future


Athena
Sixth Form College

Welcome to our DMA Careers Guide. We aim to empower students to make decisions to guide them through life and realise their potential.

Contact Sally Purkiss spurkiss@dma.tela.org.uk for further information.

## Careers and Life Skills (PSHE)

## Careers and raising aspirations

As part of the PSHE programme students explore careers, local labour market information and the skills and attitudes required to have the best possible future. Each subject also raises awareness of careers every half term. Please see the PSHE section of the website for more information on our full curriculum Y7-13.

Year 7: raising awareness
Year 8: preparing for the future
Year 9: discovering new pathways
Year 10: evolve and discover
Year 11: decide and transitions
Year 12: investigate futures
Year 13: specialisms and preparations

- Drop Down morning career projects in summer
- Morning PSHE
- Assemblies

> Our school aim:
> "We aim to ensure that
> every student in our care realises their potential and we take that responsibility very seriously."

## SMACareers <br> Unlock your future

## Your Careers Team



## George Pettitt <br> Deputy Headteacher

## Sally Purkiss

Careers Coordinator
We support every student to unlock their future and aim high in their career aspirations, providing them with support and encouragement along the way.

External Careers Advisor \& Careers Lead WVC Unbiased careers advise to all students in the form of guidance meetings, workshops and assemblies


## Expert Advisors and Connections

## Our expert advisors and connection

- Beacon East Trust
- Help you Choose
- The New Anglia Enterprise Adviser Network
- Colleges and $6^{\text {th }}$ forms
- Contact with employers
- Barclays Life Skills
- National Careers Week
- PSHE and projects



The New Anglia
Enterprise Adviser Network

## LifeSkills

Created with BARCLAYS


The College
of West Anglia


## neaco

Network for East Anglian Collaborative Outreach (neaco)

Take Your Place is delivered to students by our Higher Education Champions who are based in schools and colleges across the region.

This programme includes several strands, each addressing our students' identified needs and aims to increase progression to higher education. These identified needs include improving their understanding and preparedness towards applying for higher education and improving their passion and ambition towards the idea of higher education.

Explore your options, discover your potential.

## Careers at DMA

## Unlock your future: a step-by-step careers curriculum

## DMA Careers

Unlock your future


PSHE, special events, curriculum, advisor, inspiring projects, work experience, role models and a collaborative approach

## Gatsby Benchmarks

## DMA Careers



1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil (pastoral)
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers (departmental)
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experience of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

## Overview of Trips, Events and Activities

Years 7-9
National Apprenticeship Week
National Careers Week
University Trip and Visits
Goal Setting
Employability
Careers Summer Projects
Year 9
Royal Norfolk Show
Options Workshops and Presentations Have you ever wondered where my GCSEs can take me? NEACO Workshop

# Overview of Trips, Events and Activities 



> Years 10-11
> National Apprenticeship Week National Careers Week
> University Trip and Visits Apprenticeship Day Y10-13
> Finance for the Future
> Goal Setting and Employability
> Careers Summer Projects
> 1-1 appointments with every student

## Year 10

College of West Anglia
Athena Taster Day
Empowerment Days
Virtual Work Experience Higher Education Workshops

Year 11
Post-16 Application Workshops with CWA and Athena
Apprenticeship NEACO workshop
Interview Workshop
NEACO Stress-Less Workshop

# Overview of Trips, Events and Activities 

Athena

- Norfolk and Suffolk Careers and Skills Festival
- Careers Fair
- UCAS exhibition
- EPQ Insight day - University of

East Anglia

- Athena Futures Week
- Tutor time (PD) activities


# Overview of Trips, Events and Activities 

## Parent/Carer Events

- Meet the Team - National

Careers Week Q\&A and Labour Market Information Briefing

## Community Survey

- Annual DMA and Athena Careers

Feedback Survey in National
Careers Week

## KS3 and KS4 Support

## Support for KS3

Apprenticeships and training


## Support for KS4

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Apprenticeships and training
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Careers interviews

Colleges, Universities and FE

Focused PSHE


## P-16 Application Grades and References

- Year 11s should apply by end of Autumn Term for two courses - one aspirational and one where the candidate is confident of admission to the course based on Post-16 Application Grades
- The Post-16 Application Grades (predicted grades) follow the November mocks. Students and referees must use this data for application.
- Referees should be the Year 11 tutor who is responsible for the reference, following the guidelines on the next page.
- Cambridge colleges have an application deadline of early January, which is why our internal deadline is before the winter break.
- Students are provided with 1:1 careers guidance meetings, workshops, visits from colleges, open day information and support throughout the process.
- The Careers Lead and external staff lead assemblies and provide information for parents and carers via the Head of Year and website.


