



S67 – Careers Education Policy

Reviewed Date: November 2025
Next Review Date: November 2026 by Emma Margrett



At Westminster Abbey Choir School, we recognise that whilst the statutory guidance in relation to careers advice for Years 8–13 does not apply to independent schools, 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.

Aims

Our careers education provision aims to:

- Introduce pupils to a broad range of career paths and industries
- Encourage pupils to reflect on their own strengths, interests and aspirations
- Promote equality of opportunity and challenge stereotypes
- Support pupils in making connections between curriculum subjects and real-world applications
- Prepare pupils for transition to senior schools and life beyond Westminster Abbey Choir School.

Curriculum Integration

Careers education is delivered primarily through the PSHE curriculum, where topics are discussed such as:

- The concept of work and different types of jobs
- Skills and attributes needed for various careers
- Personal strengths and interests
- Enterprise and financial literacy
- Aspirations and goal setting

The curriculum is supported by materials from the Jigsaw PSHE Scheme, which is accredited by the PSHE Association and aligned with statutory guidance.

There is specific content in the “Dreams and Goals” units of the Jigsaw programme which relates to the Gatsby Benchmarks.

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.

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.



Visiting Speakers and Pupil Voice

On occasion, we invite visiting speakers to come and speak to the pupils about their experiences. Pupils are invited to suggest careers they would like to learn about, and we invite parents and members of the wider community to speak about their roles and career journeys. This initiative aims to inspire pupils and broaden their understanding of the world of work.

Subject-Specific Careers Links

Subject Teachers are encouraged to make reference to careers education links in their lesson plans, identifying how their subject connects to real-world careers and industries. This supports cross-curricular awareness and helps pupils see the relevance of their learning.

Inclusivity and Equality

Careers education at Westminster Abbey Choir School is inclusive and impartial. We actively challenge stereotypes and ensure that all pupils, regardless of background, gender or ability, are encouraged to explore a wide range of career options. Our provision aligns with the Equality Act 2010 and promotes British values.

Informal Advice about Future Choices

The Headteacher supports boys and their families make sensible choices as to a suitable senior school and subject staff are encouraged to help boys to begin to consider appropriate choices in relation to choosing subject options when moving on to their senior school. Such careers advice has proved invaluable.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Headteacher in consultation with the Deputy Head who oversees the PSHE Programme. Updates are informed by pupil feedback, curriculum audits and changes to statutory guidance.