Westminster Abbey

Choir School



To be Reviewed: Aug 2023

S67 CAREERS EDUCATION POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Whilst the statutory guidance in relation to careers advice for Years 8–13 does not apply to independent schools, we recognise that Careers Education, Information Advice and Guidance makes a major contribution to preparing young people for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life, in order to help them make a successful transition to adulthood and a place of work: this may be achieved by:

- Preparing pupils for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of life
- Supporting young people to achieve their full potential
- Empowering young people to plan and manage their own futures
- Raising aspirations
- Promoting equality, diversity, social mobility and challenging stereotypes
- Enabling young people to sustain employability and achieve personal and economic wellbeing throughout their lives

While careers education is not a discrete subject within the curriculum, opportunities of such education as outlined above appear across the curriculum and throughout the day. Pupils are encouraged to consider a wide range of careers, including those beyond music, and part of the PSHE programme in Years 6, 7 and 8 is expressly geared towards encouraging boys to start thinking about the world of work, and what qualifications, talents and aptitudes they may have or need to develop. Choristers learn from the earliest days of their training the importance of many of the characteristics that will be important in adulthood and many of the attitudes that will make them employable. They learn to have high expectations of themselves.

Curriculum Provision

As stated above, the planned element of the programme appears within the PSHE curriculum. Our policy is to encourage boys to be open to all sorts of opportunities and experiences and not to follow at this early stage a fixed career path. The course looks at the world of work, the importance of education and training and the crucial nature of careful decision making.

Informal Careers Advice

The Headmaster helps boys and their families make sensible choices as to a suitable senior school and subject staff are encouraged to help boys make decisions and subject options when moving on to their senior school. Such careers advice has proved invaluable. This first step in introducing careers advice is considered to be the appropriate course given that Year 8 is the final year of Prep School and boys will be joining senior schools in Year 9.