

Careers Programme Overview

2025/2026 Birchwood High School

Vision Statement

At Birchwood High School we are committed to preparing our students to manage their future education and career path by offering a planned programme of Careers Education and timely Information, Advice and Guidance from Year 7 to Year 13.

'Your dreams, your future, our challenge'

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Milestones and Learning Outcomes

Year 13

Students are supported through the application process for whichever Post 18 pathway they choose. Students develop an understanding of independent living and life skills including personal financial capability.



Year 12

The focus of Y12 is to make an effective transition to KS5 and become reflective independent learners. Students are encouraged to take on leadership roles. Students start exploring the possible Post 18 Pathways. Students are given experience of the workplace through the Y12 work experience programme.



Year 11

The focus in year 11 is on Post 16 Options – students are guided to consider and research all their options through a series of planned lessons. Students are supported through the application process for whichever Post 16 pathway they choose.



Year 10

The focus in year 10 is on the skills and qualities for the workplace and developing career management skills. Students are given a taste of the workplace through work shadowing. They are guided through the CV writing process and shown how to tailor a CV to a job description. Students are taught interview skills which they can then put to practice in a mock interview.



Year 9

The focus in Y9 is on making informed GCSE options choices. Students will learn how to find good careers information and develop employability skills – students gain a better understanding of key employability skills through planned lessons and start to record their own examples on their Unifrog account.



Year 8

Students explore what success means to them and are introduced to career terminology. Students reflect on their interests and how these may link to future careers.



Year 7

The focus in Y7 is on making effective transitions. Students are asked about their first impressions of secondary school, hopes, expectations and concerns. Students are signposted to support available. Sessions are also delivered on time management, resilience and planning (including homework). Students are introduced to the concept of career as a journey and are launched on the Unifrog platform.



Key Events and Experiences

Year 13

Mock interviews for Early Entry candidates
Apprenticeship application session
Interview/Assessment Centre session
Financial Workshop x 2



Year 12

Transition – Induction Day 2
Apprenticeship Awareness session
UCAS Exhibition
Kick start your future
Work Experience
Financial Workshop x 2
Completion of Future Skills Questionnaire



Year 11

Post 16 Options
Transition – Induction Day 1



Year 10

Careers Fair
CV writing
Mock Interviews
Work Experience
Apprenticeship Awareness session



Year 9

STEM Day - drop down day focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.
Completion of Future Skills Questionnaire



Year 8

Choosing options for Year 9



Year 7

Y7 Induction
Birchwood as a workplace
Experience of the Workplace drop down day
Completion of Future Skills Questionnaire



Inspiring and preparing young people for the world of work.