

Oxfordshire Hospital School Careers Information, Advice and Guidance Statement (CIAG)

Context

The OHS supports children and young people with medical needs who cannot attend school full time. As a hospital school, we are exempt from the statutory guidance (Careers guidance and access for education and training providers, 2018) as the DfE recognises that it would not be possible for us to meet all the requirements. However, we are committed to ensuring that our pupils are supported onto a pathway suited to their skill set and interests and we place great emphasis on working with home schools and colleges to ensure that they fulfil their responsibility for providing a personal development programme that equips our pupils well for moving onto appropriate further education, apprenticeship or workplace.

Responsibilities

Our Careers Leader is Jackie Bott. She is supported by the Head Teacher, Steve Lowe, Assistant Head Teacher, Helen White and a Careers Governor, Julie Tridgell.

Sources of Careers Advice and Guidance

Independent advice and guidance is secured through home schools or colleges; This ensures that our pupils have access to external sources of information on the full range of education and training options. The OHS has a bespoke website, Career Companion, which has details of local colleges, universities, apprenticeship vacancies, as well as information about different careers.

Statement of Intent

At OHS, we recognise that good careers guidance is critical to our pupils because of their vulnerability and their medical needs. Knowing what they want to do in the future helps to motivate and inspire them to complete their studies. We aim to ensure that careers programmes are personalised to each pupil's needs and helps widen their ideas about career opportunities and raises their aspirations.

This statement sets out how we meet as much of the requirement as possible as we recognise that this is a recommended model of good practice.

The vast majority of our pupils are on reintegration programmes returning to their home schools and colleges and, as such, we advocate for home schools and colleges to meet their responsibility for providing quality careers education, advice and guidance. In addition to this, we offer a supplementary programme of careers education, advice and guidance which is delivered by staff with the right skills and experience.

OHS has completed the 'Compass' assessment against The Gatsby Benchmarks to ensure that we are providing the best service we can to our pupils and to challenge ourselves to improve our offer; It also allows us to challenge schools to ensure they are fulfilling their responsibilities.

Our teaching staff make explicit links between their subject and careers and we use 'So I think I want to be a.....' careers information sheets to raise awareness about how hobbies and interests can link to career pathways. We plan to invite people in to talk to pupils about their jobs and career pathways; This will provide our pupils with real life experiences and gives them a chance to ask questions and form their career ideas.

We work with home schools and colleges to ensure that pupils in years 10 and 11 who are well enough are offered the opportunity for an experience of work; Each placement is carefully chosen and matched to ensure that the pupil can be successful, regardless of their medical condition.

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