



## Aspiration driver

When identifying barriers to learning for our children, we found a concern regarding motivation and their value of education and learning. Already the school has been involved in Investors in Pupils, Achievement for All, Growth Mindset and learning powers approach. The new PSHCE programme (Jigsaw) was launched in September 2018. The school believed strongly in the concepts of these projects but we were looking to deepen motivation, inspiration and building aspiration in pupils. The careers programme adds an extra dimension and reinforces initiatives in place to develop aspiration.

The Career Mark links with our Ofsted targets, providing a meaningful, relevant context to create opportunities at a greater depth level and to extend their writing, using a variety of genre linked to careers (reports; profiles; fact sheets; explanation; instructional; letters; persuasive; descriptive). It is also a valuable vehicle in equipping pupils with the knowledge and **cultural capital** they need to succeed in life. It is one of the key ingredients a student will draw upon to be successful in society, their career and the world of work. It is about giving children the best possible start to their education. It is vital curriculum to enhance the experience and opportunities available to children.

As a recent article from Nesta said: *“Children’s conceptions of who they are and what they could be are products of their wider socio-economic surroundings: influenced by social (who their families and friends are) and cultural capital (what they consider a reasonable and possible future to be)”*

<https://www.nesta.org.uk/blog/great-expectations/>

Through careers we have been able to involve parents and the wider community. We have established local connections with the secondary schools, university and colleges, making the talk of further and higher education a part of their frame of reference and strengthening transition within school.

Research by Dr Elnaz Kashefpakdel, Jordan Rehill and Dr. Deirdre Hughes (Dec 2018) and Nick Chambers (November 2018) into teaching a career curriculum at primary level showed it helps children see the relevance of their studies, develops important skills needed in life and broadens horizons by raising aspirations. This is vital for the needs of our children.

Nick Chambers stated research showed the outcomes of delivering career-related learning were:

- Excite and motivate children about their learning by linking and embedding in the curriculum strong connections between education and the world of work
- Broaden children’s horizons and raise aspiration
- Help children see a clear link and purpose between their learning experiences and their future
- Challenge stereotypes that children and their parents often have about jobs and the people who do them
- Support the raising of standards of achievement and attainment for all children
- Help children learn more about their own talents and abilities and instill greater confidence
- Reinforce the importance of numeracy and literacy in later life
- Tailor career-related learning to the different ages and needs of all children

<https://www.educationandemployers.org/career-related-primary/>

References:

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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/664319/Careers\\_strategy.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/664319/Careers_strategy.pdf)

<https://www.tes.com/news/if-were-serious-about-improving-social-mobility-issue-must-be-addressed-primary-level>

<https://www.nesta.org.uk/blog/great-expectations/>