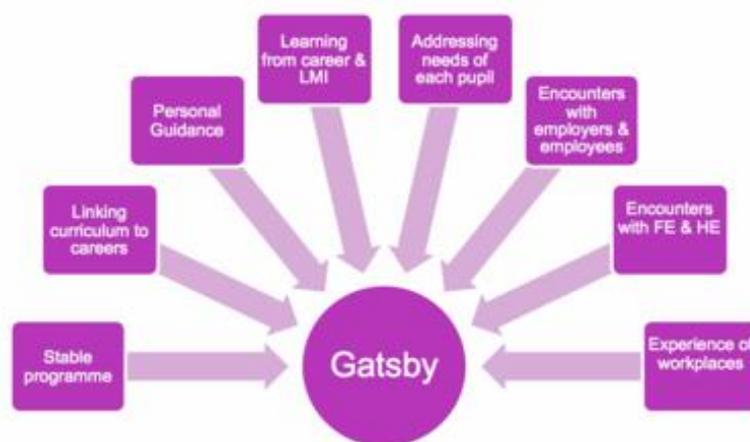


Careers Education Information

Birkenhead High School Academy has a fully planned and integrated careers education and work related learning programme. Good career guidance is critical if young people are to raise their aspirations and capitalise on the opportunities available to them.

Our programme includes

- Careers presentations
- Talks by sixth form colleges and school sixth forms
- Presentations by higher education providers
- Visits to further and higher education providers
- Apprenticeship talks
- Careers (Guidance) Interviews
- Work Experience
- Enterprise Education
- Careers Education



At Birkenhead High School Academy we welcome the release of the new government careers strategy and its adoption of the Gatsby Career Benchmarks. The benchmarks define world-class career guidance and were developed on behalf of Gatsby by Sir John Holman as part of an international study. Our school careers programme is audited against the Gatsby benchmarks each term and progress is noted by the Liverpool Careers Hub. See the table below to note how we strive to meet at develop each benchmark – for more information see policy document.

1) Stable curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written policy document • Stable staffing structure & governor involvement • Developmental form time programme • Evaluation using Compass & Tracker • Supported with impartial and stable partners • Embedded enrichment activities e.g Big Sister • Linked with PHSE / enrichment / work experience policies
2) Linking to the curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture Fest • Faculty Job boards • Year 11 form time programme • Year 7 PHSE curriculum
3) Personal guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1x1 careers guidance with career connect • 'drop in' sessions with career connect • Future focus week – year 12 • Year 11 form time programme • Year 9 mini me activity • PWP
4) Learning from LMI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7/8/9 form time programme • PHSE curriculum • Sixth form wall display • Firefly careers pages • Wirral Young Chamber
5) Addressing the needs of each pupil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form time programmes • Career Connect • Weekly progress leader support slot • Mini me activity – year 9
6) Encounters with employers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wirral Young Chamber connection • PWP • Work experience – year 12 • GDST Insight days • Intromed year 12
7) Encounters with FE and HE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lecture fest • Future focus week • HE conference • PWP • LJMU partnership • Policy on attending open days/ visiting other HE providers • Impartial advice from Career connect
8) Experience of the workplace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 7 / 8 /9 form time programme • Work experience – year 12 • GDST Insight days • Wirral Young Chamber • PHSE curriculum • 'Step into the NHS' competition

A sample of our partners!

GDST Career Start Programme / Insight Days / GDST skills



As part of the GDST family, Birkenhead High School has access to the GDST career start, skills and Insight Days resources. This includes the @GDSTskills twitter handle that we encourage our students to follow that publicises valuable careers news and articles.

Insight Days are mainly aimed at our sixth form students and provide experience of workplaces and bolster university applications. These can be both national and international and range from banks to airlines. These are advertised in advance to our students and permission is given for girls to attend.

In addition and to ensure more stability there is a monthly workshop held by the careers start team. Sessions are listed below but are subject to change due to availability or demand.



At Birkenhead High School Academy we take impartiality very seriously and to ensure that our girls get personalised and impartial guidance, we work with career connect. Each student will have a one to one guidance session with a career connect professional in year 11 and then a one to one in year 12. Each week they also offer drop in clinics and are happy to speak to parents in these times too. They attend parents evenings, open evenings and careers events.

