

Information for Students



From the moment you start at Keswick School until you walk out of the doors for the very last time, we are preparing you to leave us. No, we don't want to get rid of you! In fact, we want you to be prepared for that big wide world beyond the school walls. We want you to be happy, to have fulfilled your potential, to be on a career pathway that is right for you, and to know what to do if that pathway changes for any reason.

At school we are all committed to this end goal and you can go to any member of staff for careers support. If they don't know the answer, they will send you in the direction of someone who does.

Keswick School also has a strong working relationship with the local community and beyond, and we regularly invite companies, employers, employees, apprentices and training providers to talk to you about different careers paths, qualifications, the world of work and any hot tips.

From Year 7 right through to Year 13 you will have access to careers education, information, advice and guidance through Personal Development lessons, Futures Friday sessions during Registration (Key Stage 3), careers talks from outside speakers, including colleges and training providers, careers fairs and careers days, work experience placements, off-site careers visits, mock interviews, CV writing, 1:1 careers interviews with a qualified careers advisor from Inspira, and regular careers emails. Whether you want to stay local or venture further afield, nationally or internationally, Keswick School is here to help you.

Careers emails are regularly sent to all Year 10 – 13 students, via your school Google email accounts outlining news and information about apprenticeships, university and employment, as well as local, national and international opportunities for residentials, courses, competitions and taster days.

You are at the very centre of your careers journey and **you** play the biggest role in your careers preparation. It is up to you to take responsibility for making the most out of life in school.

- Study hard
- Take part in extracurricular activities and other opportunities offered to you
- Take pride in yourself
- Be the best you can be
- Research your options
- Ask questions
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes
- Get back up again, dust yourself off and try again

- Ask for help

The Careers Office is situated on the S-floor opposite S10 and all students are encouraged to drop by at any time for a chat or to make an appointment. The door is always open.

See below for a list of useful websites, and the ***Keswick School Careers Programme by Year Group*** and ***Qualification Routes Explained***.

Useful Links

General

- <https://www.inspira.org.uk/>
- <https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/>
- <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>
- <https://icould.com>
- <https://successatschool.org>
- <https://targetcareers.co.uk>

Local Further Education Colleges and Training Providers

Carlisle College, Kendal College, Lakes College and Myerscough College
Energy Coast UTC
Gen2, James Core Ltd., Energus and System People
Carlisle United Community Sports Trust, Cumbria Institute of Sport

Apprenticeships

- <https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk>
- <https://amazingapprenticeships.com>
- <https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk>
- <https://careermap.co.uk>
- <https://www.ucas.com> (Yes, UCAS does have an apprenticeship section!)
- <https://www.indeed.co.uk>

Higher Education

University

- <https://www.ucas.com>
- <https://www.whatuni.com>

- <https://www.theuniguide.co.uk/>
- <https://discoveruni.gov.uk/>

Student Finance

- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-tuition-fees-changes/>
- <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/students/student-loans-england-plan-5/>
- <https://www.ucas.com> › Finance › Student finance in England

Keswick School Careers Programme by Year Group

Year 7	3 week careers slot during Personal Development lessons, to include Jobs and Me, Employability Skills and a personal careers project (exploring a career in detail); assembly careers talks by outside speakers; <i>Staff Treasure Hunt</i> in National Careers Week in March and <i>Futures Fridays</i> during form times. 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisors by request.
Year 8	3 week careers slot during Personal Development lessons, to include NHS careers and a personal careers project (interviewing a person about their career). Assembly careers talks by outside speakers; <i>Staff Treasure Hunt</i> in National Careers Week in March, and <i>Futures Fridays</i> during form times. 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisors by request.
Year 9	3 week careers slot during Personal Development lessons to include labour market information and a personal careers project; careers event prior to GCSE option choices in February. <i>Futures Fridays</i> during form times. 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisors by request.
Year 10	3 week slot during Personal Development lessons, to include CV writing, local labour market information and gender stereotyping; a week's work experience in June. 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisor by request.
Year 11	Careers Day in October, to include post-16 options, Meet the Employer, 1:1 mock interviews, careers research, going to university and introduction to <i>Unifrog</i> , an online careers platform; 2 week slot in Personal Development, to include preparing for interviews; a catch-up post-16 careers morning for those students still unsure about their next steps; an apprenticeship morning in January to include meeting apprenticeship providers, the apprenticeship application process, and interview preparation; 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisor for all students; mock interviews by request.
Year 12	(In conjunction with the 6th Form team) a week's work experience in May; higher education and post-18 options days, to include personal statement writing, apprenticeships, introduction to UCAS and meeting universities;

	Dream Placement; visit to Edge Hill/Lancaster University; visit to Newcastle/Northumbria University; student finance talks; outside careers events; university, apprenticeship and employer talks and workshops in PD; mock interviews by request; Oxbridge activities and visit; 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisor by request.
Year 13	(In conjunction with the 6th Form team) personal statement writing; opt-in careers talks with local apprenticeship providers; mock interviews by request, including Oxbridge; outside careers events; further university talks in PD; work experience where relevant. 1:1 careers interviews with Inspira careers advisor by request; Inspira Apprenticeship Skills Booster day, including meeting with local employers; ASK Apprenticeship sessions.

Qualification Routes Explained

Qualification Level	Example Qualification Type	Apprenticeship Type
8	Doctorate NVQ Level 5 Vocational Qualifications Level B	
7	Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma Master's Degree NVQ Level 5 BTEC Advanced Professional Award, Certificate and Diploma Level 7	Higher or Degree
6	Degree (with or without Honours) Graduate Certificate or Diploma BTEC Advanced Professional Award, Certificate and Diploma Level 6	Higher or Degree
5	Foundation Degree Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) BTEC Advanced Professional Award, Certificate and Diploma Level 5 NVQ Level 4	Higher
4	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) BTEC Advanced Professional Award, Certificate and Diploma Level 4 NVQ Level 4 Key Skills Level 4	Higher
3	A Levels (A-E grade) AS Levels T Levels NVQ Level 3 Key Skills Level 3	Advanced

	City & Guilds/BTEC	
2	GCSEs (9-4 or A*-C grade) NVQ Level 2 Key Skills Level 2 City & Guilds/BTEC Functional Skills/Skills for Life Level 2	Intermediate
1	GCSEs (3-1 or D-G grade) NVQ Level 1 Key Skills Level 1 City & Guilds/BTEC Functional Skills/Skills for Life Level 1	Traineeship
Entry Levels 1-3	Functional Skills/Skills for Life Entry Level	Traineeship