

St John's Special School Preparing for Adulthood Document and Careers Programme

Please also see Appendix 1 for our Provider Access Policy Statement.

The Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice 2014 define four outcomes essential for preparing a young person for their adult lives. These are:

- Further Education and Employment
- Independence
- Good Health
- Friendships, relationships and being part of the community.

This document explains what students, their families and professionals can expect St Johns school to do to support students to prepare for their adult lives in each of these areas.

Our school employs a Transitions Manager, who has responsibility for careers, can provide information, advice and guidance about future options and opportunities to students and their parents/carers from Year 9 onwards about all areas of preparing for adulthood, through annual reviews, consultation evenings, transition information sessions and individual support as appropriate. We also have a Subject & Strategy Lead for Vocational Learning, supporting the practical implementation of the careers programme in the classroom.

The Seniors and FE curriculum is carefully designed in accordance with the '16-19 Study Programmes Guidance' (2018); a deep understanding of individual learning needs and aspirations are used to plan:

- Structured, challenging and functional learning programmes which help prepare students for adult life, including vocational pathways
- Programmes which aim to develop students' character, skills, attitudes and confidence to support progression
- Programmes to develop independent living skills

The content of the curriculum is regularly shared with with parents and carers through the curriculum forecast. The school works with SEMLEP (South East Midlands Learning Enterprise Partnership) to work towards fully meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks, which are recognised as the standard for good career guidance in schools.

Further Education and Employment

Person Centred Annual Reviews - All students in year 12, 13 and 14 have Person Centred Reviews.

FE Link Provision - Post-16 students have the opportunity to participate in various link courses, visits and taster days to appropriate local provision during the course of their FE education. These courses are developed in partnership with local further education providers. Careful consideration when planning these links is given to individual student aspirations and those of their families identified through their EHCPs. These courses offer students additional vocational learning in an alternative environment to school and may help inform their thoughts and feelings for the future.

The school's Transitions Manager can support all parents / carers in visiting Further Education provision to help them start to identify appropriate provisions or services for their young person.

Work Experience - Where appropriate, a variety of opportunities are planned for students to participate in meaningful work-related and vocational learning. These opportunities are planned with careful consideration to their aspirations, and may include:

- Completion of 'Jobs' sessions
- Enterprise activities
- Internal work experience placements: within admin, grounds, maintenance teams etc
- External work experience placements: these are sourced on an individual basis
- Externally arranged voluntary projects

We are working with SEMLEP who will provide a local business advisor to support the development of our Careers Programme, help us to develop our understanding of labour market opportunities and enable students to have meaningful encounters with employers.

Post-School Preparation - There is a thorough approach to supporting students and their families to prepare for their next steps after St John's, possibly including: supported visits to potential placements, early identification where possible, detailed and clear handover of information, joint transition meetings, transition visits for students and transition videos where appropriate.

Independence

We have a strong focus on teaching independent living skills through the curriculum, as appropriate to individual need.

We work closely with children's social care teams to facilitate timely support and handover for students and families as appropriate. We signpost families to adult social care services and with individual consent, invite a representative to all year 11-14 annual reviews, to offer advice and information about support that may be possible from this team. Where there is continued involvement, we continue to work with the teams as appropriate.

Good Health

Planning for good health is an integral part of the annual review process and where appropriate, we support with signposting and referrals to adult health services, such as Health Facilitation Teams and Continuing Healthcare.

Friendships, relationships and being part of the community.

Students are supported to use community facilities appropriately and as independently as possible, including local shops, libraries, cafes and sports facilities such as the gym, swimming pool and local SEN sports clubs. Relationships and Sex Education is part of the curriculum and there is a highly personalised approach to meeting students' individual learning needs in this area.

This programme will be regularly evaluated with feedback from pupils, families, teachers and employers.

Appendix One

St Johns Special School and College - Provider Access Policy Statement

Introduction

This policy statement sets out the school's arrangements for managing access of providers to pupils at the school for the purpose of giving them information about the provider's education or training offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997.

Pupil Entitlement

All pupils in Year 8-13 are entitled:

- To find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeships opportunities appropriate to their abilities and skills, as part of a careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point.
- To learn from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer - including technical education, apprenticeships, traineeships and supported internships - through link provision courses, taster events, work experience opportunities and provision specific to the student's Outcomes as stated within their Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- To understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses.

St Johns Special School and College recognises the significant role parents and carers have in supporting their young people to make decisions about their adult life. As such, it is considered equally important that parents and carers are provided with information about the full range of education and training options available at each transition point, through information, advice and guidance given at their son/daughter's EHCP Annual Review meetings, parent / carer drop-in sessions, specific Preparing for Adulthood information, advice and guidance sessions and consultation evenings.

Management of provider access requests

Procedure

A provider wishing to request access should contact Nikki Sedgman, Transitions Manager on:

Telephone: 01234 345565 or email: transition@st-johns-school.co.uk

Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into students' individualised curriculums (as defined by their Education Health Care Plan and informed by the school's careers programme) offer an opportunity to providers to come into school to speak to pupils and/or their parents / carers:

- Where agreed as appropriate to students, the school can facilitate bespoke sessions about future education, training and employment options in partnership with the provider

- Small group / 1:1 sessions delivered to students as part of their individualised curriculum,
- Parent/Carer Drop In sessions (this would be specific to parents/carers only)
- An annual Information, Advice and Guidance session for parents/carers and students that provides information about the four key areas of Preparing for Adulthood
 - Education & Employment; Independent Living; Good Health; and Friendships, relationships and community.

The school also organises a number of link course experiences to a range of local further education and training providers. This concrete experience has been found to be an effective and meaningful way for the majority of students to understand what the provider can offer to them.

Please speak to our Transitions Manager to identify the most suitable opportunity for you.

Premises and Facilities

The school will make the main hall, classrooms or private meeting rooms available for activities or events, as appropriate to the activity and student group. Wherever possible, the school will make available AV and other specialist equipment to support provider activities or events. This will be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Transitions Manager or a member of the Senior Leadership team.

Providers are welcome to leave a copy of their prospectus of other relevant course literature with the Transitions Manager, who will make it available at all relevant events and provide this to students, and parents/carers as agreed during a student's EHCP Annual Review meeting.

Approval and review

Approved by Governors

Next review: