



WARWICK
SCHOOL

Careers

Your careers journey starts here

The Careers Department is dedicated to helping Warwick School pupils identify their innate skills and abilities, develop these and add new skills, and work towards a career plan to help them achieve their ambitions. We supply Information, Advice, and Guidance (IAG) to enable Warwick pupils to make informed choices, whether it be the university they wish to attend, the top degree apprenticeship they want to take up, or the job they take up after school.

There are four key elements to good career planning:

- *Career ideas* - what types of jobs are you best suited to based on your skills set and interest
- *Self-awareness* - your strengths, skills and competencies
- *Opportunity awareness* - what jobs are out there and where those jobs might be located
- *Decision-making* - the ability to gather information and then make confident, informed decisions

Throughout all levels of the school, the Department offers a range of accessible activities, initiatives and projects

to better equip pupils with the knowledge and skills they need to be successful at each stage of their careers journey.

Business Lunches Workshops are delivered throughout the academic year by first-class employers who are experts in their field, including law, medicine, science, business, architecture and many other professions.

Drop In Career Clinics 1.05pm – 2.00pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Warwick pupils are able to drop in to see Mr. Tapper-Gray (Head of Careers and Volunteering) at lunch times Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursday to have **informal discussions** covering career matters, or to arrange a more in-depth appointment.

Volunteering opportunities and work experience are available in all years of the school, with the aim of supporting first-class character education and bridging the gap between academia and the world of work.





Year 7

Getting started

Year 7 are introduced to careers through assembly by Mr. Tapper-Gray. Pupils are introduced to the *iCould Buzz Quiz*, which allows them to start thinking about their career and discover their personality type (and a corresponding animal!).

Pupils are then encouraged to explore which careers might suit them, using interactive platforms which help them to:

- Discover their strengths and what make them tick
- Understand how others may see them
- Explore subject choices and jobs that could suit them

Additionally, through assemblies and the extensive co-curricular programme, pupils are introduced to different careers from guest speakers and visitors to the school.



Year 8

Curiosity and creativity

Year 8 participate in an Enterprise Day in the Summer term, where they focus on key employability skills such as teamwork and leadership, creativity, commercial awareness, entrepreneurship, time-management, and public speaking.

Year 8 Design Thinking Award

Design Thinking is a human-centered, iterative process that designers use to tackle problems. All Year 8 students complete an Award in Design Thinking, which is accredited by EduQual and was designed with the University of Warwick and the Design Thinking consultancy company, Sprint Valley.

Workplaces increasingly require the skills of empathy, collaboration, creativity, and the ability to prototype and respond to feedback. This ground-breaking Award allows students to demonstrate these skills, which can be applied beyond the physical design process to all types of design thinking. This approach has been successfully used in organising campaigns, marketing, and charitable projects. McKinsey's 2018 report suggests that Design Thinking is one of the most requested skills from new employees and Year 8 at Warwick School are the pioneers of the first school's accredited course in this subject.



Design Thinking | EduQual Level 1 Design Thinking Award | 50 (30GTH)

Aims:

To encourage students to be compassionate, curious and collaborative in their thinking. To foster and hone their creativity. To develop the future-ready meta skills that pupils need for the world of work.

Learners must meet all assessment criteria to pass the unit. Pupils are assessed on a final project which tests their ability to do the following:

- *Understand and research the challenge*
- *Interpret data gathered from interviews*
- *Generate and refine ideas*
- *Get feedback*
- *Refine ideas based on feedback*
- *Give a presentation on their work*

Year 9

Gaining momentum

Unifrog

Unifrog is a superb online resource which offers a 'one-stop' platform introduced to Warwick School pupils. It really is never too early to start considering your career ideas, and Year 9 are introduced to Unifrog as part of their PSHEE programme to facilitate their GCSE option choices.

Unifrog offers a single platform for every aspect of higher education. It allows pupils to compare every undergraduate course in the UK, every US university, and undergraduate programme taught in English within Europe, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. Pupils can compare UK degree apprenticeships and School Leaver Programmes, FE college courses, and colleges at Oxford and Cambridge.

Unifrog is also the place where pupils can record activities, achievements, and competencies, and then go on to draft the materials needed for applications - whether that is the Common App Essay for US applications or the UCAS Personal Statement. It is intuitive, easy to use and can be accessed on any device.

INVESTIN

We have a strong partnership with INVESTIN, which has facilitated immersive career experience opportunities in 28 industries for pupils aged 12-18. INVESTIN's purpose is to give pupils the knowledge, experience, and network needed to have a head start in their chosen career.

