



Huntington School Careers & Aspirations Programme 2026-27

Our Careers Programme:

At Huntington School, we are committed to ensuring that every student develops the knowledge, skills and confidence needed to make informed decisions about their future.

Our careers programme is delivered through curriculum learning, careers education, employer encounters, workplace experiences, personal guidance and enrichment opportunities from Year 7 through to Year 13.

The programme is aligned to:

- The Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance
- The Career Development Institute (CDI) Career Development Framework
- The Skills Builder Universal Framework

Together, these help students to understand themselves, explore opportunities, develop employability skills and prepare successfully for their next steps in education, training and employment.

The Gatsby Benchmarks Summary (For Reference):

Benchmark	Description
GB1	A Stable Careers Programme
GB2	Learning from Career and Labour Market Information
GB3	Addressing the Needs of Each Student
GB4	Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers
GB5	Encounters with Employers and Employees
GB6	Experiences of Workplaces
GB7	Encounters with Further and Higher Education
GB8	Personal Guidance

Careers Learning by Year Group:

Year Group	Activity	Main Focus	Gatsby Benchmarks
Year 7	Raising Aspirations Day	Understanding careers, strengths and aspirations	GB1, GB2, GB4
Year 8	Aspirations Fair	Exploring a wide range of careers through employer encounters	GB1, GB5, GB7
Year 9	Careers Research Programme (ICT)	Labour market information and career research skills	GB1, GB2, GB3, GB4
Year 9	Work Experience Day	Developing workplace and employability skills	GB4, GB5, GB6
Year 9	CV Writing (English)	Reflecting on skills and presenting strengths effectively	GB1, GB3, GB4
Year 10	Aspirations Fair	Investigating career pathways and post-16 options	GB2, GB3, GB5, GB7
Year 10	Preparing for the World of Work & Post-16 Day	Applications, interviews, employability and post-16 planning	GB1, GB3, GB5, GB7, GB8
Year 10	Work Experience Placement	Gaining first-hand experience of the workplace	GB3, GB5, GB6
Year 11	Work Experience Reflection (PSHE)	Reflection on workplace learning and future planning	GB3, GB6, GB8
Year 12	Careers & Employability Fair	Professional networking and progression opportunities	GB3, GB5, GB7, GB8
Years 12-13	Personal Development Programme (PDP) Work Placement	Employability, leadership and preparation for post-18 pathways	GB3, GB5, GB6, GB8
Year 13	Post-18 Progression Programme	University, apprenticeship and employment preparation	GB3, GB5, GB7, GB8

Career Development Institute (CDI) Outcomes:

Our careers programme supports students in developing the knowledge and skills identified within the CDI Career Development Framework.

CDI Theme	How Students Develop This Area
Grow Throughout Life	Reflecting on strengths, interests and personal development
Explore Possibilities	Researching careers, pathways and labour market trends
Manage Career	Making informed decisions and planning next steps
Create Opportunities	Networking, leadership and enterprise activities
Balance Life and Work	Understanding workplace expectations and responsibilities
See the Big Picture	Exploring future trends, equality, employment rights and changing labour markets

Skills Builder Essential Skills:

Students progressively develop the Skills Builder Essential Skills throughout their time at Huntington.

Skill	Examples of Development
Listening	Employer encounters, careers fairs and workplace experiences
Speaking	Presentations, interviews, networking and applications
Problem Solving	Careers research, projects and workplace challenges
Creativity	Enterprise and career exploration activities
Staying Positive	Reflection, resilience and workplace preparation
Aiming High	Aspirations activities and progression planning
Leadership	Sixth Form leadership opportunities and workplace projects
Teamwork	Collaborative projects, work experience and employer activities

Sixth Form Personal Development & Work Placement Programme

All students in the Sixth Form participate in a structured Personal Development Programme designed to prepare them for life after Huntington.

As part of the programme, students complete a work placement or equivalent employability-focused pathway alongside wider personal development activities.

The programme supports students to:

- Explore university, apprenticeship and employment pathways.
- Develop leadership and employability skills.
- Complete skills audits and career planning activities.
- Learn about employee rights, responsibilities and trade unions.
- Understand future workplace trends and labour market changes.
- Prepare for applications, assessment centres and interviews.
- Reflect on workplace experiences and plan future progression.

This programme provides substantial preparation for post-18 destinations and supports successful transition into higher education, apprenticeships and employment.

Careers Guidance (Gatsby Benchmarks 8 & 3):

All students are entitled to impartial careers guidance at any stage of their education at Huntington School.

To support key transition points, planned careers guidance interviews are provided for students in:

- Year 9 (GCSE options)
- Year 11 (post-16 progression)
- Sixth Form (post-18 destinations)

Additional guidance is available on request for any student.

Some students may receive more regular careers guidance and support from Year 7 onwards. This may include students who are disadvantaged, vulnerable, at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), or those who would benefit from additional support in identifying and achieving their future aspirations.

Through personalised guidance, vocational profiling and targeted interventions, we aim to ensure every student is supported to make ambitious and well-informed decisions about their future.

National Careers Week:

Each year group takes part in National Careers Week (W/C Monday 1/3/27) activities tailored to their stage of education.

Themes include:

- Aspirations and career awareness
- Challenging stereotypes
- Understanding future opportunities
- Preparing for work experience
- Exploring post-16 and post-18 pathways
- Entrepreneurship and leadership
- The changing world of work

Supporting Parents and Carers:

Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting young people with career planning and decision-making.

Families can support students by:

- Discussing career ideas and aspirations.
- Encouraging participation in careers events and work experience.
- Exploring progression options together.
- Accessing information through the school's careers website and communications.

A final word...

At Huntington School, we are committed to providing a progressive, high-quality careers programme that equips every student with the skills, knowledge and experiences needed to achieve their future ambitions.