## References

All references will be kind, helpful and specific. Where there is cause for concern the reference can be escalated to the Head of Year.

## Characteristics

If any response is "Cause for Concern" please summarise briefly the nature of your concerns.
Punctuality: Link this to the percentage of 'lates' over the current academic year to date.
Concern Behaviour: This should relate to behaviour during Years 10 and 11. If the student has been excluded at all, their behaviour must be poor. If 'concerned' please provide further details in the comment box together with any behaviour difficulties and the support strategies that have been used.
Commitment to learning: This refers to attitude to study throughout their time at the school.
Relationships with students: An average student can work co-operatively with fellow students.
Relationships with staff: An average student can work co-operatively with teachers. Attendance
Give percentage attendance for the previous year and the current academic year to date. If attendance is below the national average please comment.

## Students' likely support needs

Please indicate below the student's likely support needs (physical, learning or otherwise), if any. Declaring a need will not disadvantage them in any way but will help post-16 providers to plan their student support

## Anything else to support the application

Any additional comments can be included here. For example an extract from a recent report, or other brief summary of their secondary school experience, including positions of responsibility and any significant health issues.

Please see the Head of Year with any queries about the accuracy of your reference.

## P-16 Personal Statement

## Guide

$>$ highlight school achievements
> highlight what you have achieved outside of school
$>$ stand out from other applicants

| Do | Don't |
| :--- | :--- |
| List your personal qualities <br> and skills | List your subjects |
| Link those skills and <br> qualities to subjects you <br> study or activities / <br> achievements | Be negative |
| Keep it to one side of A4 | Waffle or use fancy <br> language you don't <br> understand |
| Use formal language | Don't forget to be amazing! |

## Personal Statement

## Structure

## A possible structure:

## 1.Introduction

Who are you, where are you currently studying, what are you applying for/your future ambitions?
2.Talk about your school subjects

Discuss your strengths and relate to key skills
3.Discuss any position of responsibility you may have had

This could be part of the Senior Student Leadership team, being a Student Leader, peer mentor etc

## 4.Talk about extra-curricular/non-GCSE activities in school

This might include taking part in debating, drama productions, assisting at open evenings, environmental projects, organising events, sports teams, BBC School Report et

## 5.Talk about work experience

Have you done any work experience? What skills did you develop? How useful was it? Do you have any part-time employment?

## 6.Talk about extra-curricular activities outside of school

This could be charity or volunteer work you have undertaken, any interests or hobbies like horse-riding, keeping fit, drama or language classes etc. You could also mention any additional awards / certificates you may have achieved such as DoE, music awards (e.g. Grade 3 Piano), sports achievements etc.
7.Write about your plans for the future

What would you like to do? Why?

# GCSE Timeline 

| Month | Year | Activity |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Feb - July | 10 | Careers Workshops |
| Feb - July | 10 | Guidance Meetings |
| June | 10 | CWA Trip |
| July | 10 | Athena Open Evening |
| September | 11 | Athena in Action Days |
| September | 11 | Research Colleges |
| September - <br> January | 11 | Open Days |
| November <br> January - April | 11 | Mocks |
| February | 11 | Interviews |
| February | 11 | Apprenticeship support |
| May -July | 11 | Mocks |
| August | 11 | Exams |
| September | 12 | Results |
| College/Apprenticeships |  |  |

Sixth Form College

## Athena Timeline

| Month | Year | Activity |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| September | 12 | Intro to Aspire, Careers and <br> NEACO |
| October | 12 | Introduction to Higher Education <br> November |
| 12 | Student <br> Finance/UCAS/CV/Covering <br> Letter and Interview Skills |  |
| December | 12 | Work Experience |
| January - <br> July | 12 | 1:1 Careers Meetings and <br> Workshops |
| March | 12 | Early University Application <br> Focus Groups/ Stress-less <br> Workshop |
| June | 12 | Pride Month and Higher <br> Aspirations |

## Athena Timeline

| Month | Year | Activity |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| September | 13 | UCAS forms/early entry focus <br> groups |
| October | 13 | Apprenticeship <br> support/Application Deadlines <br> Internal |
| November | 13 | Oxbridge exams/BMAT |
| December | 13 | Oxbridge interviews/work <br> experience |
| January - <br> July | 13 | Careers workshops and <br> masterclasses |
| March | 13 | Student finance applications |
| April | 13 | Final Choices to UCAS |

Careers guidance meetings and support are available throughout the Athena journey.

