



King Edward VI School

Parent/Carer Careers Update – Autumn Term 2020

“Career is defined broadly as an individual’s progression through learning and work rather than more narrowly as a job or a series of jobs”

(Andrews, 2008)

Dear Parent/Carer

This term, we have all adjusted to a new way of working at King Edward VI School and our careers provision has been no exception! Below is a summary of how we are supporting your child/children in each year group as part of our current Careers programme and our plans going forward into 2021.

NEW!! Launch of Xello Online Careers Platform...

xello

Powered by **CASCAID**

We are delighted to announce the launch of **Xello**, a state-of-the-art **online careers platform** for all students in Years 7 to 11. Xello has been funded by the King Edward VI School Foundation Trustees for the next two years and will support our whole school Careers programme.

Xello hosts a range of age-appropriate quizzes, tasks and lessons that encourage students to explore their individual interests, skills and strengths as they progress through our school. Your child/children will learn how these skills and strengths link with their school subjects and apply them to a wealth of career options. **All students have been sent an email to their student account with instructions to complete their first tasks in Xello by next term.** Students will explore their individual interests and:

- Year 7 students will learn how their interests apply to careers
- Year 8 students will learn about time management

- Year 9 students will match their interests with careers and find out more about learning pathways
- Year 10 students will match their interests to careers and work on positive study skills and habits
- Year 11 students will match their interests to careers and learn about the transition to post-16 education

Please do encourage your child/children to share their interests with you and explore the careers that match them – you may be surprised!

...and our New Careers Website



We now have a dedicated website for our Careers provision at King Edward VI School (under Essentials on the main School website). The website has a Parent/Carer section and hosts a wealth of information about career options, work experience and useful careers websites, alongside our careers policies, Destinations data and our Careers programme. It is a work in progress and I am looking forward to adding new sources and links in 2021.

Please do take a look: [KEVI Careers](#)

Year 11 Post-16 Information

Assemblies

In September, our Year 11 students enjoyed **live online assemblies** from Abbeygate Sixth Form College (ASFC), West Suffolk College (WSC) and the WSC Apprenticeship Team to give them an insight into their Post-16 options. Whilst our Year 11s would usually enjoy face-to-face assemblies for their post-16 information, the virtual presentations were equally inspirational and lively. For further details, please see the [Post-16](#) section on the Careers website.

Student Interviews

All (221) Year 11 students were sent a Destination Form (on MS Forms) earlier this term to indicate what they plan to do after they leave King Edward VI School. If students are unsure about which pathway to choose – (other) School Sixth Form, Sixth Form College (SFC), Further Education (FE) College, Apprenticeship or employment with accredited training – they were able to indicate on the form that they would like further guidance. This term has been very busy with student interviews to support Year 11s in making informed and positive

choices for their next steps and the interviews will continue into 2021. These appointments will also be supported by student interviews with the relevant Heads of College, so that we ensure each of our students receives an offer of education, employment or training by the time they leave us.

Sixth Form and College Applications

Note: Year 11 students can apply for more than one option Post-16 e.g. 3 A level courses at ASFC and one or more courses at WSC and one or more apprenticeships. They can choose which pathway to take after receiving their GCSE results.

Plans for 2021

Whilst the Autumn term has been one of adjustment to a changing environment, we plan to start the New Year with a spring in our step! So far, our plans include:

- a week of Careers assemblies tailored to each Year group (1-5 February 2021)
- apprenticeship presentations from West Suffolk College to mark National Apprenticeship Week (8-12 February 2021)
- a series of interactive sessions (at lunchtime) with NHS Staff talking about their roles and career paths
- Alumni talks
- More activities and learning through Xello



and finally... **"Anything is Possible"** [Inspiring interview with Gareth Southgate](#)

To end the year on a positive note, please share this video interview with Gareth Southgate with your child/children. It is an inspirational message to them about fulfilling their potential...even if they feel shy and uncertain.

I hope this information is useful to you. Should you have any Careers related questions or comments about our provision, please email me at: ahn@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

I wish you all a very **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year that fulfils your aspirations!**

Until next term...

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Angela Hahn'.

Angela Hahn
Careers Co-ordinator