

September 2025

Year 13 Careers for 2025 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As your child is now commencing their time in Senior School, they will be starting to consider their post-18 options and making some important decisions about their future. The main purpose of this letter is to outline some details of the guidance that will be available this year.

During Year 13, careers provision will be delivered during a fortnightly, timetabled Careers lesson. During September and October, these lessons will focus on preparation for Work Experience placements, which are planned to take place during week commencing Monday 8 June 2026. Pupils will be provided with a Work Experience guidance book that contains important information they will need before, during and after their placement. We will look at virtual and in-person Work Experience opportunities, consider Work Experience objectives and preparation, and explore health and safety and safeguarding while on placement. We will be using Unifrog's 'Placements' tool to manage the required in-person work experience documentation. Pupils will be encouraged to seek both in-person and virtual work experience opportunities. Further details and permission letters for these will follow soon.

After half term, we will continue by looking at career choices, post-18 options including applications for university, apprenticeships, and employment or to plan for a gap year, life as a student and finance. This guidance will be provided by the Careers Department, comprising of Dr Larmour, Mrs Walker, Mrs Barr, Mrs Redpath, Mrs Macafee and Dr Spence. Your child will receive a Year 13 Careers booklet from their Careers teacher, which provides comprehensive information and guidance about a range of topics, including post-18 pathways that they may be considering. This booklet will form an important part of their research and should continue to be used into Year 14.

Pupils will be given the opportunity to attend the UCAS Exhibition, usually held in March. Here they will find stands from most UK universities and colleges, plus many employers and voluntary agencies. This is a great opportunity for pupils to speak to representatives face to face and get the latest advice and information about Further and Higher Education, employment and gap year opportunities.

During week commencing Monday 15 June 2026, when AS Level examinations and Work Experience placements are complete, Year 13 pupils will be participating in sessions on registering for UCAS, writing a personal statement and to complete a Post-Work Experience review, in line with EA Work Experience Arrangements guidance.

Finally, we receive a large amount of information into school from a range of universities, colleges, organisations, and employers. All relevant information is then shared with pupils, mostly through Google Classroom and, at times, email. This can be beneficial, providing dates of events, open days, employment opportunities, careers guidance and advice. The volume of this information continues to increase, with many events and opportunities being offered virtually. You will be kept up to date with this information, in addition to us sharing it with pupils, on a regular basis in a careers newsletter that will be sent to you via email.

May we take this opportunity to wish your child well as they begin their AS Level studies, and we look forward to working with them this year.

Yours sincerely,

GCS Careers Department

Educating Girls in Bangor for over 125 Years

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