## Athena NEACO Provision

NEACO work closely with our staff and students to provide expert advice, wisdom and unbiased guidance though 1:1s, workshops and assemblies. The careers provision is active and interactive throughout the students' sixth form journey.


## Gatsby Benchmarks

Professor Sir John Holman, Advisor in Education at the Gatsby Foundation identified eight benchmarks that are the core dimensions of good careers and enterprise provision in schools. They have a role in raising young people's aspirations and promoting access to all career pathways as well as enabling all young people to develop the skills and outlook they need to achieve career wellbeing, including adaptability and resilience.

- A stable careers programme
- Learning from career and labour market information
- Addressing the needs of each pupil
- Linking curriculum learning to careers
- Encounters with employers and employees
- Experiences of workplaces
- Encounters with further and higher education
- Personal guidance



## Gatsby Benchmarks

Our Careers Team are dedicated to providing an outstanding careers programme for all students. We are judged by the Gatsby Benchmarks and we are proud of our growth in all areas. We believe in transparency, collaboration and unbiased advice. Here are our latest results.

| Gutsy Benchmark | Letert Evaluation | Total acherwhment |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1.A Hable cmetr programme | 1094 | 1004 |
| ZHearning from carcer and libedr mirket indormation | 1094 | 100\% |
| 3-Adtresuing the netry of each pupil | 95 | 3014 |
| 4-Linking curriculurn lewning to icbress | 104t | 10074 |
| S-Enceunters Eith employens and employes | 164th | 100\% |
| 6-Experiuncen worlpilwes | 1844 | 10074 |
| 7.Encounters Eith further and hightr education | 1804 | 10074 |
| H-Pervatal ${ }_{\text {aldance }}$ | 150t3 | 100\% |

## Careers in the Curriculum

Our teachers seek meaningful ways to bring careers into the curriculum - this helps link the learning in terms of direct and transferrable skills and knowledge for the future.

Here are some exciting examples of careers in the curriculum at DMA:

Banksy Art Workshop
Biomedicine and Careers
Nursing Careers in Science
Sound Engineering
Navy Catering Visit
Billingsgate Fish Market
Life Drawing and Sainsbury's Gallery
Science at sixth form taster day
Auditioning Skills
Shakespeare's Globe - cast and careers
AMGEN Biotech Experience
Houses of Parliament History Trip
Modern Foreign Languages Career Fair
Musicians making a living
Who Cares? Theatre visit and careers talk


English Poetry Live
Python Coding Club
MP Visit
Drama West End Vocal Coach
Professor of Classics presentation
Papillion Project - Eco Schools
Hazard Management in Geography Careers
Coastal Erosion and Careers


Extra and Super Curricular Activities and Events

## OMALONTT

We are delighted to work with our Alumni to support, inspire and guide our students. Thank you to all our contributors for our DMAlumni Summer Projects and also to special guests for National Careers Week. Contact us if you have a career and story to inspire our young people!

Watch this clip from a former DMA stydent... is this the pathway for you?


## Labour Market Information

Labour Market Information (LMI) shows us

- where different job roles are needed around the country
- Local job opportunities
- Jobs for the future

Please explore the LMI widget on our website for more information. We also provide an annual LMI briefing during National Careers Week for students, parents, carers, staff and governors.

Labour market overview, UK - Office for National Statistics (ons.gov.uk)

Norfolk Economy and Employment Statistics - Norfolk Insight

Home (cambspeterboroughlmi.co.uk)

Careers advice and guidance | Suffolk County Council

# Helpful Websites 

## Home | helpyouchoose.org

Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources National Careers Service

## icanbea... (Careers \& Ideas in Norfolk \& Suffolk) |icanbea...

Success at School: Careers advice for schools and students

