



Parent and Carer Engagement Statement

Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG)



Da Vinci Academy
A L.E.A.D. Academy



Our commitment

At Da Vinci Academy, we recognise the crucial role that parents and carers play in supporting their child's career development and future planning.

We are committed to ensuring parents and carers are informed, engaged, and empowered throughout their child's careers education journey from Year 7 to Year 11 and beyond.

Our careers programme is fully aligned with the Gatsby Benchmarks, and parent/carers involvement is a key element across all areas.



What are the Gatsby Benchmarks?

The Gatsby Benchmarks are a framework of eight standards designed to improve career guidance in schools and colleges, ensuring that all young people receive high-quality career education and support.

They ensure students understand future pathways, develop employability skills, and make informed decisions about education, training, and careers, helping them prepare confidently for life beyond school.



How we engage parents and carers across the Gatsby Benchmarks

1 A stable careers programme

We publish a clear careers programme on our website and share regular updates via emails, newsletters, and school apps. Parents/carers are invited to give feedback and contribute to the ongoing development of the programme.

2 Learning from Career and labour market information

We provide parents with access to up-to-date labour market information (LMI), including local job growth areas, future skills need, and career pathways via school bulletins, events, and online tools.

3 Addressing the needs of each pupil

We communicate personalised career planning activities and post-16 options, and we support parents/carers to understand SEND pathways, EHCP transitions, and individual guidance plans.

4 Linking curriculum learning to careers

Subject teachers regularly highlight how their subjects relate to real-world careers. We include this information in curriculum events and parents' evenings.

5 Encounters with employers and employees

Parents are invited to career events and employer talks. We also welcome parent volunteers from a range of sectors to share their career journeys with students

6 Experiences of workplaces

We support parents in helping their child secure work experience placements, and we provide guidance on expectations and benefits. Parents/carers receive preparatory materials and post-placement reflection guidance.

7 Encounters with Further and Higher Education

We share information about local Post-16 Open Evenings where parents can meet representatives from local colleges, sixth forms, universities, and apprenticeship providers. Information is also shared digitally for accessibility.

8 Personal Guidance

All pupils receive at least one personal guidance interview with a Level 6 qualified Careers Adviser. Parents/carers are encouraged to follow up on these discussions and receive support in understanding post-16 routes.



Annual Engagement Opportunities

There are numerous opportunities throughout the school year where parents and carers will be offered the chance to engage with Career education, information, advice and guidance. Please see below for a selection of events that we typically offer.

- ✓ **Key Stage 3/Key Stage 4 Information Evening**
- ✓ **Year 9 Options Evening/Parents' Evening**
- ✓ **Year 11 Parents' Evening**
- ✓ **Post-16 Careers Fair**
- ✓ **SEND Post-16 information event**
- ✓ **Work experience briefings**
- ✓ **Parent-Teacher evenings with careers information**
- ✓ **Careers newsletters and social media posts**
- ✓ **Online careers resources**

Keeping you informed

As a school, we are continually striving to strengthen and develop our CEIAG provision, and as such, further opportunities to engage and support parents may arise.

These opportunities will be communicated to parents in a timely manner, ensuring all who wish to take part have the chance to do so.





Supporting parents to support their children

We aim to ensure all parents/carers:

- Understand post-16 options (A-levels, T-levels, BTECs, apprenticeships, independent training providers, vocational courses).
- Can access careers tools and digital platforms used by their children
- Know where to access help for SEND - specific careers support
- Feel confident discussing career ideas, decisions, and transitions with their child.





Further information and guidance

Please see below for resources and links that can offer you further information on careers guidance and future pathways.

Talking Futures

TalkingFutures.org.uk will help you have informed and constructive career conversations with your child about their academic and professional future.

[Find out more](#)



Success at school

Successatschool.org provide career advice for schools and students aged 13-19. Search for jobs, and find out about employers, work experience, courses, career choices and apprenticeships

[Find out more](#)

Apprenticeship Guide

With over 600 apprenticeships on offer, Apprenticeshipguide.co.uk can be used as a tool to discover your perfect role by searching through the 18 different industry sectors.

[Find out more](#)



National Careers Service

Nationalcareers.service.gov.uk provides careers information, advice and guidance to help you make decisions at all stages in your career.

[Find out more](#)



SEND and Careers

At Da Vinci Academy, we are committed to ensuring that every student receives the guidance and support they need to make informed, ambitious, and achievable choices for life beyond secondary school.

For our students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), we take a personalised approach to careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG). Working closely with students, families, teaching staff, and external agencies, we aim to provide clear, accessible, and meaningful pathways that reflect each young person's strengths, aspirations, and support needs.

This includes:

- ✓ Early and ongoing discussions about future aspirations and options, starting from Year 8 onwards.
- ✓ Tailored careers advice with our Careers Leader and SEND team.
- ✓ Opportunities for supported work experience or workplace visits, where appropriate.
- ✓ Close collaboration with post-16 providers, including colleges, sixth forms and training programmes.
- ✓ Support with applications, interviews, and transitions to ensure a smooth and confident move into further education, employment or training.

We firmly believe that all students, regardless of ability or need should have the opportunity to thrive in their next steps.

Derbyshire Local Offer

Derbyshire Local Offer provides information to help guide you and your child as you explore post-16 options.

It aims to help and support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities to be more confident in their communities and live independently.

[Find out more](#)





Feedback and Involvement

We actively seek feedback from parents and carers to help shape our CEIAG provision.

We welcome:

- Parent participation in career events
- Offers of work experience placements
- Feedback through surveys and informal discussion
- Suggestions for improving communication and support.



Contact us

If you would like more information or want to get involved in our Careers Programme, please contact:

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