

Dear parents/carers,

Re: Careers Week 4th to 9th March 2024 – message 1 of 5

National Careers Week is taking place this week and as part of this national event, I will be writing to you throughout the week with some different information.

What is National Careers Week?

Deciding on a future career path can be both exciting and challenging. Whatever year group your child is in, they should be starting to think about their next steps and possible future career. Even if they're not yet certain about what they want to do, there's lots of resources and advice available to help them think or decide. This includes the information advice and guidance provided through the careers programme we run for all year groups in school and the myriad of helpful resources available online or through other organisations.

Whilst we shouldn't only be thinking about careers and next steps for one week a year, National Careers Week does provide a dedicated time frame to focus on exploring career opportunities, understanding individual potentials, and setting ambitious and achievable goals for the future.

National Careers Week is also a celebration of the many and varied career opportunities available. It aims to empower individuals, especially students and young adults, to make informed career decisions by providing resources, guidance, and insights into various professions.

Where can I find out more?

In school, I will be running assemblies for all students about National Careers Week and where they can go to find out more and access some helpful resources. During lunchtimes, we'll also make a supervised room available for students to use a school computer to do some research and access the 'Virtual Careers Fair' being run nationally as part of the week.

For more information about the fair, please visit <https://ncw2024.co.uk/>. This online event has dozens of major employers as partners with a different focus and online zones for students to harvest information from. Further information about National Careers Week and also lots of helpful resources and links can be found by visiting their website here: <https://nationalcareersweek.com/>.

Of course, students can always speak to myself or other staff members if they have queries. Students in Year 9 should also be talking to their teachers about their Options Choices throughout this week too. If your child misses any information, then please don't worry, there will be plenty of opportunities through our careers programme in the future. More details about what we do can be found on the JOG website here: <https://www.johnogauntschool.co.uk/curriculum/careers-and-next-steps/>.

What can you do to support?

Throughout the rest of this week, I'll be writing to you every day to signpost some of the resources you can use this week and beyond. Please look out for these on Weduc and Classcharts and if you can, spend a little time with your child discussing them and helping them access the resources. Of course, the role of parents/carers in raising the aspirations of children is vital, so showing an interest, asking them lots of questions about their possible future plans or just encouraging them to chase their dreams will all go a long way to helping them!

Thank you in advance for your support. I hope that this information makes sense, but please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Melvin-Chick

Careers Coordinator