

Welcome to Careers

CEIAG@DHFS

Careers Education, Information,
Advice and Guidance



Options

Where to get help

Pathways

Information Sources

Key Dates



2024 - 2025 edition

DRONFIELD HENRY FANSHAWE SCHOOL

Established 1579

Why are Options important?

It is never too early to consider your future, indeed, your options later may well be affected by the decisions that you make now. For example, if you aspire to complete a university course, then your entry will depend upon the right choices at GCSE and Sixth Form. The same is true of college and apprenticeship courses, which also have the ability to lead students on into Level 5 (degree level) study.

There is no such thing as the best pathway, but you must choose the best pathway for you. For example, for some students a sixth form A level course is the best option, whilst for others who wish to follow a vocational pathway, an apprenticeship or Level 3 study at a college may be best.

The best advice is to gather as much advice as you can. Consider all options based on the best advice, information and reflection.

There have never been so many options open to students, please make the best decision for you.



Where can I get help in school?

Independent, Impartial Advice

With years of experience, Progress Careers and our Careers team provides impartial and unbiased advice to students and parents concerning their career pathways. From universities, employment, training, apprenticeship opportunities, and further education pathways, students receive a wide breadth of information. All students have an entitlement to a careers interview.

School Digital Resources

The school has a state of the art careers website which is accessible from the main school website. The website includes current vacancies and a wide range of careers information links. We also publish the careers newsletter each month, focusing on key topics and advice. Our Twitter accounts are also very active, sharing key information points and advice.



School Staff & Mentors

All school staff are trained in supporting students with transition. This is supported by our investment in mentor support, where a minimum of two members of staff support students each mentor time. We also have a dedicated, skilled team of academic mentors whose role is to support students with academic achievement and successful transition.

The Careers Library

The Careers Library is based in our learning resource centre (LRC). The LRC is open before and after school, as well as throughout the school day. Staffed by trained librarians, careers advice is available to all students throughout the week. Advice is based on need and information is impartial and up to date.

Resources are extensive, both paper and digital. Reviews take place regularly to quantify all the information that we have available.

Careers Lessons



Students receive a full curriculum of Careers lessons from Year 7 to 13. These take place in formal lessons, drop down days, specialist input and cross-curriculum approaches:

- Enrichment day programmes
- Mentor time
- Careers convention and interview days
- Work experience
- STEM lessons
- Futures lessons – Sixth Form
- PSHE, Lifeskills

Our guest speaker programme supports the curriculum, allowing students to receive an adult based view from a range of external specialists. Also, the school has an open door policy on advice from external agencies and providers. For example Chesterfield College, Sheffield College and Apprenticeship providers attend school regularly for both lesson and lunchtime drop in sessions where possible.



Careers Interviews

Careers Interviews

The school operates an impartial Careers Service. This partnership is unbiased and impartial, with careers advice being offered by school staff, and our colleagues at Progress Careers.

Students are invited for interview, but can also request support via: careers@dhfs.uk

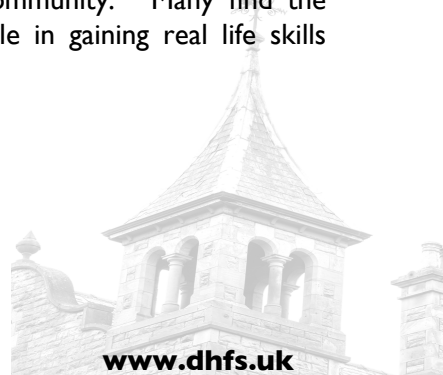
Parents are welcome to attend the interview by arrangement.

Mr Pickles and the careers team also have a careers appointment slot at every parents evening or open evening.

Year 11 Trial Interview Days

Do you remember being thrown in at the deep-end with your first job interview? We do, and so at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School we are planning a Trial Interview day for Year 11 students.

Designed to allow students to experience the process from application form to interview, followed by feedback, students experience a real job interview by guests from our employment community. Many find the experience daunting at first, but highly valuable in gaining real life skills from employers who interview staff daily.



School Careers Newsletter

Keep in touch with local events, including open days and school events, by reading our school careers newsletter.

Published each term, '@DHFS_Careers' is emailed to parents who have registered their email address with the school. Students also receive an email copy.

Paper copies are also available from Reception or can be printed out from the school careers website.

The newsletter approaches regular questions that parents ask us, for example "How do I support my child with Apprenticeships?" Questions on UCAS, Competitive Universities, and Russell Group universities are also popular, as is Options at Year 9, 11 and beyond.

We also discuss guidance from the government on key issues such as 'Raising of the Participation Age', university funding and employment trends.



