CAREERS PROGRAMME (2026-2027)

At St Edmund's Catholic Academy, we are committed to providing a planned programme of impartial careers education and information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for all learners in Years 7-13, so that our pupils can aspire to be the best that they can be in an increasingly competitive and ever-changing world. Through engaging in a high-quality careers programme, we aim to ensure all pupils make the most of their God given talents, so that they are prepared for the next stages of their education, employment, or training and they can make a significant contribution to society in their chosen vocation. We are committed to ensuring our careers programme meets the requirements of the Gatsby Benchmarks.

Pupils are given the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding of careers, workplace and employability skills through PSHE, curriculum lessons, assemblies and enrichment opportunities. Throughout the year there will be opportunities for pupils to work with local and national employers through activities such as workshops, careers fairs and presentations from employers.

Built into the careers programme are opportunities for pupils to self-evaluate and reflect on their learning at key points, such as following work experience and mock interviews. All pupils are given access to the Unifrog platform which provides a personalised careers tracker for each pupil, as well as information and resources relating to further education and careers. The Academy has a Careers Advisor who is integral to the delivery of the careers programme, and in particular in conducting careers interviews and providing expert guidance and advice. The guidance and advice given, is always in the best interests of the young person.

Monitoring and Evaluation

An annual self-evaluation is completed by the Careers Leader using the Careers and Enterprise Company's Compass Evaluation tool. This evaluates the academy's careers programme and how far it fulfils the Gatsby Benchmarks, and compares the extent of our programme to other schools nationally.

CAREERS PROGRAMME (2026-2027)

The effectiveness of our career's guidance will be reflected in the higher numbers of students progressing to positive destinations such as apprenticeships, technical routes, sixth form colleges, further education colleges, or employment. Destination data is used to assess how successfully pupils make the transition into the next stage of education or training, or into employment and to inform future CEIAG provision. This is analysed by the Careers Leader with key trends and actions fed back to SLT and LGB.

The Department for Education's Destinations measures are used to ensure the number of students not in education, employment, or training (NEET) is very low, and to inform the continuous shaping of our careers programme, based on our pupils changing needs, as determined by changes in destinations.

Provision is also monitored through regular feedback from students, parents/carers, staff, governors and our partners and external provision is monitored and evaluated through the academy's quality assurance procedures.

The CEIAG team meets on a regular basis to develop, monitor and evaluate CEIAG across the academy and the Careers Programme is reviewed on an annual basis.

CAREERS PROGRAMME (2026-2027)

Our careers programme has been designed to link to the Gatsby Benchmarks and uses Unifrog as a source of advice and guidance, along with our career's advisor.

Year 7 Careers Entitlement

- Pupils are introduced to Unifrog and informed how to navigate the site.
- Pupils are encouraged to identify personal traits, strengths and skills and develop confidence and have high expectations of themselves.
- Pupils will have at least one meaningful encounter with an employer through educational visits and/or visiting speakers.
- Pupils take part in a range of activities during National Careers Week.
- Pupils have optional access to independent and impartial advisers.
- By beginning careers education early, pupils can make better informed decisions at transition stages and are more motivated in school in order to follow a particular pathway.

Year 8 Careers Entitlement

- Pupils continue to build a careers profile on Unifrog.
- Pupils build on personal strengths and begin to link skills to specific careers enabling realistic and informed decisions at transition stages.
- Pupils are introduced to the world of work and how it is constantly changing.
- Pupils will have at least one meaningful encounter with an employer through educational visits and/or visiting speakers.
- Pupils take part in a range of activities during National Careers Week. Pupils have optional access to independent and impartial advisers.

CAREERS PROGRAMME (2026-2027)

Year 9 Careers Entitlement

- Pupils are encouraged to re-assess personal strengths on Unifrog with a focus on transferable skills.
- Pupils are encouraged to investigate different jobs and careers on Unifrog and what they mean in terms of lifestyle, budgeting and a good work/life balance.
- Pupils are encouraged to challenge stereotypes within the world of work and traditional job roles.
- Pupils begin to think about GCSE options in terms of career pathways and plan their future.
- Pupils link curriculum areas to careers to help prepare them for choosing their GCSE options.
- Pupils take part in a range of activities during National Careers Week.
- Pupils will have at least one meaningful encounter with an employer through educational visits and/or visiting speakers.
- Pupils will attend a Careers fair where they will meet representatives from Further and Higher education, local and national businesses and service sectors.
- Pupils have optional access to independent and impartial advisers.

Year 10 Careers Entitlement

- Pupils have the opportunity to develop their CV.
- Economic awareness is developed further and pupils are encouraged to think about employability, which careers appeal and to identify and set themselves realistic future goals.
- Pupils develop their interview technique and complete a mock interview with a local employer.
- Pupils will have at least one meaningful encounter with an employer through educational visits and/or visiting speakers.
- Pupils have access to independent and impartial advisers.
- Pupils take part in a range of activities during National Careers Week.
- Pupils complete a work experience placement and record their progress.

