

CEIAG Case Study:

Rushcliffe School, Nottinghamshire

The School

Rushcliffe School is an 11 to 18 comprehensive school. The school has been a specialist science college with mathematics since September 2007 and in August 2012 it converted to academy status.

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

CEIAG provision at Rushcliffe School has many aspects; it is founded on the assumptions that all students should receive outstanding careers education and have access to outstanding impartial guidance that allows them to competently and independently pursue appropriate education and career paths throughout their lives. It promotes aspiration and challenges stereotyping.

Curriculum and Employer Engagement

One of the strengths of the provision is the commitment to careers education being embedded in the wider curriculum. This is supplemented with delivery via a collapsed timetable through “Bright Days”, especially at key transition points – Year 7, Year 9 options, choosing post 16 options and post 18 options. “Bright Days” are 4 off-timetable days to cover PSHCE and CEIAG provision for all year groups throughout the school calendar.

This overall provision delivers a comprehensive Careers Education programme covering all aspects of CEIAG including an enterprise event for Year 10. In Year 12 students also have one week’s work experience and for targeted students, there is work experience in Year 11.

There are also evening events for parents to support career planning; as well as the options evenings in Years 9 and 11 there are also additional parents’ meetings specifically about careers and transition in Years 7, 10 and 13 (UCAS and finance).

An annual Careers Fair for years 10 to 13 is arranged to which local employers and training providers are invited. There are also organised visits to careers events for targeted students and on one day the school invites 40 representatives of local businesses into school to give mock interviews to all students in year 11. Fortnightly lunchtime sessions also take place, during which representatives from various companies come into school to talk to students about careers in their industry.

Rushcliffe School considers that it provides CEIAG which is considerably above and beyond what is required by the currently minimalist statutory guidance from DfE. This empowers their students to plan and manage their futures, is responsive to individual learner needs, provides wide-ranging information and advice, raises aspirations, actively promotes equal opportunities and helps young people to progress. The school works towards this in partnership with many other institutions and providers.

Independent Careers Guidance

All students in Years 7, 9, 11 and 12 in the academic year 2014-15 also had input from Futures (an external specialist careers advice, skills and employment organisation), or from other external providers. Targeted students in other year groups had individual guidance meetings. All students have individual mentoring and the school has an independent careers adviser in school for two days a week, who targets students for one to one guidance and who is also available for self-referrals.

The school provides access to independent careers guidance for more than the currently stipulated year groups (in the statutory guidance), through to year 13, for targeted students. The school ensures that information is available on all options available including apprenticeships.

Strategic benefits

The school believes that its CEIAG provision:

- empowers students to plan and manage their futures,
- is responsive to individual learner needs,
- raises aspirations,
- actively promotes equal opportunities and
- helps all young people to progress.

Key Principles

There is a strong underpinning belief that careers education is integral to all subject areas at Rushcliffe School.

Quality

The school was awarded the Career Mark CEIAG quality award in 2013 and is applying for re-validation in 2015.

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