



Year 11 Careers Provision

Dear Parent /Carer

At Ark Alexandra Academy, we recognise that an effective careers programme can help prepare young people for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences that lie ahead. The Government has since updated the Careers Strategy for schools and sets out clear guidelines and benchmarks to help support schools with their delivery of a structured and informative careers programme.

We are however, in a very different situation than we have ever experienced. One that has highlighted a range of different career paths and skills that have come to the fore and have proven to be extremely important. The effect that the Coronavirus has had on our lives has been clear to see especially with regards to school. The fact that Year 11 students won't be sitting exams and won't be returning to school as a Year 11 student is something that has never happened and hopefully will not happen again.

One change that schools and students are getting used to is the idea of conducting/taking part in lessons online via the internet. It is also amazing to see some of the things that can be done with technology, another careers sector that has come to the fore. As a result, some of the careers activities that were planned for the rest of the year have been cancelled. Therefore, I have created a variety of resources to help your child continue to gain a greater understanding of the different career paths available and to help them think more about their future.

College Applications

Most students in year 11 now have completed their applications, have had an interview and have been accepted onto their choice of courses for next year. Colleges have confirmed that places will be secured for September no matter how the results pan out in the summer. If you haven't completed an application, you can still do so. Go to <https://careerseastsussex.co.uk/> and enter your log in details. If you need help with this, please contact myself on g.morris@arkalexandra.org. Colleges have also sent out some details regarding preparation materials for September. Please see the careers section on the school website for more details.

College Support

During this time College's have developed some resources that are designed to help year 11 students prepare for their studies next year. Please see below links to the different Colleges and their recommended work in preparation.

Bexhill College- <https://www.bexhillcollege.ac.uk/admissions/>

East Sussex College- <https://www.escg.ac.uk/blog/>

Apprenticeships

Some students may be looking into the possibility of moving into an apprenticeship from September. This is where students will combine work at a company with learning the skills in college. If you are interested in this route please go to the following websites for more information visit

<https://www.gov.uk/topic/further-education-skills/apprenticeships> or <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/>.

Guidance

As part of the Academy's careers programme, all Year 11 students were entitled to a one-to-one careers interview with a qualified advisor. The vast majority of students have taken part in one of these but if your child hasn't or would like another one please contact myself on g.morris@arkalexandra.org and then one can be arranged via the internet.

Career websites

The school have signed up and invested in a number of career related websites that are designed to help students gain a greater understanding of the types of careers that exist and more information around these. Below are details of how to log in and what each provide.

Start- <https://www.startprofile.com/>. To access this website, the students must use their school email address as their username and the password is set at Apple123. Once they have logged in then they can change their password. The first thing for students to do would be to update and develop their profile. They can also start to search different jobs, careers paths and find out more information about college or universities.

Unifrog- <https://www.unifrog.org/>. To access this website, students have been sent an email that allows them to link straight into their account. If this link expires, students should log in using their school email address and then press forgotten password and then they will be sent a new password link. This website also allows students to explore a variety of different careers as well as taking part in some activities.

Be Ready- Learn.bereadygroup.org. To access this website, students have been sent an email that allows them to link straight into their account. If this link expires, students should log in using their school email address and then press forgotten password and then they will be sent a new password link. This website also allows students to explore a variety of different careers as well as taking part in some activities regarding employability skills where they can gain certificates for completing small online courses.

BBC Bitesize Careers/ National Careers Service- These are two more websites that provide lots of information about careers and employability skills. They both allow students to search different jobs and what each one entails but also to learn more about some of the skills that they may need to use in the near future like CV writing or interview practice.

Academy website- Over the next few weeks, the careers section of the school website will be loaded with a variety of different links/ resources and activities to use, especially for preparation for college and work.

Price Waterhouse Coopers- PwC have created some resources based around employability skills and these will help to build upon and develop these in preparation for applying for jobs in the very near future. Please go to the following link [Employability Hub](#).

[Eton College](#) is making several online self-study courses from the EtonX Future Skills Programme available **free of charge** to state school pupils in the UK. These courses are particularly appropriate for **Year 11 and Year 13 pupils**. Courses available are CV Writing, Creative Problem Solving, Interview Skills, Making an Impact, Resilience, Research Skills and Writing Skills.

Please also see the Family Learning Careers Resources document that has been created by the East Sussex Careers Hub to enable students and their families to engage in careers activities during this time. This is attached in the email but is also in the career's sections on the school website.

If you need any further information regarding anything to do with careers, please contact myself on g.morris@arkalexandra.org.

Please stay safe and enjoy the time that we have with our families.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G Morris". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mr G Morris
Careers Lead