

Lockyer's Middle School –Year 7 and 8 Careers Programme 2026-2027

Next Evaluation: Autumn 2027

All our pupils have access to a careers programme aimed at challenging stereotypes, broadening horizons and developing a sound understanding of the pathways open to them in the future.

In **Years 5 and 6**, students consider different jobs which link to the different curriculum areas and real-life links to learning. Students attend a range of assemblies which focus on challenging stereotypes, inspiring individuals, and developing aspiration.

- PSHE: Year 5 Dreams and Goals Unit (looking at different jobs, links to earnings, considering what motivates people and reflecting on the dreams and goals of young people in a culture different from our own).
- PSHE: Year 6 Money Matters (Managing personal finance and earnings)

Students in **Years 7 and 8** complete the following programme of careers advice and support in a 25 minute tutor group session every other week. Plans for each of these sessions can be viewed separately. This programme is taught by class tutors and planned and monitored by the Head of Year 8 who is the school's Careers Leader.

Year 7	Year 8
Autumn 1 Activity: Future Skills Questionnaire Topic: Why is Education Important? How does education impact on health, happiness, employment and economic well-being?	Autumn 1 Activity: Future Skills Questionnaire Topic: Who is in my Network? Why it's important to impact positively wherever you go.
Autumn 2 Topic: Workplace Behaviour How and why should we behave in a certain manner in school and at work?	Autumn 2 Topic: Get Involved How do skills obtained in extra curricular activities develop into skills used within your chosen career.
Spring 1 Activity: Skills Test 1 Topic: Can Do Attitude Developing a positive mental attitude when things go wrong	Spring 1 Activity: Skills Test 2 Topic: Challenging Assumptions Finding out what employers really want for potential career paths. What are your opportunities?
Spring 2 Topic: The Hidden Roles in Business What are the less obvious opportunities in workplaces?	Spring 2 Topic: Exploring Green Careers Identifying potential careers in the growing 'Green' sector.
Summer 1 Topic: World of Work Why do we get jobs? More than just money. Activity: Use skills test results to research one career path in depth.	Summer 1 Topic: How To Choose a Career How to choose a career path that is right for you. Activity: Use skills test results to search one new career path in depth
Summer 2 Topic: Money skills Budgeting, planning for the future, considering the value of money and getting value for money on purchases.	Summer 2 Activity: Future Skills Questionnaire Topic: Future Focus Preparation Careers in Upper school and beyond

The above programme is based upon guidance from the Gatsby Benchmarks and makes use of resources and ideas from Pearson and Barclays.

In addition to this programme students will participate in at least one meaningful encounter with an employer; at least one of these encounters will be with a STEM employer or workplace.

In 2025 – 2026 these encounters will include:

- a. Careers events such as careers talks, visiting speakers, careers carousels and careers fairs.
- b. Further Education events such as talks from FE providers and visits to local universities
- c. Business games and enterprise competitions.
- d. Onsite careers discussions during residential visits

Careers in Context

The NHS is the largest single employer in Dorset, covering a significant portion of job vacancies and demand in the area.

The fastest-growing employment sectors are heavily driven by technology, sustainability, and healthcare demands. Key sectors include Information Technology (IT), particularly with AI and cybersecurity roles; Green Energy and Sustainability, focusing on renewable energy and climate-related strategies; and Healthcare, due to an aging population and increased focus on well-being.