

How Parents/Carers Can Help

Level	Qualification / educational route				
8	Doctorate (PhD)		NVQ 8		
7	Masters degree (MA)		Degree apprenticeship / NVQ 5, 6, 7		
6	Bachelors degree BA or BSc				
5	Foundation degree FdA or FdSc	Higher National Diploma (HND)			
4			Higher apprenticeship / NVQ 4		
3	A levels Grades A-E	International Baccalaureate	T Levels	BTEC diploma BTEC certificate	Advanced apprenticeship / NVQ 3
2	GCSE Grades 4- 9 (C, B, A or A*)			BTEC first diploma	Intermediate apprenticeship / NVQ 2
1	GCSE Grades 1- 3 (D,E,F or G)			Foundation diploma / entry level qualifications	Traineeship / NVQ 1
	Academic route		Vocational route	Applied / work route	

Careers Programme – Questions & Answers (Year 7)

1. What does the careers programme include for Year 7 students?

The programme introduces students to the world of work, helps them explore their interests and strengths, and begins to build awareness of how College subjects relate to future careers.

2. How is career education delivered?

Career education is delivered through PSHRE lessons, themed assemblies, external speakers, and careers activities such as an employer led day as part of Smart Start. Students may also take part in workshops or hear from guest speakers to spark curiosity about different jobs.

3. Are students given access to one-on-one career guidance?

Formal one-on-one guidance begins in later years, but Year 7 students are encouraged to ask questions and explore ideas with their tutors and teachers. The careers adviser is available for general support.

4. How does the College help students explore different career paths?

We use guest speakers, career quizzes, subject-linked activities, and online platforms to help students discover a wide range of roles and industries. The focus is on exploration and building aspirations.

5. Is there support for students who are unsure about their interests or strengths?

Yes. Year 7 is all about discovering what students enjoy and where they excel. Activities are designed to help them reflect on their skills, values, and preferences.

6. Are vocational routes introduced at this stage?

Not in detail, but students begin to learn that there are many different pathways into careers—including academic, vocational, and practical routes.

7. Does the College use any online platforms or tools for career exploration?

Yes, we use **Unifrog**, which allows students to explore careers, subjects, and skills in a fun and age-appropriate way. It helps them start building a personal profile.

8. How are parents kept informed about careers education in Year 7?

We share updates through newsletters and the College website. Parents are also encouraged to support career conversations at home. With their child's agreement they can also look at Unifrog.

9. Are there any events or activities to help students think about their future?

Yes, students take part in careers-themed activities, such as "Smart Start" day, employer talks, and interactive sessions.

10. How does the careers programme support long-term planning?

By helping students understand themselves and the world of work early on, we lay the foundation for confident decision-making in later years, including GCSE choices and post-16 planning.

How Parents/Carers Can Help (Year 7)

Parents and carers are essential in helping Year 7 students begin thinking about their future in a positive and open-minded way. Here's how you can support them:

Start the Conversation Early

- Talk about your own job and the jobs of people your child knows.
- Ask your child what they enjoy learning and doing, and what they are curious about.
- Reinforce that it is okay not to know what they want to do yet - exploring is part of the journey.
- Encourage your child to take part in clubs at college and home.

Explore Unifrog Together

Unifrog is a great tool for Year 7 students to start exploring careers and subjects which you can view with your child to:

- Try career quizzes and personality profiles.
- Browse job profiles and learn what different roles involve.
- Record interests and achievements to build a personal profile.

Careers Programme – Questions & Answers (Year 8)

1. What does the careers programme include for Year 8 students?

The programme focuses on helping students understand the link between subjects and future careers, explore their interests, and make informed choices about GCSE options.

2. How is career education delivered—through lessons, assemblies, or external speakers?

Career education is delivered through PSHE lessons, themed assemblies, and interactive sessions. Students also use Unifrog to explore career ideas and pathways. A key event in Year 8 is the employer networking day.

3. Are students given access to career guidance or one-on-one counselling?

While one-on-one guidance is more common in later years, Year 8 students can speak to staff or the careers advisor if they need support with GCSE choices or career ideas.

4. How does the College help students explore different career paths?

We introduce students to a wide range of careers through subject-linked activities, career quizzes, and online tools. This helps them see how different subjects connect to future opportunities.

5. Is there support for students who are unsure about which GCSE subjects to choose?

Yes. We provide guidance through assemblies, tutor time, and information evenings. Students are encouraged to consider their interests, strengths, and future goals.

6. Are vocational routes introduced at this stage?

Students begin to learn about different pathways, including vocational options, but the focus is on understanding how GCSE choices can influence future opportunities.

7. Does the College use any online platforms or tools for career exploration?

Yes, we use **Unifrog**, which allows students to explore careers, subjects, and skills. It is a great way to start thinking about future possibilities in a structured and engaging way.

8. How are parents kept informed about careers education and GCSE options?

We provide updates through newsletters, emails, and parent information evenings. Key dates and resources are also shared on the College website.

9. Are there any events or activities to help with GCSE decision-making?

Yes, we hold GCSE options evenings, subject taster sessions, and careers-themed activities to help students make confident and informed choices.

