Ark Alexandra Academy’s Vision

- Achieve the highest academic results that provide the best opportunities for your future success.
- Develop the attributes and skills to be both highly employable and to be positive contributors to your community.
- Be creative, emotionally intelligent and physically active young adults in order that you can lead a happy and healthy lifestyle.

Careers Programme

Intent: We know there is more to success than academic achievement alone. Education isn’t simply about passing exams; it’s about enabling students to learn the skills and qualities they need to be successful at school and beyond. We want every pupil to do well enough to go to university or pursue the career of their choice. To support this, we ensure that alongside setting high expectations for academic progress, we also focus on building the habits and skills most desired by employers and universities, guarantee access and exposure to the experiences that will help them to shape a vision for their own future and guide their decisions about their university or career pathway after school.

The careers programme aims to deliver the vision of the academy. It aims to provide students with a broad range of meaningful experiences that allows them to have a greater understanding about what their future holds. The programme will help to develop their knowledge and understanding of the world of work and of the different pathways available to them at the key end points throughout their time at the Academy allowing them to make the best-informed decisions about their future. Creating students who are passionate about working towards a future of their choice, have the highest aspirations about the pathways that they take and who have excellent skills enabling them to be highly employable.

Implementation: Through the 5/7year plan students will develop their employability skills which will enable them to make the best-informed decisions about their future but also will be fully prepared for life beyond school/sixth form. They will have been involved in activities that will have raised their aspirations and they will have been provided with a vast range of information that will help to shape their future. Students will understand why the subjects within the curriculum matter and how they link to specific career paths. Students will understand who, where and how they can get support to help them with their future planning.

Impact: If the intent of the careers programme is being fulfilled then students will be confident in making the best decision for them when they leave school/sixth form. They will be able to make the right decisions about the course that they are studying and how this links in with what they want to do. The destination data will clearly show the impact of the careers programme, no students will be identified as NEET and all students will be in some kind of education, employment or training. Students will also be moving onto the relevant level of courses according to their ability.

Careers Learning Outcomes for each stage of their journey

Understanding the world of Work

Year 7 Learning outcomes
- Demonstrate an understanding of employability skills
- Gain an understanding of what work may look like
- Start to understand what their progression options could be when they leave school

Broadening Career Experiences

Year 8 Learning outcomes
- To experience University through a campus visit
- To understand what STEM is and take part in STEM Robot Wars
- To continue to build on their employability skills

GCSE Decision Time

Year 9 Learning outcomes
- Make decisions about the GCSE courses- support from teachers and Start
- To gain a further understanding about University and other routes available
- Start to gain an understanding of work through employer engagements.

Getting ready for work

Year 10 Learning outcomes
- To explore some of the different routes available to them when they leave school/college
- To gain an understanding of the workplace through work experience or placement visits
- Explore different FE colleges through open days and use of websites

Exam Time- Post 16 Options

Year 11 Learning outcomes
- To receive 1 to 1 support around their options when they leave school
- To complete their applications for post 16 study
- To gain a greater understanding of the options available through careers fair and assemblies

What is my future looking like?

Year 12/13 Learning outcomes
- To receive 1 to 1 support around their options when they leave sixth form
- To gain a further understanding of the work placement through work experience
- To complete their applications for Post 18 study