

South Staffordshire College Careers Programme

South Staffordshire College is committed in offering a planned programme of Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance to our learners. We are working with The Careers & Enterprise Company to achieve the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks.

Our careers programme has the following four essential Principles :

Careers Education - Is a planned programme that provides learners the understanding and skills for planning and managing their careers and progression opportunities.

Careers Information - Available in college and online, including learning about options , skills, occupations, labour market information and progression routes.

Careers Advice and Guidance - Personalised support when required from specialist advisers to identify long term goals and plan steps to attain them. Learners also have access to external sources of career support.

Work - Related Learning - Experiences within and outside of curriculum which help learners learn about economic well-being , careers and enterprise. This includes the development of the broader skills relevant to learners progression and career aims, such as communication, teamwork, reflective thinking, problem solving and employability.

The programme is delivered through tutorials and career activities through the year. The Careers team offer assistance to support by organising activities such as mock interviews, planning talks from external opportunity providers including employers and universities. Tutors have the main role for delivery of the material, development of skills and discussion around this area.

All learners at the college have access to impartial careers information and labour market information as part of their course.

Learners can refer to the careers team by email, through ProPortal, their tutor or directly with the careers team at the college for support with:

- Choosing suitable courses
- Raising aspirations and exploring career ideas

- Understanding options including academic pathways, vocational pathways, Higher Education, apprenticeships and employment.
- Making successful transitions from college into employment, education or training.
- Applying to University.

The college offers differentiated support for learners including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Young people with SEND have access to specialist impartial advice about education, training and employment opportunities as well as specialist provision.

First and Subsequent Years

Learners:

- Provided with an introduction to work experience planning and support.
- Have regular visits from outside agencies and employers to promote career opportunities in organisations.
- Have access to careers platforms to support career planning and research.
- Are introduced to relevant websites such as UCAS, Student Finance England and other relevant sites at appropriate time during the year.
- Have information to HE Open Events and Fairs and encouraged to attend relevant taster courses at HE institutions during the year.
- Have access to local universities - Great Mind Bus Tour and other planned activities by the careers team or tutors.
- Access to local charities through the Volunteers Fair to discuss employability and work experience opportunities

Final Year

Learners:

- Are encouraged to complete CV, LinkedIn profile to build on their employability skills.
- Encouraged to use online websites to research careers - National Career Service website.
- Supported in the development of their UCAS application before the college and UCAS deadlines.

- Have presentations by external organisations or through the tutorial process on personal statements for university or employment , interview techniques, budgeting and job search.
- Attend student finance talks delivered by our local universities.
- Who have no progression are referred to the Careers Team.
- Have access to local employers who are recruiting where appropriate.