All pupils participate in engaging workshops during November on the topic of Future Careers, covering:

- Today's job market
- Your career journey so far
- How to decide on your future career
- How to develop your employability skills



Year 10

Learning what's out there

Year 10 PSHEE focuses on identifying skills, developing self-confidence, and beginning to think in depth about the approaching career milestones. This takes the form of half day delivery in the Summer term.

Workshops include:

- Exploring job ideas
- Recognising and building personal skills
- Developing self-confidence
- Identifying their strengths and areas for improvement

Year 10 are introduced to the SACU Online Career Cloud that provides online tools that pupils can use to research their future in a fun way. To kick off the process, pupils complete the simple SACU career quiz. This picture-based quiz then provides three personalised 'clouds' to explore all the options available to them that suit their preferences:

- Degree cloud
- Career cloud
- Apprenticeship cloud

Other opportunities to explore possible careers are provided informally through Business Lunches, where pupils can learn about a specific career by talking to an expert in the field. Our extensive Encounters Lecture series provide the opportunity to meet and hear from many speakers, offering insights into their career and giving advice to those just starting out.

Year 10 are also welcome at events for the Medicine and Law Pathways to university.



Year 11

Building real-world experience

The beginning of Year 11 Warwick pupils undertake the MyFutureChoice online Careers Interactive Programme. This is a platform that connects pupils with career and study paths. The rigorous assessments uncover the interests and aptitudes and, using validated psychometric tests, help to evaluate strengths and interests and to facilitate post 16 and 18 career options.

Once the interest-based questionnaire and norm-referenced aptitude tests have been completed, pupils are invited for a 1:1 interview with Mr. Tapper-Gray, the Head of Careers and Volunteering.

Work Experience

Work experience gives young people the opportunity for involvement in a workplace, helping them to understand how the world of work operates and how it differs to school. Year 11 Work Experience takes place during the Summer term during June, once all exams have been completed.

Warwick pupils are strongly encouraged to complete work experience and are supported along with their parents to find placements that match their abilities and occupational areas of interest by the Careers Department. We support with:

- Health and safety checks
- Setting goals and objectives for the placement
- CV writing
- Cover letters
- Providing contacts from alumni

Warwick School also promotes volunteering opportunities with local primary schools, community centres, charities, hospitals, hospices, National Citizen Service (NCS), and more. The NCS is a voluntary personal and social development programme aimed at 16 and 17 years to volunteer during their summer break and simultaneously develop key skills for employment. NCS is primarily funded by the government, so the full programme charge is £50 for two weeks. NCS annually present the volunteering offer during Year 11 and Year 12 assemblies. Over the years the programme has proved extremely popular with Warwick pupils and the feedback has always been positive.

As an INVESTIN partner school, Year 11 pupils can leverage a discount on their work experience courses. INVESTIN deliver immersive career experiences across 28 different industries, from the ever-popular Medicine and Law through to more up and coming industries like Environmentalism and Sports Professionalism. These are available in both a live online or in-person format and range from 1 to 15 days in length throughout the year.

Year 11 pupils are encouraged to take advantage of Encounters lectures, Business Lunches, and the various university pathway programmes Warwick School offers.





Year 12

Active careers planning

The Warwick School Law Pathway

The Warwick School Law Pathway prepares and monitors the progress of pupils wishing to undertake the LNAT entrance assessment. The LNAT is required by several of the UK's leading universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, and UCL, to test a candidate's aptitude for the skills required to study Law. Preparation for this centres on an intense and rigorous programme which involves seminars, practice tests, and recommended reading. The candidates will begin the programme at the start of Lent term in Year 12, giving candidates 9-10 months of preparation time. Apart from the programme's ultimate aim of having candidates fully prepared for these assessments for Michaelmas term in Year 13, candidates also enhance their critical thinking and logic skills, building their wider appeal and readiness for leading universities and life beyond the classroom.



Support for Law applicants

Law is an incredibly competitive course with specific entrance requirements and is highly selective. Typically, the A Level grades required for successful candidates are A*AA to AAA (depending on which university is making the offer). In addition, many universities wish to see that applicants are dedicated to their decision to read Law at university through their engagement with co-curricular activities.

