

General Statement of Intent

The aim of Work Experience is to help develop pupils' confidence, knowledge, and understanding of a variety of skills in preparation for being able to access the world of work as independently as possible.

The curriculum matches the needs of our learners by highlighting essential employment skills that pupils have to achieve in order to increase their chances of recruitment after they've left school.

The curriculum is highly individualised, taking into consideration students strengths and interests, it also gives opportunities for learners to take on more than one work placement providing them with the chance to gain skills and knowledge in a variety of fields that pupils may have not considered or were not aware of.

The school has connections with nearly 30 employers and organisations who support our pupils at different levels. Students placements are rotated so that everyone has a diverse experience. Some of them are executed in blocks of full days and some can be as little as 2 hours per week throughout the academic year. The sessions are offered to all FED pupils.

In addition to external providers, we are able to offer a few places in different areas at school, such as the school kitchen, ground maintenance, supporting within the classroom, library and helping at After School Club, as well as in the Pebble Brook Café. This is particularly beneficial to pupils that require time to build their confidence and social communication skills before entering, more challenging, external work places.

We are also committed to supporting pupils in gaining any relevant qualifications that would support their chances of employability and give them basic knowledge and understanding of the job. With our full-time career advisor employed by the school, we are able to match job interests to any training needed, in most cases.

As a school, we are aiming to equip all the pupils leaving FED with a variety of experiences, having clear exit pathways leading them towards their next steps. This can be paid employment, supported internships, apprenticeships or further education or training at college.

The knowledge and skills that pupils develop through their work experience are social communication, problem-solving, using initiative, teamwork and self-motivation. In addition, students gain first-hand experience learning different job roles within an industry that they would like future employment in. This is done by setting up role-play sessions in the classroom and during the supported work experience placements.

The work that goes into those sessions is closely linked with the 'Works 4 U' curriculum and gives pupils the maximum opportunity to experience work as a whole, including writing their CV, finding and applying for a job, having a mock

interview as well as terminating their work experience placement in writing. (please see Works 4 U curriculum intent).

Staff in FED also supports pupils in preparing and gaining knowledge and skills to complete qualifications that are relevant to their chosen pathway, e.g.: food safety for those interested in catering and health and safety for those interested in the building industry. This is often done through one-to-one or small group interventions.

Assessment strategies including external examinations

Against EHCP targets on Earwig assessment software.

Through observations and pupils' self-assessment form.

Any additional notes

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