

How we prepare our pupils for moving on – information for parents

Options at 16

At 16, school leavers need to stay in education but that can be an apprenticeship, internship or traineeship as well as a college course or sixth form. The majority of our leavers will move onto their local college.

The thought of leaving school can be daunting. To help ease the process, we ensure everyone has the information, advice and guidance they need and planning starts early.

The school employ Rachel Dickinson as Transition Manager. She is a qualified Careers Adviser and a member of the Career Development Institute. Every pupil will have an individual guidance interview with Mrs Dickinson and she attends all EHCP review meetings from Year 9 upwards.

Mrs Dickinson also organises the following activities to help prepare for leaving school:

- Small group visits to local colleges (depending on where pupils live) and attendance at link days and taster days to get a really good feel for the place.
- Guest speakers to talk about college, apprenticeships and internships.
- A Post-16 options event in the autumn term to host a selection of local FE colleges, training providers and opportunity providers.
- A careers information library
- A careers information database 'Job Explorer Database' which is regularly used and reviewed by pupils.
- Group employer visits.
- Individual work experience.
- Supported work experience.
- Interview practice.

Pupils also have dedicated careers lessons as part of their PSD programme so that they learn how to complete an application form, create a CV, do a good job or college interview and have an understanding of the world of work and the local labour market.

In Key Stage 4, there are lots of opportunities for hands-on vocational learning so our pupils can identify and improve their work-related skills.

We know that transition at 16 can be a confusing and worrying time so please get in touch with Rachel Dickinson if you need any support or information.

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