Sixth Form Careers at DHFS

So, how do we support students for pathways after Sixth Form?

Firstly, our curriculum and assembly structure advises students on application process and their options. This includes university employment pathways and apprenticeships. The most important factor supporting the student in making the right choice for them. This will mean considering every university via UCAS search and employment and training options across our locality.

Resources for every pathway are widely available in the Resource Centre on our dedicated website, via Twitter and our open evenings and careers conventions. In addition, Mrs Marshall, our careers advisor from the local authority, provides individual guidance based on student needs. Finally, Mr Howell, Mrs Powell, Mr Stuart and Mr Mitchell also provide bespoke advice that is impartial and led by a students individual needs. They can be contacted at:

careers@drnfield.derbyshire.sch.uk
sixthform@drnfield.derbyshire.sch.uk

Open Days

- The University of Sheffield
18th September, 12nd October
- Sheffield Hallam University
2nd October, 15th November, 4th December
- The University of Nottingham
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st
- Nottingham Trent University
1st September

Why not join the **Russell Group?**



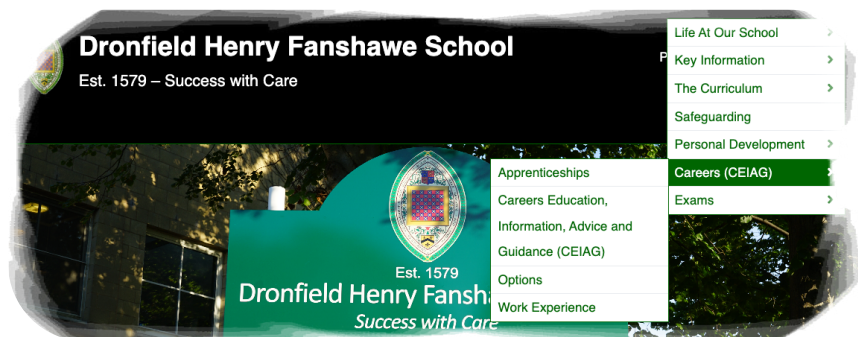
Options after Year 11, our guidance programme for students

Choosing the best course after Year 11 is a vital and individual task to complete, please remember to research all of the options fully, and only choose what is best for your career pathway. So, how do we support you in school? The following timeline gives you our timeline for events this year.

- September – December 2017** - Sixth Form staff and students to attend Sixth Form events at schools. Guests from the local colleges and apprenticeships service attend Lifeskills lessons. This allows you to examine all of the options. Application process starts for colleges and apprenticeships.
- November 2017** - Year 11 Trial Interview Day. An excellent opportunity to practice your interview skills with a guest from industry.
- January 2018** - Application forms for school Sixth Form, together with photographs, must be returned no later than 31st January 2018. These will be sent to faculty areas to confirm acceptance. Relevant staff will sign their form. In addition, students will be required to submit copies of their CV, Personal Statement and Career Action Plan. The school careers convention also takes place this month - another excellent research opportunity.
- February - March 2018** - All students will be interviewed at this stage by the Sixth Form team, House Progress Leaders and the Leadership Team. Successful applicants will be made...



School Careers Website



We are very proud of our careers website which has been widely praised by OfSTED, the Local Authority, other schools, students and parents.

The website can be accessed from either the 'Parents' or 'Students' tab at the top of the main school website.

Covering a wide range of easily organised topic areas, you can access all of the help and guidance that your child needs in planning their pathways and career journey.

The website is impartial, and offers links to a wide range of local providers as well as our own Sixth Form. With this in mind it is an ideal way in supporting your child through the important decision making phases.



Our Careers Conventions

November 2024 & March 2025

Each year we hold highly two successful careers conventions. These allow students to access a wide range of impartial careers advice from universities, employers, training providers, colleges and apprenticeships in industry.

Our evening event in March is designed for all families in our community to explore options at Key Stage 3, 4, 5 and beyond. These include college, apprenticeship and training opportunities as well as university and university finance.

Our full day event in November is aimed at all students, with universities, colleges, training providers, apprenticeship providers and industry representatives being present.

Parents from our partner primary schools are welcome to attend the evening event.

The “Baker Clause” & Access Statement

Access to college, technical and vocational information is also impartial, with a wide range of training and further education providers presenting to all Year 11 students in their careers classes. In addition, both local colleges and others from further afield attend our careers conventions in school.

In addition, notice boards around school and in the library publicise college options, and paper prospectuses are freely available in the library for students to take home.