10. How does the careers programme support long-term planning?

By helping students understand the relevance of subjects to careers early on, we lay the foundation for informed decisions in later years, including post-16 and post-18 pathways.

How Parents/Carers Can Help

Parents and carers play a key role in supporting students as they begin to think about their future and make important decisions about GCSE subjects. Here's how you can help:

Talk about their interests and strengths.

Support GCSE decision-making.

- Read the guidance provided by the College.
- Help your child weigh up subject choices based on enjoyment, ability, and future relevance—not just what friends are choosing.
- Help your child consider subject choices based on enjoyment, ability, and future relevance—not just peer influence.
- [Watch CXK GCSE Options Video](#)
- [Navigating the road to GCSEs; UEA](#)

Explore Unifrog Together

Unifrog is a brilliant tool for exploring careers and subjects and discover how different GCSE subjects link to future pathways.

Careers Programme – Questions & Answers (Year 9)

1. What does the careers programme include for Year 9 students?

The programme helps students deepen their understanding of career pathways, explore their interests, and begin thinking about how their GCSE choices can influence future opportunities. A key event is the Post-16 Options Fair, which introduces students to sixth forms, colleges, and apprenticeship providers.

2. How is career education delivered—through lessons, assemblies, or external speakers?

Career education is delivered through PSHRE lessons, assemblies, and workshops. Students also attend events such as the Post-16 Options Fair and may hear from guest speakers representing different industries and pathways.

3. Are students given access to one-on-one careers meetings?

While guidance interviews are more common in Year 10 and 11, students can speak to a careers adviser or staff for support with career ideas and can have to discuss GCSE-related decisions. Year 9 students with an EHCP are offered a careers meeting with Hampshire Futures,

4. How does the College help students explore different career paths?

We use the Unifrog career platforms, quizzes, and employer-led sessions to help students explore a wide range of careers. The Post-16 Options Fair gives them direct access to providers and professionals who can answer questions and offer advice.

5. Is there support for students who are unsure about their future direction?

Yes. Year 9 is a key time for exploration. We encourage students to reflect on their interests and strengths, and we provide tools and resources to help them consider different possibilities.

6. Are vocational routes such as apprenticeships introduced at this stage?

Yes. Students begin learning about vocational options such as apprenticeships, T Levels, and college courses, alongside academic routes like A-levels.

7. Does the College use any online platforms or tools for career planning?

Yes, we use **Unifrog**, which allows students to explore careers, subjects, and pathways. It helps them build a personal profile and begin thinking about long-term goals.

8. How are parents kept informed about careers education and events?

We share updates via newsletters, emails, and the College website. Parents are invited to information evenings and encouraged to support career conversations at home.

9. What is the Post-16 Options Fair and how does it benefit students?

The Post-16 Options Fair is an event where students meet representatives from sixth forms, colleges, training providers, and employers. It helps them understand the range of choices available after Year 11 and ask questions in a supportive environment.

10. How does the careers programme support GCSE decision-making?

We help students understand how GCSE subjects link to future careers and post-16 options. This ensures they make informed choices that align with their interests and aspirations.

11. What additional support is available for students with EHCPs

From **Year 9 onwards**, students with an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)** receive **enhanced careers support**. This includes:

- **Personalised guidance** from the careers adviser tailored to individual needs and aspirations.
- **Transition planning** to support post-16 choices, including college, training, or supported employment.
- **Collaboration with SEN staff and external agencies** to ensure students receive the right advice and opportunities.
- **Access to additional resources and visits** to help explore suitable pathways.

How Parents/Carers Can Help

Parents and carers play a vital role in supporting Year 9 students as they begin to make important decisions about their future. Here is how you can help:

Talk About Interests and Aspirations

- Discuss what subjects your child enjoys and where they feel confident.
- Encourage them to think about how their interests might relate to future careers or study options.

Explore Unifrog Together

Unifrog is a powerful tool for career exploration and decision-making. You can browse career profiles and subject guides and discover how different GCSE subjects link to future pathways.

Using the Unifrog Careers library

Watch the video above to learn about the Careers library and then follow the steps below:

- Open the [Careers library](#) and find the keyword search box.
- Type a College subject that interests you in the keyword search.
- You'll then see a long list of related career/sector profiles.
- Select **one** profile, 'heart' it and answer the question below. Challenge yourself by choosing a career/sector you haven't heard of before.

Top tip: if your favourite subject is PE, you'll need to type 'sport' into the search box.

Careers Programme – Questions & Answers (Year 10)

1. What does the careers programme include for Year 10 students?

The programme includes career exploration activities, employer encounters, guidance on post-16 options and sessions on employability skills such as CV writing and interview techniques.

2. How is career education delivered—through lessons, assemblies, or external speakers?

Career education is delivered through a combination of PSHRE lessons, themed assemblies and talks from education providers and employers, workshops, and guest speakers from various industries. A key element of the Year 10 programme is two weeks work experience and a taster day at a local college.

3. Are students given access to one-on-one personal guidance meetings?

Yes, we commission Hampshire Futures to deliver careers meetings. All key stage 4 students are offered an appointment with a qualified careers advisor to discuss their interests, strengths, and plans.

