

Careers Guidance

Everything we do for our young people at St Michael's is rooted in our core values of Aspiration, Belief and Creativity: St Michael's ABC. This includes not only preparing pupils for their next steps, but also encouraging them to look further forward to what they might want to achieve in their future education and subsequent careers.

Aspiration

We encourage every pupil to aspire to the highest standards of academic and personal development whilst they are at St Michael's. We celebrate the values and qualities that will enable young people to thrive in whatever path their life takes. Likewise, we also encourage pupils to aim high in their future aspirations, and to start thinking about paths to achieve the very best futures for themselves.

Belief

So much of an individual's progress is built on belief; belief in themselves and what they are capable of. Our desire is to build resilience in young people whether from without or within. We believe this will stand our students in good stead when it comes to gaining entry to their chosen careers, as well as subsequently progressing to the highest levels within those careers.

Creativity

Never before has creativity been as important as it is now, in times of increasingly rapid technological and social change and growing globalization. Creativity is not an optional extra in the modern world, it is a quality which enables us to thrive and adapt in any environment.

Careers guidance aims

Our aim is that every Year 7 and 8 student at St Michael's should have knowledge of their own strengths and be able to link these strengths to possible future education and career opportunities.

Why consider careers at middle school age?

- Students are now having to make decisions on GCSE options in Year 9 - their first year in upper school. We want to prepare students for these decisions in good time, so they have time to reflect on their options.
- Students who have thought about their possible career destination are more likely to be motivated to work their best and achieve in their chosen area.
- Even for those who do not wish to make choices yet, considering their future prospects encourages students to take responsibility for their learning and to have discussions about their future with parents or carers.

The school undertakes the following careers-related activities:

- We coordinate our careers provision with upper schools to ensure we compliment what they do.
- We provide opportunities for employers to visit the school to provide students with experiences of the world of work.
- We organise visits to employers for groups of students.
- We provide opportunities for local further education establishments to visit the school, to give students a clearer idea of the education options available to them in the future.
- We point out the relevance of what we teach in the classroom to the world of work, especially for the STEM subjects of Science, Design Technology and Maths.
- From 2019 we will offer careers education as an integral part of our PSHCE lessons.

Recommended tools for helping students and parents with career choices:

- www.successatschool.org
- www.careerpilot.org.uk
- www.plotr.co.uk

Careers contact for employers or education providers:

Andrew Arthur, Careers Leader, St Michael's Middle School.

email: a.arthur@stmichaelsmiddle.org

Tel: 01202 883433