Career Connect is a charity who are passionate about providing high quality independent careers advice, bridging the gap to learning and employment and better life chances for young people and adults. Find out more about them and the work they do here... <https://www.careerconnect.org.uk/>



We also want to ensure that students bridge the gap between employment and education and so we are a member of the Wirral Young Chamber of commerce.



We are a link school with Liverpool John Moores University and work closely with their outreach team. Many events and workshops are delivered by their academics. We also have excellent relationships with University of Liverpool, University of Chester, University of Law, Liverpool Hope and many more

Our form time careers programme

Each year group has an embedded and developmental careers curriculum delivered to them in their form period. These short sessions are designed to inspire, promote curiosity and spark discussion.

Year 7 – Welcome to the World of Work! Each term tutors will focus on a different job sector (Creative, education, healthcare and STEM) and show videos of strong females in these workplaces – looking at career paths and expectations of the work place.

Year 8 – Welcome to the World of Work - same as above but focusing on business & finance, uniformed services, sports and legal careers

Year 9 – Career Quicks! This format moves away from examining workplaces and focuses on the qualifications needed to reach a certain goal, specific daily tasks and pay and benefits. It follows an A – Z theme, each week focusing on a certain career beginning with one of the letters in the alphabet.

Year 10 – Interactive Futures Key stage 4 focuses on the law around working, money matters and financial literacy. Each week tutors will follow an interactive Quiz that informs students on everything from VAT to PPI and Minimum wage law to Maternity pay alws

Year 11 – Careers booklet In year 11 our students complete a workbook each week that helps to inform them about apprenticeships, sixth form study, revision skills, CV's and interviews. It is their personal booklet and can be taken away for reference and inspiration.

Year 12/13 Sixth form programme – This is similar to the year 10 programme but aimed at those about to leave school. It looks at tax, private vs public sector work places and wage expectations.

Some key websites for more careers information

National Careers & Apprenticeship Services

nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk – This is the Government's hub for careers advice for people of all ages where you can find help with drafting letters, CVs, exploring your skills or seeking careers advice.

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships> – the National Apprenticeship Service website provides general advice and information about apprenticeships. Also advertises current vacancies.

Other websites

www.icould.com – aims to help you to make the most of your potential by showing how others have used theirs, take the 'Buzz' personality profile quiz.

www.startprofile.com – investigate careers, watch videos and get great advice, find out about employers and work experience opportunities in your area.

www.careersbox.co.uk – video based job profile information and skills explorer tool.

www.successatschool.org – gives clear and comprehensive information about a range of Career Zones (sectors), in an easy to access format. Students can create a profile to help to collate useful information. '60 second interviews' giving profile of professionals, provide a useful insight into specific careers.

www.how2become.com – offers detailed advice on how to access a range of sectors. Also offers the purchase of resources, compiled in conjunction with professionals working in these fields, designed to enable you to achieve your dream career or course. A selection of these books and online psychometric testing access have been supplied to the School by How2Become.

www.careerswales.com – a good general careers website and job profile database.

www.fasttomato.com – an interactive careers website to help with 'careers matching' programme to help with career choice (log in for a free guest pass).

www.notgoingtouni.co.uk – opportunities that exist outside of university.

www.ucas.com – information about university courses on offer, also the Stamford test to help with ideas about subjects to study.

www.russellgroup.ac.uk – represents 24 leading universities, source of careers information & advice including 'informed choices' a downloadable guide to making post 16 choices.

www.prospects.ac.uk – find out which areas you could access after a particular degree.

MyCareerSpringboard.org – Springboard is for students. It is divided into two main sections: the Career Test and the Career Exploration Tool. In tandem, these two interactive tools allow students to find some career inspiration and gain an insight into their different career options.

www.jobapplications.co.uk – this site has useful videos, demonstrating how to complete the online applications for many top companies in the UK, as well as providing detailed information on salaries and interviews. Applications forms can be printed off directly from this site.

jobs.telegraph.co.uk/careers – lots of information about specific sectors as well as advice on how to create a CV and prepare for interviews.

www.allaboutschoolleavers.co.uk – displays current apprenticeship and school leaver programme opportunities, to the latest school leaver job news, and gives career journey advice.