Students with an EHCP have a careers meeting in Year 9, 10 and 11 as their plans for the future are part of their review.

4. How does the college help students explore different career paths?

We use online platforms such as Unifrog, career quizzes, employer talks, and subject-linked career insights to help students understand a wide range of career options.

5. Is there support for students who are unsure about their future career direction?

Absolutely. Careers advisors and our Careers Lead work closely with students to help them identify their strengths and explore suitable pathways.

6. Are there opportunities to learn about vocational routes as well as academic ones?

Yes, we provide information on apprenticeships, T Levels, college courses, and vocational training alongside traditional academic routes.

7. Does the college use any online platforms or tools for career exploration?

We use platforms such as Unifrog to help students research careers, build CVs, and track their progress.

8. How are parents kept informed about careers education and events?

We send regular updates via newsletters, emails, and our college website. Parents are also invited to information evenings.

9. Are there any college visits planned for Year 10?

Yes, we visit Havant South Downs College in the summer term, which includes taster lessons in areas of interest.

10. How does the careers programme link to GCSE subject choices and future pathways?

We help students understand how their GCSE subjects relate to future careers and encourage them to consider how their choices align with their interests and goals.

How Parent/Carers Can Help

Parent/Carers play a vital role in supporting their child's career development. Here are some ways you can help:

Talk about careers (future plans) at home: Discuss your own job, the jobs of family and friends, and encourage curiosity about different industries.

Support Their Next Steps

- Help your child research post-16 options such as sixth form, college, apprenticeships, or training programmes.
- Encourage them to attend open days or virtual events.
- Discuss deadlines and help them stay organised with applications and decision-making.

Unifrog

Unifrog is an excellent online platform used by the college to help students explore careers, courses, and pathways. Parents can log in with their child to explore career profiles and subject guides.

Ensure that your child has logged on to Unifrog and completes the parent section when appropriate. Unifrog is the digital system we use to manage the administration of the work experience programme, including gathering necessary information and obtaining consent for placements.

Work Experience

Support them in finding their work experience.

Have a look at the Work Experience FAQ section on the website which also provides lots of hints and tips [Crookhorn College - Work Experience web page](#).

Careers Programme – Questions & Answers (Year 11)

1. What does the careers programme include for Year 11 students?

The programme focuses on preparing students for post-16 choices, developing employability skills, and building confidence through activities such as mock interviews, careers guidance, and application support.

2. How is career education delivered—through lessons, assemblies, or external speakers?

Career education is delivered through PSHE lessons, assemblies, workshops, and guest speakers. Students also take part in a structured careers day, including a mock interview with an external employer.

3. Are students given access to career guidance or one-on-one counselling?

Yes, all Year 11 students are offered at least one individual careers guidance interview with a qualified advisor to discuss their next steps and options.

4. How does the College help students explore different career paths?

We provide access to career platforms, employer talks, and subject-specific career information. Students are encouraged to explore a wide range of industries and roles.

5. Is there support for students who are unsure about their future career direction?

Yes. Our careers advisor and pastoral team work closely with students to help them identify their strengths and interests and explore suitable pathways.

6. Are vocational routes such as apprenticeships and college courses covered?

Absolutely. We provide balanced information on all post-16 options, including sixth form, college, apprenticeships, T Levels, and training programmes.

7. Does the College use any online platforms or tools for career planning?

Yes, we use **Unifrog**, a comprehensive careers platform that helps students explore careers, compare courses, build CVs, and track their progress.

8. How are parents kept informed about careers education and events?

We send regular updates via newsletters and emails and publish key dates and resources on the College website. Parents are invited to careers information evenings.

9. What is the mock interview day and how does it work?

Mock interview day gives students the chance to experience a formal interview with a real employer or professional. They prepare a CV in advance and receive feedback to help improve their confidence and communication skills.

10. How does the careers programme support post-16 applications?

We provide guidance on completing applications, writing personal statements, and preparing for interviews. Students are supported throughout the process, whether applying to sixth form, college, or apprenticeships.

How Parents/Carers Can Help

Parents and carers are key partners in helping students make informed and confident decisions about their future. Here's how you can support your child in Year 11:

Talk About Their Future

- Discuss your child's interests, strengths, and goals.
- Encourage them to think about what kind of environment they enjoy—academic, practical, creative, or hands-on.

Support Their Next Steps

- Help your child research post-16 options such as sixth form, college, apprenticeships, or training programmes.
- Attend open evenings or virtual events together.
- Encourage them to meet application deadlines and stay organised.
- Attend the year 11 information evening at Crookhorn College.

Unifrog

- Unifrog is a powerful tool for exploring careers, courses, and pathways.

You can:

- Browse career profiles and subject guides.
- Compare sixth form, college, and apprenticeship options.
- Build a CV and record achievements.

Prepare for Mock Interview Day

- Help your child review their CV.
- Practice answering common interview questions at home.
- Encourage them to dress smartly and approach the day with confidence.

More Information

[Post 16 Option Choices after GCSEs / Year 11](#)