

## Careers Rationale

*“If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.” Milton Burle*

Careers is a personal developmental subject in which we can develop, grow and measure our successes on the steps we take along the way. This makes it a massively important subject and one we prioritise at TCS.

In having lessons across all key stages which focus on attitudes, careers knowledge and personal journeys we empower learners to take responsibility for their own trajectories- therefore encouraging them to *enable the self*.

The curriculum aims to support pupils to learn about the world of work through first- hand experience and engagement with employers. This will also provide better opportunities for pupils to have a rounded view of work and are therefore more likely to succeed as adults. Pupils will expand their knowledge and understanding of the world of work, the types of jobs there are and different career paths. These opportunities will encourage pupils to broaden their horizons, understand what they could achieve and raise aspirations for the future. By engaging with a wide range of professionals, pupils will have a clear understanding of the link between achieving well at school and entering into an interesting job and career that is not bound by social mobility and gender stereotypes. We need to prepare our pupils for the changing world and prepare them for jobs that don't even exist yet.

### Developing Key Skills and Knowledge through Participation in Careers

We consider transition from the moment pupils join, however young they may be, so we can build pupils' confidence and social skills through working on areas of need identified in the Skills Framework such as motivation, respect, resilience, organisation and teamwork. We gradually increase the demand, ensuring pupils are always making progress. Part of our offer is providing a programme of extended work experience, supported as necessary. We monitor the impact of this on an individual basis and can evidence how our pupils go from requiring high levels of support to attending independently.

Through our Careers curriculum, pupils will learn an abundance of soft skills appropriate for life outside of school. Their understanding of the world around them will be developed so they are able to interpret and understand how best to use their skills and what direction is best for them. Their writing skills will develop during Key Stage 3 and 4, enabling them to complete more complex application processes. These attributes will ensure pupils are ready for the next steps in their live- becoming independent and successful learners who are able to progress with academia, or a vocation after TCS.

In Careers, the sequencing is largely developmental, with an increased expectation of skills as the pupil reaches Year 9 and KS4. The programme will develop skills with each year and key stage- these approaches will allow the pupils to make links between their learning and ultimately, gain more skills. We know pupils at TCS can struggle socially, so our programme is designed to ensure they have lots of social encounters with other professionals, work experiences and work encounters.

On a practical level we work closely with local providers, employers, schools and colleges to ensure we understand pupils' interests to find the right work experience placement, college course and environment for success. We liaise with professionals, parents and, most importantly, our pupils to determine the next step.

Year 11 pupils access work experience for a week. Some pupils will access a longer period of work experience which is designed to ensure they have the relevant experience to apply for a mainstream college course.

Literacy will be imbedded throughout the Careers curriculum, with opportunities for reading, understanding key words, writing emails, letters and application form understanding. Pupils will develop their comprehension of questions asked with increasing confidence. Developing writing skills is a key feature and is linked to skills

questions as well as extended answers. Pupils experience opportunities to develop writing skills appropriate to a wide range of self development experiences

## School priorities and vision

Our school's mission statement is 'Enabling the Self'. As an International Baccalaureate School, our school has a variety of values that we feel are essential to our pupils' development and journey with us. These are:



The Careers curriculum is designed to incorporate all aspects of our IB learning statements to create a well-rounded curriculum and aspired pupils. At the end of their school journey, our pupils will be:

- **Knowledgeable** about what careers are and the importance of learning about them.
- **Reflective** about their own skills in understanding how these can fit into specific job roles.
- Understanding that some historical events have questionable **morals** behind them and use these to inform and support their own good decision making.
- Able to **celebrate the difference** in their own and other people's skills.
- Able to **think** about what they need to do to be able to access the career path they want.
- Understanding how **Caring** for others is an important part of many job roles.
- Able to **communicate** their ideas with growing confidence and understanding.
- **Balanced** in their understanding of what tasks make up particular job roles
- Confident in **inquiring** about work experience placements, vacancies and university courses.
- **Courageous** when taking new steps in their life and having the resilience to battle through difficult times at work.