

Whole-School Careers Curriculum Statement: Embedding the Gatsby Benchmarks from KS3 to KS5 at Stocklake Park

Our careers education programme is embedded across Key Stages 3 to 5, ensuring that all students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) receive a broad, meaningful, and personalised curriculum that prepares them for adulthood. We use the Gatsby Benchmarks as a framework to guide our careers provision, adapting each element to meet the diverse needs of our learners.

◆ Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9)

Students begin to explore the world of work through experiential learning, themed curriculum days, and community engagement.

Careers education is introduced through PSHE, Life Skills, and cross-curricular projects, with a focus on self-awareness and aspirations.

Benchmark activities include encounters, career-themed lessons, and community-based learning.

◆ Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11)

Careers learning becomes more targeted, with vocational tasters supporting real-world understanding.

Students can access workplace visits, Post 16 provision events and experience transition planning aligned with EHCP outcomes.

Curriculum links to careers are strengthened through enterprise projects and community-based learning.

◆ Key Stage 5 (Years 12–14 / Sixth Form)

The sixth form curriculum is fully aligned with Preparing for Adulthood outcomes and embeds OCR Life and Living Skills to support independence, employability, and community inclusion.

Students engage in supported work experience, college visits, and career-focused pathways, with differentiated support and multi-agency input.

Careers education is personalised, with clear progression routes into post-19 provision, supported internships, or adult services.

Gatsby Benchmarks in Practice

- Across all key stages, we embed the eight Gatsby Benchmarks through:
- A stable careers programme tailored to SEND learners.
- Accessible labour market information and employer engagement.
- Individualised planning linked to EHCPs.
- Curriculum integration of careers themes.
- Real-world experiences including work-related learning and community visits.
- Encounters with education providers and transition support.
- Personalised careers guidance through internal and external professionals and