

QUALITY IN CAREERS WEBSITE ©

CEIAG Case Study:

North Kesteven School, Lincolnshire

The School

North Kesteven School is a popular and vibrant 11-18 comprehensive school serving the south west of Lincoln, and surrounding area. The school was awarded specialist status in 2000 for the Performing Arts and offers a broad and high quality education to over 1400 students by over 100 teachers and teaching assistants. It has a wide ranging and balanced curriculum which supports students to progress to a variety of post 18 options.

The school provides a forum for both academic achievement and the development of social and personal skills through curriculum time and a range of extra-curricular activities. The positive ethos of the school is evident in the strong staff and student relationships as well as the emphasis on providing opportunities for students to realize their potential in a range of academic and vocational areas.

By providing the very best opportunities for students both in and beyond the classroom, the school relentlessly pursues its mission to create 'rounded, confident individuals who are fully prepared for work and play in the rapidly changing 21st century'.

Career Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

Career Guidance is an integral part of the school and how it thinks about students and their individual progression routes.

CEIAG is therefore given a high priority and is overseen by a dedicated careers team. This comprises of a Careers Co-ordinator who works closely with the Senior Leadership Team, Work Experience Co-ordinator, PSD Co-ordinator and a dedicated Careers Advisor.

Close links are maintained with local employers, further and higher education institutes and the alumni to offer a range of events throughout the school year.

Curriculum

The careers curriculum is delivered by Personal Tutors during tutor sessions across the school, as well as in Personal Social Development (PSD) and through scheduled events during the year targeting specific year groups. Other aspects of Careers Education & Guidance are covered across subject areas as part of their schemes of learning.

Employer Engagement

The school continues to develop its links with local employers and makes the most of these relationships to provide students with 'real world' experience. All students in Year 10 complete one week of work experience, which is organised by the students, supported by the Work Experience Coordinator and in partnership with the EBP.

Local employers also take part in providing mock interviews for year 13 students, delivering career specific presentations and question and answer sessions and support curriculum delivery in areas such as Business Studies, Dance and Drama.

Outcomes

The CEIAG programme runs throughout all three key stages and aims to improve student aspirations as well as give them the information they need to make well considered choices about their progression routes.

The curriculum aims to develop each student's ability to self-manage and undertake research in to career options thereby creating motivated and well prepared young adults.

Quality Assurance

North Kesteven School has gained, and retained for some considerable time, the thennamed CEIAG Quality Award "Career Mark" for its CEIAG programme. This award recognised the school's long running commitment to high quality careers education and guidance provision over many years (the most recent Career Mark revalidation being the school's sixth).

The Career Mark assessor commented in the most recent revalidation:

'The school devotes considerable resource to this work area in both curriculum time and personnel. The students value it highly and fully appreciate the contribution it makes to their own career development planning.'

Career Mark (Complete Careers) is now a Licensed Awarding Body for the single national Quality in Careers Standard.

Students' Views

'All the options we have had in school such as PSD, work experience and careers interviews have helped me. I would be stuck if we didn't have them. They gave me a clear idea on what I want to do in the future and all the staff are very helpful to get you there.'

'What NK has done for me is that they pushed me to be my best in where I want to be in my adult life. They gave me many options that I could do and they supported me and helped me to choose which option was best for me.'

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