

Year 8 – Exploring Different Occupations

In Year 9 you will make your first decisions which may impact on your future plans – choosing the subjects that you would like to study for your GCSEs. Your form tutors and the Careers Department will deliver sessions during Year 9 to help support you in this process but between now and then it may be helpful to begin giving some thought to different occupations and considering what skills, qualities and qualifications are needed for these.

Below are some short, fun activities for you to undertake over the summer holidays, the outcomes of which you will then share with your form group when you return to school in September:

Take the Buzz Quiz

A fun, short online questionnaire which in under 5 minutes will enable you to understand more about your personality and how it may influence your careers choices and the job areas which may suit you.

<https://www.ucas.com/careers/buzz-quiz>

Take the Buzz Quiz

Find out which animal you are



Research an occupation of your choice

Further your occupational knowledge by investigating a job role to find out what it involves, how it links in to other occupations and both if, and how it contributes to our local community. The following web links are useful places to start but you could also visit the library or talk to friends and neighbours. Record your answers on the *Researching Occupations* worksheet.

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/explore-careers>

<https://icould.com/>

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/after-gcses/find-career-ideas/explore-jobs#js=on>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zfsycdm/resources/1>

Understanding a careers journey

People working in the same occupation often got there by very different routes. Interview a family member using the *Interviewing a Family Member/Friend* worksheet and record details about their current occupation and their careers journey to this role. What steps did they take? Did they have a careers plan?

Other activities/research ideas

<https://mc.successatschool.org/parents-ebook> - a parents/carers guide to their child's career journey, covering work experience, gap years, university and apprenticeships

<https://www.eclips-online.co.uk/> - information on entry routes for 1400+ jobs together with links to other areas of research. Login with the school password **beachu02**

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles> - Profiles for 100's of different occupations including entry routes, responsibilities, working hours and more



Research
Careers

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-match> - Take a short quiz to determine which job groups may match your skills and interests. Are you a Creator, an Experimenter or an Organiser...?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cCiqbSJ9fg> – A short animated video on the importance of planning smaller, short-term steps to achieve a bigger, long-term goal

<https://vimeo.com/307095709> – A short animated video on the possible future of work. What skills will be needed in 2030?

Remember... when school resumes in Year 9, you will be very welcome to visit the Careers Department during break, lunchtimes and after school to book your own careers appointment, speak to someone about GCSE options, or to use the careers library. The library has a wide range of resources on universities, colleges, further education courses, apprenticeships and employers.

Please contact the Careers Department at careersstaff@staidans.co.uk if you would like individual information, advice and guidance.

What is Work?

Researching Occupations Worksheet

Research an occupation of your choice using the information that is available to you and record your answers in the boxes below

Occupation.....

Description of the occupation including main duties and responsibilities
List the education and training requirements for the occupation?
List some of the skills and qualities that would be useful in the role
What is the average wage/salary for this occupation?
How might this occupation change in the future?
List the places and environments where people in this occupation might work
List any local companies who employ people in this occupation
What are the opportunities for advancement in this occupation?
List other occupations that are similar or related
What is the most surprising thing that you have discovered about this occupation?

Interviewing a Family Member/Friend Worksheet

Ask a family member or friend about their career journey and record your answers in the boxes below

What academic qualifications do you have?
What was your first job?
How many jobs have you had to date and what were they?
What is your current job title?
What is your working environment like?
How many hours do you typically work each week?
Do you work independently or as part of a team?
Describe your typical working day
What parts of your job do you find most challenging and why?
What parts of your job do you find most enjoyable and why?
How has your role changed in recent years?
How do you think your industry will change going forward?