in pairs, they also get to speak to real life medical professionals while they are doing this. This event is tailored to students either interested in the medical field, also ensuring disadvantaged, SEN and	GB5 GB4



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<p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;"> ABBEYFIELD SCHOOL Creative Education Trust </p>		vulnerable students are included as much as possible. This event will be offered to 180 students across the school during lesson time, but also open at break times for those wishing to come as extra.	
	STEAM Northants Trip	An annual trip to STEAM Northants. An excellent opportunity for students to take part in a careers fair related to Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Maths. A huge event with an abundance of organisations. As well as getting access to 100s of employees and FE in the careers fair, and finding out current gaps in employment, they also get signed up to tailored workshops to suit their interests.	GB5 GB7 GB2
	Moulton Sustainable Futures	A new event at Moulton College. The day will consist of different activities which the students can take part in across our subject areas with a focus on sustainability.	GB7
10	PSHE – 2 x workshops	Session 1 includes a guest panel of Alumni, and a spinning wheel in which they get to either ask a question, or be asked a question. Alumni are a mixture of apprenticeship students, college and 6 th form. Session 2 will be a careers session with up to date LMI as well as a guest speaker.	
	Work Experience	First hand experiences of the workplace in external settings. Gain experience of the current working environment, learn new skills, and expand their networks. 5 days.	GB6 GB3
	Careers Fair	Same as Year 9.	
	Careers in Public Services – Trip	Trip to Cambell Square Police station to have behind the scenes tour of Campbell Square and its working environment. Small group to ensure it is a meaningful encounter. Tour, discussions, practical and hand-on with real life fire equipment. Meetings with working police officers, specials, and fire fighters.	GB5 Towards GB6
	Medical Mavericks	Same as Year 9.	
11	IAG	A scheduled one-to-one appointment with a professional and L6 qualified external Careers Advisor. Ranging from 30-60 minutes depending on need of the student. Disadvantaged, SEN, and vulnerable students prioritised first. Students can also request a second/ follow up meeting. Parents are also welcomed to join the	GB8 GB3



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<p>ABBEYFIELD SCHOOL Creative Education Trust</p>		<p>meetings, and students will be sent home with a paper record of meeting to share with them. All students (but especially EHCP students) will receive extra support with college applications following the meeting.</p>	
	<p>Medical Mavericks</p>	<p>Same as Year 9</p>	
	<p>Mock Interview Day</p>	<p>An event where we invite around 40 organisations to come into the school and take part in a Mock Interview Day. We will have a range of employee's, business owners, local and national colleges/ universities. One-to-one meaningful meeting. Students are encouraged to speak to one or more person and find out about the company and individual career path, as well as learning interview skills and techniques. Disadvantaged, SEN and vulnerable students are offered a support session before the Mock Interview Day to ensure they feel comfortable. They are also given more time to build themselves up to approach companies.</p>	<p>GB5 GB7 GB3</p>
	<p>Unifrog Assembly</p>	<p>Virtual Unifrog Assembly to show year 11's how to get the most out of their Unifrog account. Including access to information on post-16 options as well as LMI.</p>	<p>GB2</p>
	<p>Geography Trip</p>	<p>Discussions about town planning for regeneration, working in shops and the Olympic sports, and when looking at rivers we spoke about town planning, housing and flood/resource management.</p> <p><i>Here's how FSC supports the Gatsby Benchmarks:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmark 4: Linking curriculum learning to careers: <i>FSC's environmental courses connect classroom learning to real-world applications and career paths in fields like environmental science, conservation, and education.</i> <i>They offer resources and experiences, such as fieldwork and technician case studies, to help teachers link curriculum topics to careers.</i> • Benchmark 5: Encounters with employers and employees: <i>FSC provides opportunities to interact with environmental professionals, including employers and employees, during their courses and activities.</i> • Benchmark 6: Experiences of workplaces: 	<p>GB4 GB5 GB6 GB3</p>




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<p>ABBEYFIELD SCHOOL Creative Education Trust</p>		<p><i>Fieldwork at FSC centres provides practical, real-world experience in environmental research and management, which functions as a workplace experience.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benchmark 3: Addressing the needs of each student: <i>FSC's focus on environmental themes and their adaptability can make learning more relevant and engaging for students with diverse needs and interests, supporting their career journeys.</i> <i>In essence, FSC acts as a valuable partner for educational institutions, offering practical ways to deliver the key elements of the Gatsby Benchmarks by providing accessible, high-quality experiences that bridge the gap between academic study and future careers.</i> 	
	<p>Pembroke College Trip</p>	<p>A visit to Cambridge University. A small group of year 11's to take part in a tour of the grounds and courses, as well as how to gain access into the University. The aim is to raise aspirations and motivate.</p>	<p>GB7</p>
	<p>Careers in Public Services – Trip</p>	<p>Same as year 10</p>	
	<p>Post-16 Workshop</p>	<p>An assembly style workshop with guest speakers from Moulton College, Northampton College, Starting Off Apprenticeships, and Abbeyfield 6th form. Students get to hear about the courses on offer and when they should apply. Session will start by listing the pathway options that the students have post-16, and finish with a chance for Q&A</p>	<p>GB7</p>
	<p>Year 11 College Trip</p>	<p>A trip to both Northampton and Moulton College – with a full tour of the grounds followed by a presentation. Students will get to see the wide range of courses on offer, and also compare the 2 local colleges to see where they think they would be most suited to.</p>	<p>GB7</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Careers in Police – Trip</p>	<p>Same as Year 10</p>	
	<p>University Fair</p>	<p>Annual University Fair where the WHOLE year group will participate in an external trip to a National university fair where they will get to meet a variety of universities,</p>	<p>GB7</p>



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		<p>take home resources, and talk with representatives. They will also get the opportunity to take part in break out rooms with information about student finance.</p>	
	<p>Year 12 External Work Experience</p>	<p>First hand experiences of the workplace in external settings. Gain experience of the current working environment, learn new skills, and expand their networks. 3 days.</p>	<p>GB6 GB3</p>
	<p>IAG</p>	<p>A scheduled one-to-one appointment with a professional and L6 qualified external Careers Advisor. Ranging from 30-60 minutes depending on need of the student. Disadvantaged, SEN, and vulnerable students prioritised first. Students can also request a second/ follow up meeting. Parents are also welcomed to join the meetings, and students will be sent home with a paper record of meeting to share with them. All students (but especially EHCP students) will receive extra support with college applications following the meeting. Year 12 offered these meetings as and when needed, but will be scheduled in for the end of the academic year, ready for year 13.</p>	<p>GB8 GB3</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>IAG</p>	<p>A scheduled one-to-one appointment with a professional and L6 qualified external Careers Advisor. Ranging from 30-60 minutes depending on need of the student. Disadvantaged, SEN, and vulnerable students prioritised first. Students can also request a second/ follow up meeting. Parents are also welcomed to join the meetings, and students will be sent home with a paper record of meeting to share with them. All students (but especially EHCP students) will receive extra support with college applications following the meeting. Year 13 students offered this at the beginning of the academic year. Those applying for a Russel Group or medical university will be seen in a timely manner to ensure they get their applications in on time.</p>	<p>GB8 GB3</p>
	<p>Careers in Police – Trip</p>	<p>Same as Year 10</p>	
	<p>Dale Willis Project 13</p>	<p>A unique project for year 13's, tailored to those students who may not want to go to University and may wish to apply for a degree apprenticeship. This will be a small group and will be meaningful with lots of personalised advice and guidance.</p>	<p>GB7 GB3 GB2 GB8</p>