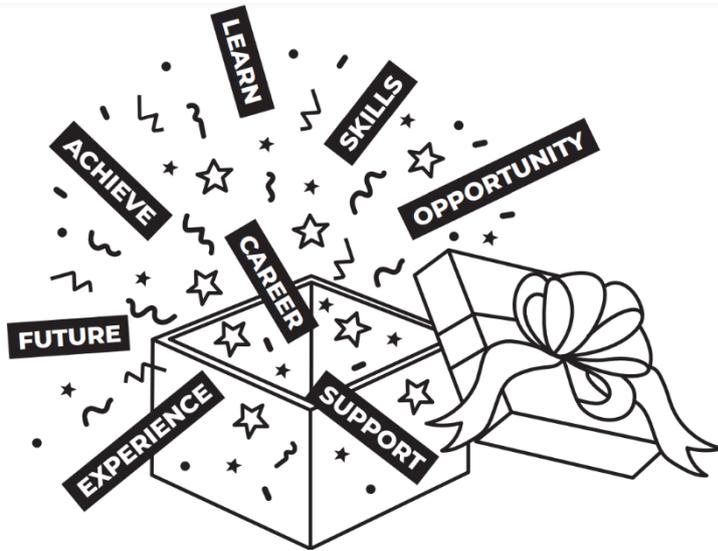


FERNDOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL CAREERS NEWSLETTER SPRING 2023



Awards

Ferndown Middle School has been recognised for its careers programme by the Dorset Careers Hub. We have been **HIGHLY COMMENDED** for our significant progress in the attainment of the Gatsby Benchmarks and we were the **WINNER** for notable achievements in the attainment of the Gatsby Benchmarks for Careers Education.

I would like to extend my thanks to businesses, employers and parents who have come into school and talked about their company or job. Without this support these awards would not have been achieved. Going forward **we need more businesses and employers to spend about 20 minutes talking to the KS3 pupils about future career options. Please contact the school, ask for Mrs Baynham, if you can help with this.**

T-Levels

The latest change to education has been the introduction of T-Levels. T Levels are **new courses that will follow on from GCSEs and are the equivalent of gaining three A- Levels**. They combine classroom learning with practical learning, allowing students to take an extended industry placement, with programmes designed in partnership with leading employers and businesses. Pupils in KS3 will start to learn about these in the next few weeks. The choice of completing a T-level maybe something you want to consider when selecting a school for the next stage in your child's education. The school newsletter will contain some examples of T-level courses that are available over the next few months.

Xello

Ferndown Middle School uses software called Xello to help deliver our careers programme. This software enables students to work individually on any mobile device, whether in school or at home, to explore career options for the future. Both Year 7 and Year 8 have used Xello to evaluate individual personality and learning styles, interests and future aspirations. Xello has then suggested some suitable career matches. By clicking on the match, the student can find out more about the

career and the requirements. As parents you too can access Xello. This could provide you with the chance to discuss future goals for your child. Please ask your child to give you a demonstration!

This term careers work on Xello will continue. The students will also learn about careers in the NHS. With over 350 possible roles in the NHS, I am sure every student will find a job that interests them. If you want to see what is available go to this website. <https://www.stepintothens.nhs.uk/careers>

Options and Choices: A Play for Y8

Thanks to funding from Bournemouth University, we were lucky to host a play called Options and Choices for the Year 8 pupils. The play taught the children about different options available; like apprenticeships, T- levels, college and university in a fun and engaging manner. It talked about the importance of selecting the right GCSE options for you and the importance of not making a choice based upon friendship groups or the teacher. The play also emphasized the importance of gaining other skills through hobbies or voluntary work. All really valuable food for thought as the Year 8 pupils are now considering moving to their next school.

If you would like more information these websites are recommended.

www.chooseoptions.co.uk

www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/your-choices-at-14

www.bournemouth.ac.uk

Another Plea For Help

We look forward to meeting employers and going on careers visits. This greatly enhances the careers education experience for the students at Ferndown Middle School. **If you are an employer who would be willing to talk to the pupils via ZOOM or TEAMS and better still in person; about your industry and the skills and attitudes employers are looking for in young people please contact Mrs Baynham (Careers Leader) for more information.** We would love to hear from you.

Mrs Baynham, Careers Leader