



## QUALITY IN CAREERS WEBSITE ©

### CEIAG Case Study: The Dales School, North Yorkshire

#### School Context

The Dales School is an all-age setting for pupils aged 2-19 years with complex severe, profound and multiple learning needs. Its 6<sup>th</sup> form also offers a three-year phase for pupils with moderate learning needs. The current number of pupils on roll is 74.

The School has generous green spaces that support 'Forest School', sport and physical activity, horticulture, and gardening; a hydrotherapy pool and rebound bed; sensory spaces; library area; and a pupil kitchen space.

The School is situated in Morton on Swale in a rural setting close to several market towns and the large military Catterick Garrison. Farming, tourism, light manufacturing and the service sector are the main sources of employment within the area.

#### Curriculum Aims and Objectives

The School's motto is '*Nothing About Me Without Me*' which encompasses the school ethos of a person-centred and holistic approach to creating a highly personalised curriculum offer.

The School supports preparation for adulthood across the phases and this is embedded in the curriculum model and planning.

The pre and semi-formal curriculum areas are: My Cognition; My Communication; My Physical; My Care & Independence; My World and My Creativity.

These curriculum areas offer cross curricular learning opportunities and are phase specific.

Underpinning the curriculum areas are each pupil's individual learning intentions. These learning intentions are closely aligned to each pupil's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) outcomes – ensuring that the curriculum areas offer the context for learning and that personalised learning intentions drive pupils' development.

The School's assessment processes ensure pupils' interests and motivations are captured to support engagement.

### Careers Education and Guidance

The School has a clear leadership structure for careers. A designated HLTA role is the school careers leader, a specialist external careers adviser is commissioned to support the school and the Deputy Headteacher works closely with the careers team.

The strategic and operational leadership of this careers team ensures that CEIAG is an essential part of the whole school offer, has a high profile and is always developing and striving to meet pupils' aspirations.

'Pupil voice' is highly valued and the Student Council, future skills surveys, careers meetings and EHCP meetings ensure pupils are listened to and their voices respected.

The School has excellent links with NYBEP [North Yorkshire Business and Education Partnership] and works closely with the SEND hub and lead.

The School has a whole school programme that develops careers from EYFS to 6<sup>th</sup> form. Careers has a discrete long-term plan that captures how and what is offered annually across all phases. These events and learning opportunities are planned as both whole school and class based activities.

**In KS3** the secondary phase begins to explore preparation for adulthood and employment pathways through the ASDAN 'My Independence' programmes offering learning that is personalised and appropriate for pupils with SLD and PMLD needs.

The careers adviser becomes increasingly involved in supporting pupils and families/carers in preparing for the next stage of each pupil's life by offering 1:1 interviews and meetings, writing a careers action plan, attending EHCP meetings, and sign posting information about settings and provision for 6<sup>th</sup> form.

**In 6<sup>th</sup> form** the School offers a three year programme of ASDAN and NCFE accreditation supporting functional skills as well as personal and social development skills [including employment]. The vocational programme supports work experience appropriate to need, offering challenge and supporting student interests and aspirations.

The careers adviser supports next steps in considering post 19 provision and works with the School to plan visits and transition visits to other providers and post 19 settings. EHCP meetings, supported by the careers adviser, continue to drive outcomes for pupils and their next steps.

Each year the School hosts an annual careers event on site and also has a virtual careers fair page on the school website [this was initiated during Covid and sustained due to the positive feedback received from young people and their families].

## Careers & Enterprise Long Term Plan

### **Vision & Intent:**

*“To support our pupils’ personal development and preparation for adulthood. Listening to pupil voice to understand and respond to each pupil’s unique aspirations, interests, motivations, strengths, and challenges. To prepare our pupils and equip them with the skills and attitude to make informed choices to lead fulfilled and healthy lives, contributing to and participating in their community”.*

### **Implementation:**

To develop and implement a comprehensive whole school careers programme following the guidance of the nationally agreed Gatsby Benchmarks for Careers Guidance (embracing all component parts of CEIAG).

The School has a long-term plan that supports a termly focus on discrete careers-based learning at each phase of school life. Learning is personalised and pupils have specific individualised targets to support development and progress in key core areas e.g. communication and literacy, thinking skills, self-care and independence.

As pupils move to the Secondary phase of education discrete careers-based sessions and support from the Specialist Careers Adviser are implemented and this is further developed as part of the core offer for the 6<sup>th</sup> Form curriculum.

ASDAN and work-related vocational programmes support in the implementation and delivery of careers. Careers has a designated careers leader and specialist careers adviser who with the support of the School’s leadership and management team drive the careers programme forward, ensuring a raised profile and continuous development in order to meet its pupils’ needs.

Set out below is the School’s approach to delivering its careers offer throughout the School.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
<b>EYFS-Primary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits [Thematic and Cross Curricular Links].</li> <li>• Continuous Play Provision Opportunities [Role play and Small World Play].</li> <li>• Parliament Week Activities.</li> <li>• Mini Enterprise Project- Christmas Fair.</li> </ul>	<b>EYFS-Primary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits [Thematic and Cross Curricular Links].</li> <li>• Continuous Play Provision Opportunities [Role Play and Small World Play].</li> </ul>	<b>EYFS-Primary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits [Thematic and Cross Curricular links].</li> <li>• Continuous Play Provision Opportunities [Role Play and Small World Play].</li> </ul>

