

Brent River College

Careers Education and

Careers Advice, Information and Guidance

"I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 times, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." —Michael Jordan



In partnership with:



CONNEXIONS



BRENT

Economic Well-being Policy and Careers at BRC

We want our students to be ready for the next stage of education, employment or training. Where relevant, they gain qualifications that allow them to go on to destinations that meet their interests, aspirations and the intention of their course of study.

Our whole school aims are supported by this policy:

- **Investing in all our students**, through our curriculum, to help them become: Successful learners who enjoy learning; make good progress, achieve excellence and are on the route to economic well-being
- **Re-engaging young people into education and preparing them for their next steps**, be this back in mainstream school, special provision or post 16. To support students to achieve economic well-being we are focussed on ensuring a successful transition into appropriate education, employment or training.

We offer a curriculum that is ambitious and designed to give all our students, particularly the most disadvantaged and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) or high needs, the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life”

The school is committed to meeting the eight Gatsby Benchmark, as recommended as best practice in January 2018 statutory guidance.

This Booklet covers:

- Careers Education
- Careers Information Advice and Guidance and what you should do if you need advice
- Personal Career Plans and Mentoring
- Work Experience
- Vocational Education
- Enterprise
- Personal Finance
- Progression into F.E. and H.E. and Apprenticeships
- How to support your child
- Resources and Useful links for parents

If you require more information, please contact the school

Careers Education

Careers education at Brent River College includes:

- **Our PSHE curriculum** – *including writing CVs, researching careers and pathways as well as career guidance activities*
- **Workshops and dropdown days** – *with external speakers as well as a variety of activities planned throughout the year. This includes preparation for how to find and apply for a job, shortlisting and individual interviews.*
- *Additionally, Careers and Personal Finance is the whole school theme for Module 3 and 4.*
- **Career Fairs** – *both local and national*
- **College visits, apprenticeship option exploration** – *with different opportunities to explore the next stages of education*
- **Careers lessons** – *lessons include relevant labour market information, skills for working life and financial wellbeing*

Careers Information, Advice and Guidance

All students at Brent River College are provided with independent careers advice and appropriate support to help them make effective choices about their next steps and future career plans in a range of different ways;

- through signposting to relevant local websites
- through discussions with learning mentors and other college staff
- all students receive face-to-face career guidance with a Connexions careers advisor
- through engagement with the BRC Challenge
- mentors working with students to create career plans
- Individual action plans and interviews with Connexions are available for students including Year 9.

What should you do if you need advice

An interview with Connexions will be arranged for you but if you feel you need one straight away request one by asking your mentor or Mr Connick or Ms Stephens.

You can also go directly to the Connexions service. To book an appointment call 0208 438 1650.

Personal Career Plans and Mentoring

All students have a mentor who they meet with weekly to discuss a range of issues including developing their Personal Career Plan

In partnership with:



Work Experience

Key Stage 3

Students in Year 9 are given the opportunity to go to work with a parent/carer or another agreed family member.

Key Stage 4

Students in Year 11 are given the opportunity to go take part in work experience for one week in the Autumn term. This is organised through Work Experience Partners. All placements are risk assessed.

Students are placed according to their interests and aspirations wherever possible.

Vocational Education

Our vocational offer aims to:

- Provide students with practical experience for specific industries and occupations.
- Allow students to gain experience on how workplaces operate
- Develop student's employability skills
- Develop and improve student's interpersonal skills
- Allow students to explore the potential career path they would like to pursue

Subjects include BTEC Art & Design, BTEC Music, BTEC Sport & Fitness, Music, C&G Hair and Beauty, C&G Construction, and WJEC Hospitality and Catering. Our PiXI Edge Course builds the skills for working life.

Enterprise

The Enterprise offer at Brent River College includes:

- External speakers – *BRC employs motivational speakers who come in to encourage our students to look beyond the classroom*
- Workshops and dropdown days – *with external speakers as well as a variety of activities planned throughout the year.*
- *Additionally, Enterprise is the whole school theme for Module 1 and 2*
- External visits and trips – *that allow them to broaden their idea of what it is to work and to begin to think entrepreneurially in their day to day school lives*



Personal Finance

Through curriculum time (PSHE and Citizenship lessons) and non-curriculum time (Tutor Time and IG - KS4 only), students are taught key financial skills such as budgeting, credit, loans and savings, including recognising and managing financial difficulties.