CAREERS PROGRAMME (2026-2027)

Year 11 Careers Entitlement

- Pupils will have a 1:1 interview with a careers adviser.
- Pupils are assisted further with their CV and cover letter.
- Pupils are helped with post-16 choices and encouraged to consider all their options including further study in sixth form and apprenticeships.
- Pupils are given specific support with post-16 applications.
- Taster sessions for post-16 subjects will be available to all pupils.
- Pupils take part in a range of activities during National Careers Week.
- Pupils are encouraged to attend careers talks, fairs, open days and taster days with employers.
- Pupils have optional access to independent and impartial advisers.
- Pupils will have at least one meaningful encounter with an employer through educational visits and/or visiting speakers.

Year 12/13 Careers Entitlement

- Pupils will have a 1:1 interview with a careers adviser
- Students will use Unifrog to research post-18 options and complete activities that will develop their CV and personal statement.
- Students attend the UCAS convention and visit stands to speak to universities, gap year and apprenticeship providers to find out about their post-18 options.
- Students will receive individual support and guidance with their personal statements.
- Students will take part in a range of activities during National Careers Week.
- Students are encouraged to attend fairs, open days and taster days with universities and employers.
- Students follow the Catholic Life Enrichment programme through which they can use their talents and skills to contribute to academy life and the wider community.

ST EDMUND'S CAREERS

CAREERS PROGRAMME (2026-2027)

Year	Autumn-term	Spring-term	Summer-term
7	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2,5 and 7) September 2026 1.15pm to 1.45pm Sports Hall Employer encounter assembly - Employer(s) from the local area and the skills required for the job (GB 1,2,4 and 5) - December 2026 Guess My Job (GB 2,4 and 5) ARENA 2PM TO 3PM - TBC	National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents. Also, dress like a career - Friday 6th March 2026	Careers Assembly (GB 5) May 2027 2 or 3 EMPLOYERS
8	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2 5 and 7) - October 2026 Employer encounter assembly - Employer(s) from the local area and the skills required for the job (GB 1,2,4 and 5) - December 2026	National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online Tuesday 9th February 2027 (GB 2,3,4,5) - Guest speaker to discuss Apprenticeships/PAL (Sandwell College) 2.00 - 2.30pm National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents	Careers Assembly (GB 5) May 2027 2 or 3 EMPLOYERS
9	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2 5 and 7) - October 2025 1:15 - 1:45pm Struggle to Succeed - Talk from Matt Sen - Ex Pro Boxer (GB 1,2,4 and 5) Employer encounter assembly - Employer(s) from the local area and the skills required for the job (GB 1,2,4 and 5) December 2026	Careers workshop to support options (PP focus) - Week beginning 12th January 2025 National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online Tuesday 10th February 2026 (GB 2,3,4,5) - Guest speaker to discuss Apprenticeships/PAL (Sandwell College) 2.00 - 2.30pm National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents	Careers Assembly (GB 5) May 2027 2 or 3 EMPLOYERS

		Individual interviews with SLT member for all students prior to choosing options	
10	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2 5 and 7) September 2026 Employer encounter assembly - Employer(s) from the local area and the skills required for the job (GB 1,2,4 and 5) - December 2026	National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online Tuesday 9th February 2027 (GB 2,3,4,5) - Guest speaker to discuss Apprenticeships/PAL (Sandwell College) 2.00 - 2.30pm National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents	Careers Assembly (GB 5) May 2027 2 or 3 EMPLOYERS 10 Mock Interviews June 2027 Work Experience Monday 28th June - Friday 2nd July 2027
11	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2 5 and 7) October 2026 Struggle to Succeed - Talk from Matt Sen - Ex Pro Boxer (GB 1,2,4 and 5) IAG Careers meeting with all year 11 students (GB 3 and 8)	National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online Tuesday 9th February 2027 (GB 2,3,4,5) - Guest speaker to discuss Apprenticeships/PAL (Sandwell College) 2.00 - 2.30pm National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents IAG Careers meeting with all year 11 students (GB 3 and 8)	
12	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2 5 and 7) September 2026 (Lecture Theatre)	Work Experience Week Monday 2nd - 6th March 2026 National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents	UCAS Convention Monday 22nd June 2026
13	Introduction to the Careers Lead & Assembly on Labour Market Information and UNIFROG (GB 1,2 5 and 7) September 2026 IAG Careers meeting with all year 11 students (GB 3 and 8)	National Apprenticeship Week 8th - 14th February 2027 Information shared online National Careers Week 1st - 6th March 2027 - sharing of resources with staff, students and parents	

Please note : events may be subject to change