



Have faith... believe you can

CAREERS EDUCATION AND GUIDANCE

The principal aims of this programme at SJB are to encourage students to:

- have a sense of their own self worth
- acknowledge the gifts and good qualities they possess
- be positive, yet realistic and honest, in their search for self and their role in life
- become aware of the opportunities available to them when they leave school
- know how to make intelligent and informed decisions about their future.

Our Careers Education and Guidance Programme is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to manage their future careers within an arena where there are no longer 'jobs for life' and the concept of 'lifelong learning' has become the norm.

Following the recent withdrawal of Connexions Careers Advisers from schools we have secured the service of a Careers Professional, who works as an impartial adviser on a one-to-one basis with students. She works alongside SJB Careers staff to deliver a comprehensive programme of impartial support and guidance to all the students.

The school uses the Careers Programme U-Explore to develop students' self-awareness, alongside their awareness both of their options post 14, 16 and 18 and of the world of work. U-Explore has an extensive database of jobs, highly interactive functionality and accompanying work sheets to facilitate career planning, including CV and covering letter templates and a vast bank of video clips about jobs and career planning.

The Careers Education Programme is delivered primarily during L2 and curricular lessons and begins in Year 8 with the Real Game, a comprehensive programme of activities incorporating both Careers and Citizenship. Later in the year the Bradford Business Game gives Year 8 students a taste of enterprise when they form mini-companies competing to make the most profit.

The programme is picked up again in Year 9 when students are guided through the process of choosing their GCSE options, developing their awareness of the world of work in preparation for making these choices. We invite members of local businesses to be quizzed by the whole year group through the game 'What's My Line?' As well as assemblies to introduce the range of

subjects available at GCSE the Y9 Options Information Evening will guide both parents and student through the process of making these important choices.

In Year 10 students focus on career exploration. A Careers Day brings over 30 different employers in to the school to speak to students about their jobs and in lesson time students make full use of the broad range of resources - booklets, leaflets, directories as well as software psychometric tests and job databases (available in the well-stocked Careers Library) not to mention the Internet!

In Year 11 students are supported through the process of choosing what to do after their GCSEs. Classroom sessions on post-16 options are delivered during curriculum time, whilst one-to-one interviews and 'drop-in' careers clinics are arranged for all Year 11 students alongside assemblies lead by local further education providers. There is also an A Level taster day, a day's taster visit to a local technical college and a Sixth Form Open Evening. All Year 11 students are offered the opportunity to undertake a week's work experience and students in Years 10,11,12 and 13 doing vocational courses also have the opportunity to be 'at work' with a local employer in accordance with the course requirements.

Sixth Form students receive a comprehensive programme of support including a two Year UCAS Programme, additional dedicated support for students applying to competitive courses (Oxbridge, Medicine, Veterinary, Dentistry, Law etc), a Personal Statement/CV Workshop, a Y12 visit to a University Open Day, regular visiting speakers on industry sponsored degree programmes and apprenticeships and one-to-one guidance on post-18 pathways. They also attend a Mock Interview Evening where they experience a true-to-life interview before a panel formed from local business people.

Our strong relationship with local employers and local universities is evident through participation in such events and activities as industry days, mock interviews, employer presentations, university fairs, university admissions talks and the mentoring of students by representatives of the local business community to raise motivation and achievement. We very much appreciate the support given to our students by local employers.