Progression into Further Education and Higher Education and Apprenticeships

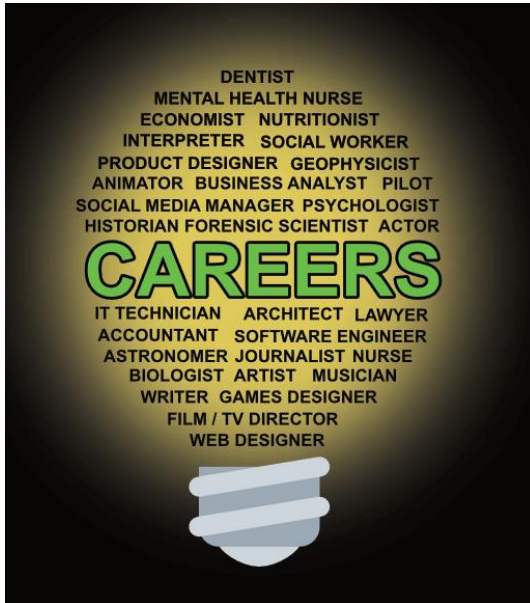
Brent River College provides all students with the opportunity to progress onto FE and then HE. This is achieved through:

- A career advisor – *advisors help students to discover the world of work and outline the necessary steps that are required for the students to excel in their desired career choice*
- School-based mentors and tutors – *School staff work with students to help to guide them in choosing a career that they want to pursue and help them with college applications, making college interview appointments and accompanying students to college interviews*
- A careers officer – *on hand to offer guidance and assurance to students*

At Brent River College we continue to engage with the students after they leave us. We continue to make calls to ensure that they are in education and will provide them with any support that they need to



Apprenticeships



ASK YOURSELF

What do you enjoy?

What sort of person are you?

How do you like to learn?

How to support your child

This link will take you to an article with advice about how parents can help their child when they do not know what they want to do by Careers expert Julie Poppleton.

<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/how-to-help-your-child-choose-a-career-careers-advice-for-parents/>

The main sections include:

- Try not to force the issue your child may already be trying hard to please you
- Our children are living in different times and are likely to change career more than 10 times in their lives
- A video tip on How to find your passion and make it your job
- A video tip on Why some of us don't have one true calling.



How to help your child develop employability skills

Employers are looking for employability skills in young people, but what are those skills and how can you help your child develop them?

Employers across all sectors and at all levels feel that young people do not have the employability skills they are looking for. Many employers will recruit on these skills and not on qualifications alone.

What Employability Skills Does Your Child Need?

These seem to be the most commonly asked-for skills :

- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Digital skills
- Resilience
- Motivation, positive attitude and self-belief
- Flexibility and self-management
- Communication skills
- Creative thinking

Ways In Which Your Child Can Develop Employability Skills

The skills above can be achieved in a number of ways:

- Part-time work or work experience
- Sports, Drama and any other extracurricular School or College activities (like school STEM clubs)
- Clubs, societies, and voluntary work
- Online learning (at the moment there are is a wide range of free online courses including anything from being a Personal Coach, Marketing and being a Teaching Assistant)
- Young Professional Training (this is a free skills training programme for young people aged 14-24, all done with online learning and available from Youth Employment UK).

Resources for Parents – Helpful links

There are many websites with advice, guidance and information on careers, further education, higher education and apprenticeships to help you support your child.

Please find the links below with more information to support your research:

National Careers Service:

[https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk /](https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/)

<https://targetcareers.co.uk/parents-and-teachers>

<https://ukcareers.ey.com/students/career-advice/parental-advice>

<https://successatschool.org/advice/parents>

Career pilot Parent Zone:

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/parent-zone>

Career pilot Year 7 – 12 information:

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/help-and-support/start-here-by-year-group>

GCSE Information:

<https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/gcses>

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/applying-university/ucas-undergraduate-advice-parents-and-guardians>

Careermap:

<https://careermap.co.uk/careermag-parents/>

Apprentice advice for parents:

<https://www.apprenticeships.gov.uk/parents/their-career#%20Apprenticeships%20info%20for%20parents%20https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2020/08/Parent-Pack-August-2020-1.pdf%20-%20Parent%20pack%20Aug%202020>

A parent's guide to apprenticeships:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/711088/Parent-Guide-Apprenticeships.pdf

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/parents>

T – Levels:

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2020/07/T-Level-Guide-1.pdf>

UCAS Post 16 information:

<https://www.ucas.com/further-education/post-16-finance-and-support/parents-and-carers>

Labour Market Information (LMI) tells you about the workplace or labour market. LMI is a useful tool to support you in researching future jobs in the local area and understanding the skills needed for certain roles and the demand for future jobs. <https://www.lmiforall.org.uk/cm2/>