

Careers Leader Rose Woollard, Assistant Principal

Context The vast majority of our leavers (78% in 2025) go on to university. The Progress Tutor is the key link in supporting our students to develop their understanding of next steps after college. We also have the support of a Careers Advisor. This team work together to provide a tailor-made experience for every student.

Support in subject areas Subject staff regularly invite industry professionals into college and equally organise trips and visits to support students in encounters with employers and higher education. For example, midwives in Health and Social Care and the Bank of England in Economics. Law have taken students to visit Squire, Patton, Boggs.

In tutorial Tutorial is centred around strong relationships between student and tutors. This means regular 1-1 sessions which enable tutors to quickly identify students' preferred next steps. Whatever route students decide to take after college, our tutors can support them with expert guidance. For example, a group of 40 students went to an Apprenticeship fair in Leeds to learn more about this route. We also organise whole college events to provide more opportunities for students to engage with employers and universities. For example, apprenticeship providers such as KPMG, the Army and many Russell Group universities. We invite in universities to support key events, such as Sheffield who came to talk to YR1 parents about launching the UCAS process and Newcastle who come in once a month to offer a personal statement support workshops. Students are asked to log their interactions with employers and universities on our online portal Improve.

Extra curricular Students receive support in applying for widening participation schemes which break down barriers to attending university. They are invited to go on trips to local Russell Group universities such as Durham and York and workshops are provided on student finance. For Medicine, dentistry and veterinarian applicants, MedSoc provides regular specific guidance on applying, including support with multiple mini interviews and admissions tests. Leeds University contribute heavily to this support, for example delivering preparatory workshops for students. Top Flight + provides support for our future Oxbridge applicants, with trips to Oxford and Cambridge and reading circles to engage students in super curricular learning. We run an annual 'Futures Day' event in which every YR2 student has the opportunity to undergo a 1-1 interview with an external colleague from industry or University. This is a really well received event and helps to break down barriers for our students.

Routes other than university Some of our students leave us to go onto high quality apprenticeships and employment. These students are provided with 1-1 guidance through tutorial. They are also provided with the opportunity to sit with our careers advisor and have a 45 minute bespoke appointment.

Work experience During the course of their time with us, we expect every student to gain Meaningful Employer Engagement (MEE). This means a virtual, face to face or meaningful encounter with a University, apprenticeship provider or employer. To facilitate this, we provide a weekly careers bulletin which highlights up to date opportunities for our students.

Further reading

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157124/report.aspx>

<https://www.dixons6a.com/uploads/files/dixons6a/D6A-Ofsted-Report-2023.PDF?v=1688638854>

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