

## Preparation for Adulthood and Careers

As a Conductive Education school, we strive for the goal of orthofunction: equipping learners with the "can do" attitude, independence, and aspirations needed to actively enjoy successful and purposeful adult lives. This ethos gives impetus to how we fulfil the Preparation for Adulthood outcomes for our young people and fuels our careers education.

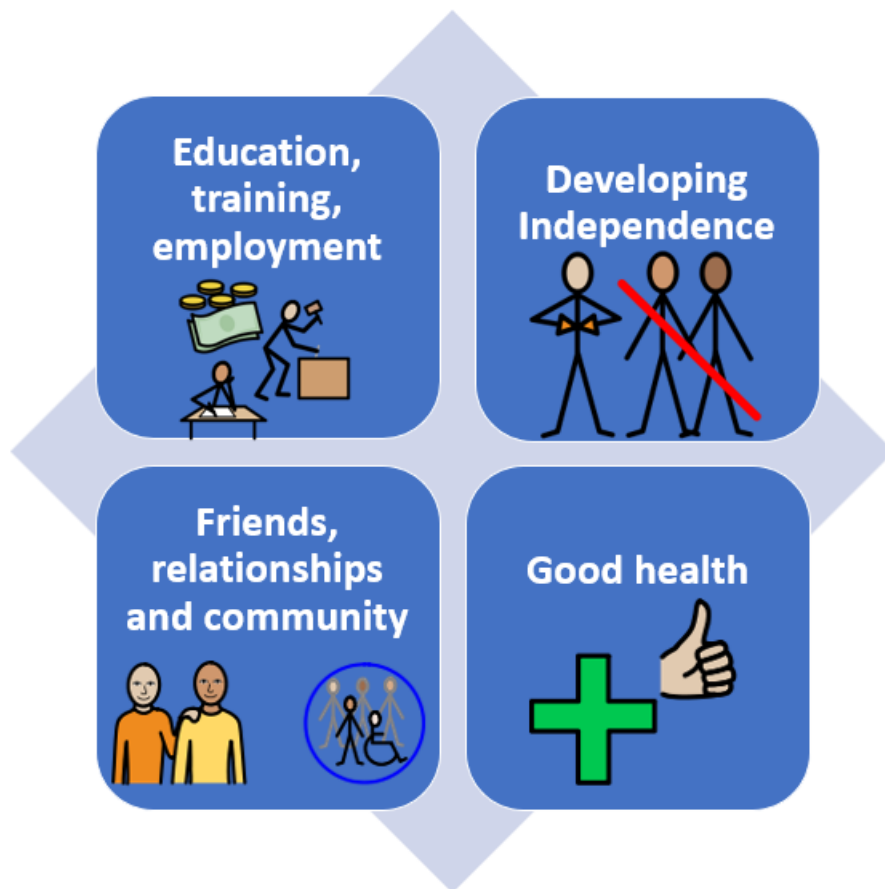
Our careers education forms part of our PSHE curriculum, and employability skills are developed throughout our curriculum - being a particular focus of communication and Life Skills lessons for our Secondary learners.

In Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, we will provide each student with personalised support to choose their next steps beyond Paces School. This will involve 1:1 discussion with our Careers Lead or Family Support Worker to help us understand the opportunities and external links and support that will be most valuable. This could include supported work experience or work shadowing, or supporting students to make visits to potential future destinations like local colleges or our adult service.

For more information about our Careers programme, please contact Kathy Fagg via the school office.

## Preparation for Adulthood

From Y9, students are invited to attend their annual reviews and we will talk about their next steps and aspirations for life beyond Paces School. This forms part of our work in students supporting students with the Preparation for Adulthood outcomes which cover these 4 key areas:



In the annual review, we will talk about what is most important to the young person in being prepared for a happy and fulfilling adulthood. We will set a life goal as part of the process which will be a key aspiration that a student has in relation to becoming more independent for the future.

In both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, students will have a 1:1 interview to discuss their feelings, experiences, ideas and aspirations in relation to these four areas. This will help us in planning personalised support and opportunities most relevant to every individual. This will include thinking about careers and the possibility of further education or training and work experience.

The four core areas of the Preparation for Adulthood outcomes are reflected in our PSHE curriculum for Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

The Gatsby Benchmarks



The Gatsby Benchmarks are a framework of 8 guidelines that define the best careers provision in schools and colleges. More information in the Gatsby Benchmarks and what they involve can be found here <https://www.gatsby.org.uk/education/focusareas/good-career-guidance>

At Paces School, we meet these benchmarks in the following ways:

- **A Stable Careers Programme**

Our PSHE curriculum includes vital aspects of Careers learning as students will develop their decision-making, life-skills and communication skills as well as finding out about opportunities our places within their community.

As part of our careers programme, students will find out about different work places and jobs. In Key Stages Three to Five, students can work towards the WJEC Pathways Preparing for Work Qualification.

In KS3/KS4 students may complete the WJEC Unit 6126 Learning about Work Places.

In KS4/KS5 students may complete the WJEC Unit 6127 Preparing for Work Experience.

- Learning from career and labour market information

Learning about what different jobs exist and

- Addressing the needs of each pupil

Following their individual Preparation for Adulthood interviews, students will be given access to personalised careers advice and support and encouragement to take part in work experience.

Depending on their areas of interest, students may be supported to complete other more vocationally specific units from the WJEC Pathways Preparing for Work qualification.

- Linking curriculum learning to careers
- Encounters with employers and employees

- Experiences of workplaces

- Encounters with Further and Higher Education

Our Careers Lead and Family Support Worker can signpost pupils and parents to various post-18 options.

During KS5 our family support worker will support families in arranging for pupils to visit different possible future destinations.

We also utilise our links with Barnsley College by giving our older pupils the opportunity to hear from college students having their placements with us about their experiences as college students.

We also have an alumni ambassador who comes in to share his experience of leaving Paces School to take up a split placement at college and our adult service.

We arrange an annual trip to a careers fair for students in KS4 and KS5 who would like to find out more about the range of jobs and opportunities available.

- Personal Guidance