Potential applicants will be assisted by Mr Bennett (the Assistant Head of Sixth Form at Warwick School, who read Law at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge and was a solicitor before switching careers to become a teacher). Pupils will undertake a programme designed to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving skills. The programme includes weekly sessions that involve:

- Exploring different areas of law, including public law, contract law, tort, equity, international law, property law and criminal law;
- Providing pupils with opportunities to read and analyse legal cases and texts;
- Enhancing pupils' presentation and communication skills;
- Challenging pupils with complex legal problems in order to enhance their reasoning and critical observations, as well as developing their ability to explain difficult concepts in a considered, and effective manner;
- Formulating cogent and sustained arguments;
- Preparing pupils for the LNAT;
- Discussing current affairs;
- Preparing pupils for interview (if required); and
- Engaging pupils with co-curricular activities, recommended reading lists and advice on their personal statements.

Mr. Bennett and Mr. Tapper-Gray work alongside law firms and alumni from the Foundation who work within the legal sector in order to create work experience opportunities for pupils who wish to explore this option.

Foundation Medical Professionals Pathway

Medicine, Dentistry and other Healthcare courses are some of the most notoriously selective and competitive subjects for which you can apply to study at university. Entry requirements vary depending on the institution and the subject of study but most fall within a range from A*AA to ABB. With such practical subjects, prospective students must show university admissions tutors that they have a thorough and realistic understanding of what each course, and related career, involves.

The Foundation Medical Professionals Pathway aims to offer pupils a range of opportunities to best prepare for this daunting admissions process. All pupils applying to study Medicine or Dentistry will need to sit at least one entrance exam from the UCAT or BMAT, depending on the universities to which they are applying. Preparation for these tests takes the form of three sessions per half-term with Miss Yeldham, the coordinator of the Medicine and Health Professional Pathway, followed by weekly practice in the Summer term and culminating in a UCAT preparation day, joint with King's High School, run by The Medic Portal and organised by the Warwick School Careers department.

Pupils will also be invited to attend the Foundation's medical society, designed as a forum for students to discuss relevant literature and current healthcare-related issues. Pupils will also be invited to take part in the following:

- Personal statement masterclasses;
- MMI interview practice sessions;
- Traditional panel interview practice sessions;
- The Warwick School Speed Interview Evening organised and run by the Careers department at Warwick School;
- Networking events with alumni from across the Foundation organised by Miss Yeldham and Mr Tapper-Gray; and
- Seminars, lectures and workshops run by alumni and individuals in the healthcare industry.

Global Universities Pathway

Run by a member of staff with expertise in applying to international universities, pupils are encouraged to explore the opportunities of study abroad through global universities information evening and fair, together with support and advice throughout the application process.

Assessment and Interviews Pathway

Given the importance of achieving highly in entrance examinations for aspirational universities, Warwick School and King's High School are also collaborating on a programme designed to provide our pupils with the best opportunity for success. The entrance test requirements of individual pupils are thus taken into account when deciding which pathway will suit them best. Each pathway is led by a specialist teacher who will support their cohort throughout the whole of the application process.

Higher Education Application Support

All members of Year 12 are supported through the UCAS application process by a series of events and individual meetings. The Higher Education Evening introduces pupils to the process and this is followed by a UCAS Application Day and university target interviews with tutors to discuss aspirations and help choose the right course for each pupil. For those not wishing to apply to university, further support is provided to explore employment or studying opportunities beyond the Sixth Form.



Year 13

Spreading your wings

Mock Speed Interviews with Employers

At the beginning of Michaelmas term we hold our annual Mock Speed Interviews for Year 13 pupils. Top employers from all over the country give their time to put the pupils through their paces. Each student participates in three 15-minute interviews. The evening provides participants with:

- Experience of an authentic interview situation
- Practice of answering interview questions
- Opportunity to develop confidence
- Practice and honing of their skills and abilities

Employers are selected from our alumni network including former Old Warwickians who have had successful careers in engineering, law, medicine, armed services, science, business, and many more industries. Warwick pupils engage with top employers and discover what it takes to be successful in the world of work.

Interviewers assess the pupils on their verbal and non-verbal behaviour - for example, are they suitably dressed? How did they address the questions asked? Were they coherent and confident? The interviewer then provides constructive feedback.

Year 13s continually receive support for their university or world of work applications, with dedicated one-to-one appointments available from a variety of the Sixth Form team.

We encourage Year 13 pupils to attend as many of the Encounters lectures as possible, engaging with inspiring visiting speakers, asking questions and even attending an informal dinner at school with the speakers afterwards, where suitable. We impress upon all pupils that they will reap the benefits from investing time and focus on the incredible opportunities available at Warwick School, and this is truer than ever in Year 13.



For more information about careers,
please get in touch with

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*The Careers Department are here to help...
we look forward to hearing from you soon.*