

CAREERS ENGLAND WEBSITE ©

CEIAG Case Study: Five Islands School, Isles of Scilly

The School

The Five Islands School is an all-age, multisite, Voluntary Controlled Church of England School, with approximately 250 students. It serves the island communities of Bryher, St Agnes, St Martin's, St Mary's and Tresco.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

The school fully recognises the importance of accurate and up to date careers education, information and advice, especially as the majority of year 11 leavers depart for the mainland at 16 for further learning and work.

The school holds the Investor in Careers CEIAG quality award. There are close links with post 16 providers and the active help of an experienced careers adviser from Careers South West (CSW), who visits the islands on a regular basis and provides on-going support to the year leavers in their mainland progressions.

Curriculum

Careers education is delivered across all year groups, and is highlighted on the school's website, with an extensive variety of supporting links. Careers assemblies take place from year 7 through to year 11, backed up by PSHE input and a full programme including a highly successful Careers Convention in the autumn term. The careers education programme includes -

Year 9

- An emphasis on choosing GCSE options
- An introduction to programmes such as Kudos/Passportfolio and Careers Box
- An introduction to the Careers library
- CSW delivers a presentation on 'making choices', reinforcing research techniques
- Guest employer speakers
- FE College visits to Cornwall

Year 10

- Research techniques are built upon using the National Careers Service website
- CSW delivers a group work focusing on strengths and 'selling yourself'
- CSW also highlights models of good practice within a place of employment/employability skills
- Before the Careers Convention CSW delivers workshops on constructing an effective personal profile and CVs

- Year 10s attend the Careers Convention
- They also have work experience, and the CSW careers adviser helps with reviews on the mainland
- Guest employer speakers

Year 11

- Group work summarising/recapping the post 16 choices available
- External presentation on HE – from University of Exeter (Falmouth)
- Group work delivered on the College interview process
- Group work delivered on completing the Post 16 options form
- A more detailed presentation of the National Careers Service – specifically looking at job profiles and the skills health check
- Group work on employment rights/discrimination in the work place
- Year 11s attend the Careers Convention.

The Careers South West careers adviser is fully embedded into the school's whole transition and IAG approach, as part of their 'Moving On Team', which also includes school leaders, tutors and advisory staff, the careers librarian, the youth support officer, and children's social care staff.

The CSW careers adviser sees all Year 9 and 10 students individually to support careers planning, and each Year 11 at least three times to help check that their plans are on track. He works closely with the school and the youth support officer to help any vulnerable young people, and completes learning needs assessments for all those with individual needs.

All Year 11 students have an Information Sharing form completed with the CSW adviser, which goes to their new post 16 institutions so that they are aware of any learning and support needs including the arrangements for journeys home.

The school enters a 'Step into the NHS' competition which involves Year 8 and 9 students in learning about all aspects of the job application process, from CVs to job descriptions, application forms, skills evaluation and career progression.

External liaison

The school has well established links with local employers, such as hotels, the IOS Steamship Company, the police and fire service, childcare organisations, the airport and the NHS.

The annual Careers Convention is considered to be hugely successful, very well supported and received by young people, their families and delegates. This year's event was attended by over 50 KS4 young people during the day for the workshops and stands, over 150 from the whole community including parents in the evening session, and 40 delegates from the islands and the mainland. There was also the added bonus of a new Skills Show "have a go" series of events the following day, enabling students to work with employers to gain some new experiences, in local marine, hotel, catering, and electrical work, plus sampling of healthcare and IT skills.

Strategic benefits

The result of this careful preparation, intervention and close liaison between the school, the Careers South West careers adviser and post 16 providers, is that the

majority of Year 11 students continue in further learning in colleges, state or independent sixth forms, and there are currently no NEET or Not Known young people.

The whole community is involved and supported in the transition process and decision making of its young people

Key Principles

The need to develop readiness for decision making and understanding of the opportunities for education, employment and training is fully recognised by the school. The school's CEIAG programme, with support from mainland partners, is critical in preparing all young people to leave school for their future careers, often away from the islands.

Quality

The school holds the Investor in Careers CEIAG quality award and highlights the variety of help available on its website.

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