





# EDWARD PEAKE CAREERS NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2024

'LIVE, LOVE, LEARN'
"I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO;
I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY LOVING EYE ON YOU."
PSALM 32:8

### Welcome

Welcome to our second careers newsletter of this academic year. This issue features a focus on careers in Artificial Intelligence.

Please do share this newsletter with your child as they will find helpful resources and information throughout.

### **Key Contacts**

Whilst you can always talk to any member of staff regarding careers and careers provision at the school, it is useful to be aware of those people in school with specific responsibility for careers. We are a small but expanding team and you will see this list grow as we develop.

Careers leader: K Rodgers, Assistant Headteacher

Careers link governor: P Giles, Governor

Careers admin support: A Harding, Office manager

For specific information regarding curriculum areas and careers, please contact the relevant subject leader.

For careers specific information, advice, support or suggestions please email: careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk

### **Get Involved**

We are always looking for volunteers to come in and speak to pupils about their experience of work and how they chose the career they did. If you would like to offer some time to come and speak to or work with pupils in school please email the school via:

careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk

### Unifrog

In keeping with our commitment to provide students with outstanding careers guidance and tailored support when choosing their next steps after school, we are now using Unifrog; an award-winning, online destinations platform. All students in Years 7, 8 and 9 now have access to this website.

Unifrog is the universal destinations platform and is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each student has their own account where they can explore all the career and next step options available to them and find information on everything from managing their workload to writing a winning CV.





Pupils can access the website outside of school and start exploring the range of careers and educational pathways available to them and even share this information with you at home.

We hope that by broadening pupils' horizons they will find their future passion and teh best path to success for them.

# ENCOURAGING ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

This year, our Year 8s are exploring the concept of enterprise. They are learning about the demands of business and the importance of meeting the needs of clients. Beyond developing their own ideas and concepts, they have had visits from some of our parents who have shared their careers and career paths and given them some top tips for the world of work.

Thank you to: Miss Greene, Mrs Shannon, Mrs Church and Mr Eavis for coming into school to share your experiences with or pupils.

If you would like to come into school and speak to pupils about your role and career pathway please see the contact details below.

Encouraging a child's entrepreneurial spirit can be a great way to foster their ambition and confidence for their future. Children feel able to think creatively, take risks and cope with failure when their entrepreneurial spirit is encouraged. Below are some ways parents and guardians can support this:

#### 1.Encourage creativity

Encourage your child's creativity by giving them opportunities to explore new ideas and express themselves. This could be through drawing, painting, writing stories etc. You can take them to museums and galleries (many of these are free to enter) and other cultural events happening locally.

### 2. Foster independence

Encourage your child's independence by giving them responsibilities around the house or offering them the choice to make their own decisions about certain things. It's important to give them room to make mistakes and learn from them.

### 3. Teach financial responsibility

Children will learn about money and financial responsibility at school but a chance to put it into practice is always useful. Help them by setting a budget for things and encouraging them to save for larger items they might like.

### 4. Encourage a strong work ethic

Instil a strong work ethic by having clear expectations for chores and homework. Encourage them to take on additional responsibilities at home, school or clubs they attend and to always try their best.

#### 5. Encourage resilience

Things don't always go to plan so it is important to be able to bounce back from set backs and failures. Exploring how to deal with disappointment, to acknowledge it and find a way to move on allows children to realise they can learn and grow from their mistakes and not just their successes.

# ENCOURAGING ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT

#### 6. Foster a growth mindset

Entrepreneurs are lifelong learners who are always looking for a way to improve. Encourage your child to try new things and take on challenges. This is a great time to try something new as there will adults around to support when needed. Trying something new helps us to continue learning and growing so we can achieve our full potential.

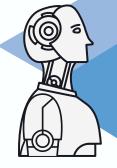


### **CAREERS AT EDWARD PEAKE**

Please take a look at the careers section of our school website where you will find a plethora of resources and information.

