



iFutures

**Education for a
fulfilling life
2023-2024**



Careers at Ifield School

Our aim at Ifield is to ensure that pupils have access to a high-level Careers education, including a life skills curriculum that expands from early years to post-16 so that pupils can develop greater independence, gain transferrable skills, and are better prepared for life outside of school and the next stage of their lives. Links to careers and employment opportunities are therefore developed from the pupils' earliest experiences at Ifield school with each Key stage and Pathway having a personalised approach to enhance the skills pupils will need in their future.

All teaching staff contribute to the delivery of the Careers Programme through a range of cross curricular and vocational subjects including PSHE, Life Skills, Community Based Learning and accredited programmes, such as Edexcel Functional skills and ASDAN. All Careers guidance is based on high aspirations with a highly personalised approach. Every pupil, whatever their ability or type of need will be supported to achieve the best possible outcomes.



Key Stage 1

Provision for our youngest pupils is carefully planned to develop their responsibility and independence which are key elements for a successful future. Throughout the year, Key Stage 1 pupils will experience various places of work through offsite educational visits, as well as learning about different roles within the community through play-based activities and visitors to the school. Last academic year, this included visits to Larkin Farm, visiting musicians, and participation in circus workshops as part of Arts Week.



Key Stage 2



In Key Stage Two, employee encounters and careers opportunities are developed further throughout the curriculum with visitors to the school, Careers week and offsite educational visits. In addition, pupils following the Innovate and Discover pathways have opportunities to apply for the roles of School Council representative and Computing ambassador.



Key Stage 3

In Key Stage Three, students will further develop their aspirations, confidence and skills, so that they can achieve and feel success regardless of what their career journey may look like. All students will have weekly Life Skills lessons with a focus on developing independent living skills, such as housekeeping, hygiene, food preparation and budgeting.

In addition, students will have Community-Based Learning opportunities to develop functional skills necessary for shopping, eating out and using the roads safely.

Students following the Discover or Innovate pathways will also have weekly Careers lessons. During these lessons, students learn about different jobs, requisite skills, uniforms and places of work as well as talking to different professionals about their career journey. In addition, during Careers week visiting alumni will share their experience of 'life after Ifield' and their own educational journey.



Key Stage 4

In Key Stage Four, students begin to consider the career opportunities available in the local area for young people with complex needs as well as their Post-16 education. They identify their own skills and areas for development, and see how these link to various jobs.



All students also begin to complete accreditations, which are matched to their individual interests, abilities and needs. For example, students following the Sense and Explore pathway will participate in weekly Expressive Arts lessons through which they will complete the ASDAN Personal Progress unit.

Students following the Discover and Innovate pathways will also complete Edexcel Functional Skills accreditations at either Entry Level 1, 2 or 3 in English and Maths. In addition, they will choose a specific Career option from a selection with each option being awarded its own accreditation. The options this academic year are:

- Music and Theatre (Arts Award)
- Computing (Edexcel Functional Digital Skills)
- Sports and Fitness (ASDAN Health and Fitness)
- Art (Arts Award)

There are various levels to each accreditation, so that every student has the opportunity to achieve.

Alongside accreditations, students complete the My Employment Passport programme. This highly adapted curriculum for young people with SEND is largely video based and enables young people to see themselves represented in the workforce. Students work through their passports, identifying their skills and areas for development whilst considering their own career aspirations.



In Year 10 students will have an internal work experience placement either onsite or at our school woodland with additional support provided where required. Last year these placements included, work with the admin team, technical support, site team, catering and woodland management. Each student and supervisor completed an evaluation of the placement with a focus on communication, time management, motivation, team work and flexibility.

To support students growing maturity and progression to Post 16, students in Year 11 also have the opportunity to become School Prefects who demonstrate the school PRIDE values, talk to pupils about their learning, and help to choose new staff to join the school. In Term 3, School Prefects are encouraged to apply for the role of Head Prefect who has the additional responsibilities of assisting with school



tours, visiting classrooms with leaders, and writing the end of year speeches.

In addition, students and parents in Key Stage Four will be invited to a Post 16 workshop with our Independent Careers Advisor Christine Murrells to explore further educational opportunities in the local area after Key Stage four including our Ifield Sixth Form.



In Key Stage 5, students experience various work opportunities, identifying their transferable skills and begin to consider their post 19 options. This is supported by 1:1 sessions with our Independent Careers Advisor and an information evening with their parents to discuss post-19 options.

All students will also continue with their accreditations in Sixth Form. For students following the Sense and Explore pathway this will mean continuing with their ASDAN Personal Progress unit as well as starting to explore work opportunities at Larkin Farm, an especially adapted farm for young people with complex needs.

Students in the Discover and Innovate Pathway will choose some new Careers Options with the option of continuing or beginning a new accreditation. The options this academic year are:

- Working with Wood (ASDAN)
- Music (Arts Award)
- Catering (ASDAN – Food Wise unit)
- Performing Arts (Arts Award)
- Hair and Beauty

Some students will complete the Edexcel Functional Skills in English, Maths and Computing as part of their curriculum. Students following the Discover Pathway will also complete the ASDAN Personal Social Development unit and those following the Innovate pathway will complete the Employability unit through Community Based learning and work experience placements. There are various levels to each accreditation



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In addition, students experience various Careers Taster days, which this academic year includes interior design, bricklaying, bridge building, electrical, plumbing, sustainability and construction. There are also planned visits from Construction Youth Trust and local PCSOs.

Some students will also complete Challenger Troop which is a one day per week course that runs for 12 weeks offsite. This exciting intervention is an opportunity for students to develop teamwork, personal skills and citizenship culminating in an overnight camping residential.

Last academic year, following expression of interest from some students, Ifield developed links with Rowhill School, so that students can complete an adapted Motor Mechanics course. This fantastic opportunity allows students to experience working in a real garage whilst also developing their motor mechanic skills and knowledge in line with their own interests and aspirations.

It is important that our young students and their families are fully prepared as they enter adulthood. Ifield's Independent Careers Advisor leads individual 1:1 sessions, as well as a student and parent workshop to explore Post-19 options. Next steps and careers will also be discussed at each Annual Review meeting, which both students and parents are invited to attend, so that EHCP outcomes and targets can be co-produced and reflect a young person's aspirations for the future.