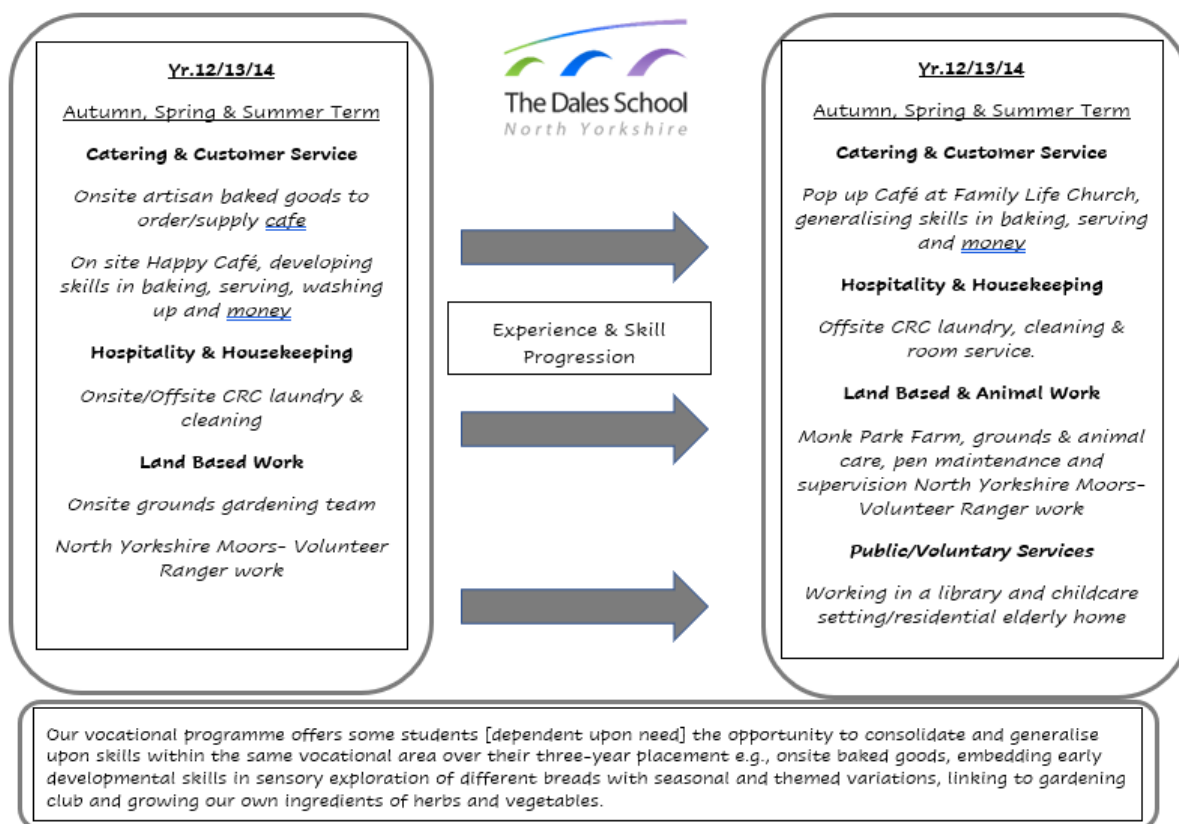
<p><b>Secondary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits [Thematic and cross curricular links].</li> <li>• ASDAN My Independence PfA Pathways.</li> <li>• Parliament Week Activities.</li> <li>• Mini Enterprise Project- Christmas Fair.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Secondary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits [Thematic and cross curricular links].</li> <li>• ASDAN My Independence PfA Pathways.</li> <li>• Careers Fair- Route 16+.</li> <li>• Careers Advisor Interviews.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Secondary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits [Thematic and cross curricular links].</li> <li>• ASDAN My Independence PfA Pathways.</li> </ul>
<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Form</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocational Programme- Work Related Learning [Refer to Rolling Programme].</li> <li>• ASDAN PP/PSD Units [Refer to 3 Yr. Programme].</li> <li>• JED/Careers Advisor Sessions.</li> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits.</li> <li>• Parliament Week Activities.</li> <li>• Mini Enterprise Project- Harvest Produce &amp; Christmas Fair.</li> </ul>	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Form</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocational Programme- Work Related Learning [Refer to Rolling Programme].</li> <li>• ASDAN PP/PSD Units [Refer to 3 Yr. Programme].</li> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits.</li> <li>• Careers Fair- Route 16+.</li> <li>• Careers Advisor Interviews.</li> </ul>	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> Form</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocational Programme- Work Related Learning [Refer to Rolling Programme].</li> <li>• ASDAN PP/PSD Units [Refer to 3 Yr. Programme].</li> <li>• Careers Day- Labour Market Information, Visitors/Off Site Visits.</li> <li>• Careers Advisor Visits to Post 19 Specialist Providers. Post 19 Destination Transition Visits.</li> <li>• Mini Enterprise- Dragons Den Project, Panel, Team Presentations, Interviews</li> </ul>

## Vocational Programme

6<sup>th</sup> Form

Vocational Programme 2023-2024

Inspire and Challenge



## Quality

Each term the School uses Compass Plus to self-evaluate its careers offer. This tool has been an essential aspect of the School's ongoing development of careers education and guidance - providing an opportunity for the careers team to reflect on pupil achievement and school practice. Towards the end of 2023 the Dales School was successfully reaccredited with the national **Quality in Careers Standard**, fully meeting all of the eight Gatsby Benchmarks.

The Deputy Headteacher concludes:

*"The Dales School has an ongoing commitment to ensure that the curriculum offer remains robust and fit for purpose, responding dynamically to the needs of the pupils, national and local initiatives and strategies. This commitment is demonstrated by school documentation and practice and validated externally by the national Quality in Careers Standard."*

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