Twitter

Please follow the school careers Twitter X account **@DHFSUpdate**
We tweet and re-tweet key information daily including open day information, deadlines, training opportunities, vacancies and transition



@DHFSUpdate



Apprenticeships really suit some people's way of learning as they provide the chance to work for an employer, earn money and study for a qualification whilst gaining vocationally based skills and experience. Anyone living in England, over 16 years old and not in full-time education can consider an apprenticeship. What will I earn while I learn? This varies, but you must receive the appropriate national minimum wage. Is it a real job? Definitely! All apprentices should work for at least 30 hours a week on average. In total, over 150,000 employers are involved across the country at either intermediate, advanced and higher (degree) level. These vacancies exist in more than 170 industries and 1500 jobs. The variety is huge, ranging from advertising to environmental engineering and sciences. Will it lead on to other opportunities? According to government statistics, after completing the course successfully, 85% of apprentices stay in employment, with 64% staying with the same employer. Also, 32% of all former apprentices had received a promotion within 12 months, and 75% reported taking on more responsibility in their job. Employers have commented that in careers, qualified apprentices are 15% more employable than those with other qualifications.

What types of apprenticeship are there? There are three types of apprenticeship you can apply for depending on your current skills and qualifications:

- 1 - intermediate level apprenticeships
- 2 - advanced level apprenticeships
- 3 - higher apprenticeships

Apprenticeships are a valid choice after Year 11 and 13 for many students. We therefore allow open access to a wide range of apprenticeship and training providers so that our students are fully informed of the full range of opportunities available to them. Our website and notice boards publicise vacancies, and students who are identified as being interested in such a pathway take part in a special forum supporting their applications.



Competitive universities & the Russell Group; what are they?

A common question. Russell Group universities and the competitive universities are the top twenty four universities in the country. Often referred to as 'Red Brick' or 'older established', these universities often specialise in research based degrees and are highly regarded by employers.

At DHFS we continually encourage students to aim high and apply for the top courses at the top universities. Aim high - could you be applying? Our reporting processes allow us to identify potential in our students from Year 7 onwards.

So what are the entry requirements? Minimum entry requirements can be as low as ABB at A Level, rising to a usual offer of AAB or AAA. The most highly regarded courses will ask for A*A*A*. An example of one such course would be studying physics with Professor Brian Cox at the University of Manchester.

University of Birmingham
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
Cardiff University
Durham University
University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
University of Glasgow
Imperial College London
King's College London
University of Leeds
University of Liverpool
London School of
Economics & Political
Science
University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
Queen Mary University of
London
Queen's University Belfast
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University College London
University of Warwick
University of York

UCAS



University Application



I'm thinking about University in the future, help please?

So how do we support students who aspire to university? Firstly, our curriculum and assembly structure advises students on the application process and their options. Resources are widely available in the Resource Centre, on our dedicated website, and via open evenings and careers conventions. Our House Academic Mentors also support students in their UCAS and apprenticeship applications.

In addition, our independent careers advisors provide individual guidance based on student needs.

Finally, Mr Howell and the Sixth Form team provide bespoke advice that is impartial and led by a student's individual needs.



Quick Tour GCSE Options

The school Key Stage 4 curriculum meets new government legislation and provides a broad and balanced curriculum. This will provide future progression opportunities.

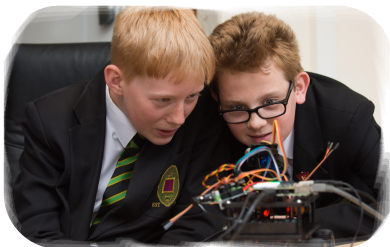
Our curriculum in Key Stage 4 involves two main aspects:

Core Curriculum:
all students in school follow this curriculum (unless dis-applied or for special needs reasons)

Optional Curriculum:
students choose a range of subjects towards an interest, specialism or chosen career pathway.

Each year we hold an options evening for Key Stage 4 (Year 10) pathways.

Come along and meet with your teachers to discuss the suitable options for your child.



Quick Tour Sixth Form Entry @ DHFS



Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School offers a wide range of A level and AS level courses in one of the largest Sixth Form establishments in the county.

Much work has been done by school staff to ensure that students in the area are aware of what we have to offer. Over 300 students are enrolled at present on Sixth Form courses at DHFS.



AS and A levels are available in over 25 subjects in the various faculty areas.

In addition, a number of complimentary courses are also offered as well as comprehensive careers and university advice. Students can also access some of our courses whilst studying at other local schools through the developing partnership links. For more information, please refer to the school website.





**DRONFIELD
HENRY FANSHAWE
SCHOOL**

Established 1579

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www.dhfs.uk

@DHFSupdate

@DHFS_careers