If there is any information that you feel would be of benefit to your or your child then please email careers@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk so that we can make this available to you via our newsletter, email or our school website.

### Industry Spotlight: Artificial Intelligence



Al, or Artificial Intelligence, isn't just something you see in sci-fi movies anymore. It's all around us, changing the way we live and work. The demand for people working in this sector is growing and will only continue to grow in the future. Below are some of the roles that already exist as careers and some guidance on the pathways they may support working in this sector in the future.

#### Al Engineer

As an Al Engineer, you get to design, develop and implement cutting-edge Al solutions that solve real world problems.

From creating chatbots that can hold conversations to developing self-driving cars, the sky's the limit when it comes to AI engineering. If you are good at problem solving and a passion for technology, this could be role for you.

#### **Data Scientist**

As a data scientist, you'll be like a detective, using your analytical skills and knowledge of AI and machine learning to sift through data and find valuable insights. You might use this information to support businesses make the best decisions, find the next big trend or find patterns that could help improve healthcare. It all about using the data to make a difference.

### **Machine Learning Engineer**

Machine learning engineers teach computers to learn from data and improve their performance over time. From building systems that know exactly what to recommend for people to buy or watch to facial recognition that helps to pick out faces in a crowd, machine learning engineers make this happen with algorithms, If you like maths, coding and working with machines, this could be the career for you.

# Artificial Intelligence Qualification Pathways

#### Al Apprenticeships

If you're a hands on learner who thrives in real world environments, an apprenticeship in Al could be the perfect fit for you.

These programs offer a unique opportunity to earn while you learn, gaining practical experience and valuable skills under the guidance of industry experts.

With AI apprenticeships, you'll work on real projects, build a network of contacts in the industry, and develop the skills employers are looking for.

#### **University**

For those who prefer a more traditional route, pursuing a university degree in Al or related field is a great option. Universities across the UK offer a wider range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Al, machine learning and data science.

With access to state of the art facilities, expert faculty managers and cutting edge research opportunities, studying Al at university opens doors to a world of possibilities and equips you with the knowledge and skills needed to excel in the industry.

#### T-Levels

For school leavers aged 16-18, T Levels offer a new pathway into Al and other technical industries. These two-year courses combine classroom learning with on the job experience through industry placements, giving you the chance to gain practical skills and real world experience whilst working towards a nationally recognised qualification.

With T Levels in Digital Production, Design and Development and other related subjects, you can use T-Levels to start your career in Al.

### **Short courses and workshops**

If you're eager to get started in AI but not quite ready to commit to a full-time program, short courses and workshops are a fantastic way to dip your toes into the world of AI.

From introductory courses covering the basics of Ai and machine learning to more advanced workshops focusing on specific tools and techniques, there's something for everyone.

These courses offer flexibility and affordability for those looking to upskill and explore new career paths.

### SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT

A recent survey of employers by networking site Linkedin, identified the top ten skills most in demand by employers. It was unsurprising to see that communication was the most valued skill as the need to interact with others face to face, virtually and through written communication is am important part of every career sector and job role.

1. Communication 6. Analytics
The 2024
2. Customer service 7. Teamwork
Most
In-Demand
Skills
4. Project management 9. Problem-solving
5. Management 10. Research
Top skill of the moment: Adaptability

Whilst being in employment might seem a long way a way for some of our pupils, it is in school that you first start developing many of these skills. Many lessons will give you problems to solve, data to analyse, research tasks, opportunities to work as part of a team or take on a leadership role. You might be asked to manage a project or help others to complete a task correctly, some of our Year 8s have even had a go at pitching and selling their ideas as part of their enterprise sessions.

If you think carefully about the wider skills you are developing in lessons beyond the content you are covering, you will see that every lesson in school helps to prepare you for your future, no matter what career path you might take.

### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



### **THANK YOU**

We hope you have enjoyed our first careers newsletter #TeamPeake.

Check out our careers page to learn more about how we support our learners for the future Edward Peake Middle School Potton Road Biggleswade SG18 0EJ



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