**Careers at Lighthouse College**

Level 1 Employability Course

At the college we strive to provide a stable careers programme where bespoke advice and support is offered to every single student, regardless of which stage of their careers journey they are at.

Through analysing labour market information and engaging with the local community, we are able to provide relevant information for individuals to encourage social mobility and aspirational goals for the future.

Our careers programme is always fully accessible to the needs and abilities of our students including those with SEND. We challenge stereotypes and celebrate diversity and inclusion universally.

There will be a range of meaningful encounters for all students to participate in relevant to their individual goals and ideas. These will include experiences of workplaces through work experience, volunteering opportunities, as well as one-off visits to workplaces.

Additionally, students will have encounters with employers through workshops, on site-visits and talks from visiting speakers. We ask our speakers to share their employment journeys – what has gone well and what would they do differently.

The young people are also exposed to further educational opportunities such as presentations on apprenticeships, and visits to local colleges and universities. Careers is deeply embedded in our entire curriculum, and we carry out regular training to keep staff up to date with relevant guidance and information.

Students can access 1:1 guidance and advice from our Work Placement and Progression Coordinator Liz Pallister by attending our weekly ‘Pathway Guidance Club’, or by booking an appointment with her.

We have extensive resources students can access when seeking guidance and information. They will be encouraged to explore pathways independantly based on their interests and goals, as well as have access to our Work, Employability and Life Skills (WELS) Library.

Students will keep comprehensive records of all activities and interactions that take place through the college’s careers programme, and will work alongside Liz to organise a work placement which appeals to them, and will help build their transferable skills.

Students will write effective CV’s and Cover Letters, whilst also learning skills to support the updating of both of these documents in the future

We make tri-annual use of the Compass online evaluation to measure our careers programme against the 8 Gatsby Benchmarks. The evaluation provides a framework for good careers guidance and supports educational establishments to provide the best possible careers education, information, advice and guidance.

We track the destinations of our leavers, and keep in touch with them for the year after they leave to offer further support and guidance should they need it. The following staff members are our dedicated careers team, and can be contacted in the following ways:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Liz Pallister | Work Placement and Progression Coordinator | liz@lighthouseonthemarsh.org  natalie@lighthouseonthemarsh.org  07398 175 192  01797 367455 |
| Natalie May | WELS Key Worker |
| Shivonne Donovan | Head of College | shivonne@lighthouseonthemarsh.org  01797 367455 |

**The Careers Curriculum**

Every member of the team at the college has responsibility for careers. We work together to ensure that careers information and guidance is provided at every step. Additionally, we empower students to take an interest and invest time and effort in to their own future, and building the outcomes they desire.

Dedicated lessons on topics around careers such as interview skills and travel training take place in students’ weekly ‘Employability skills’ sessions. This is part of the WELS curriculum.

Teachers across all subjects make regular relevant links to careers from their individual subjects. This includes highlighting skills and opportunities relevant to their subject within the world of work, as well as opportunities for further study.

Every student will have access to at least one session with an external qualified careers advisor.

**Transferable Skills and Personal Development**

We work with our young people to develop their transferable skills for use across all areas of the world of work. We have a particular focus on the following 15 skills:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Numeracy | Communication | Kindness |
| Teamwork | Problem Solving | Independence |
| Reading | Making Plans | Ambition |
| Leadership | Creativity and New Ideas | Resilience |
| Dependability | Empathy | Time Management |

We make use of up to date local, national and international labour market information to stay fully across the careers landscape all year round. Coupled with the above skills, students leave us well equipped to head into industries with information they need for their path ahead. If you would like to find out about labour market information (local and national), please see [www.lmiforall.org.uk](http://www.lmiforall.org.uk).

**Further Guidance**

There is so much information online about which possible next steps students could take. For your convenience we have provided a small selection of links below that we recommend when looking for information on the subject:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Website Address** | **Website Name** | **Relevance** |
| [www.kentprospectus.co.uk](http://www.kentprospectus.co.uk) | Kent Choices | Careers and education hub |
| <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/> | Amazing Apprenticeships | Apprenticeship support and information |
| <https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship> | Gov.UK Find an Apprenticeship | Apprenticeship search engine |
| <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk> | National Careers Service | Personalised career advice and information |
| <https://www.cxk.org/> | CXK | Supporting young people and adults to find employment |
| [www.indeed.co.uk](http://www.indeed.co.uk) | Indeed | Job search website |
| <https://kcv.org.uk/> | Kent Coast Volunteering | Local volunteering opportunities |
| [www.talkingfutures.org.uk](http://www.talkingfutures.org.uk) | Talking Futures | Support for parents talking to young people about careers |
| <https://www.themix.org.uk/> | The Mix | Essential support for under 25’s |
| <https://www.ekcgroup.ac.uk/colleges/folkestone-college> | Folkestone College | Local College |
| <https://www.ekcgroup.ac.uk/colleges/ashford-college> | Ashford College | Local College |
| <https://www.ekcgroup.ac.uk/colleges/canterbury-college> | Canterbury College | Local College |
| <https://www.escg.ac.uk/explore/hastings/> | Hastings College | Local College |
| <https://www.canterbury.ac.uk/> | Canterbury Christ church University | Local University |
| <https://www.kent.ac.uk/> | University of Kent | Local University |
| <https://www.uca.ac.uk/> | University for the Creative Arts | Local University |

**Working With Us**

As current and future contributors to the local economy, our work experience opportunities seek to raise aspirations of students, and open their eyes to all of the possibilities available to them. We work with our employers to set achievable but ambitious goals to aid progress and confidence in the workplace. If you feel you may be able to offer one of our students a work experience opportunity whether it be a one off, or a continual placement, please get in touch with our Work Placement and Progression Coordinator Liz at liz@lighthouseonthemarsh.org.

There are many other ways which you can support our careers programme here at the college. For example:

* Coming in and talking to the young people about the industry you work in as well as your own career journey – the highs and the lows!
* Participation in events such as careers fairs
* Leading a workshop in an area of your expertise.
* Offering 1:1 coaching sessions to young people hoping to head in to your industry
* Engaging with staff to look at local skills gaps or employment opportunities

Please just get in touch!

**Leavers/Alumni**

We are so proud of all of our students, and love hearing about what they have gone on to do. If you would like to share your journey with us, or feel you could offer an opportunity to one of our future or current students, please do just get in touch.

**A special thanks to the following local organisations for supporting the careers programme at Lighthouse College over the past few years:**

British Red Cross New Romney, Eastwell Ironworks, Ecoheat P&H Ltd., Last Chance Animal Rescue, RSPB Dungeness, Lydd House Playgroup, Enchanted Animal Kingdom, St. John’s Dairy Stables, Adam Buckland Garden Services, Ansell’s Service Centre, B.E.Ames Ltd., Cake Hole, Corrina’s Cutting in Style, Lydd Aero Club, Paws, Claws and More, Romney Cycles, Romney Marsh Community Hub, St. Nicholas CE Primary Academy, The Rye Retreat, St. Nicholas Church, Pilgrims Hospice’s Shops Dymchurch, Romney Marsh Business Hub, The Marsh Academy, Blue Shield Insurance Services,