

FUTURE CHOICES NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022

Year 8



WELCOME...

Welcome to the Year 8 Spring edition of the *Future Choices* newsletter.

We hope that you all had an enjoyable and restful Christmas holiday. The aim of the *Future Choices* newsletter is to keep you informed about careers education at St Edward's School, and also other issues around employability.

We would like to encourage parents and carers to talk with their children about the world of work and the endless opportunities open to them. Actively exploring their ideas helps to develop a young person's self-awareness and encourages them to appreciate the relevance of why it is important.



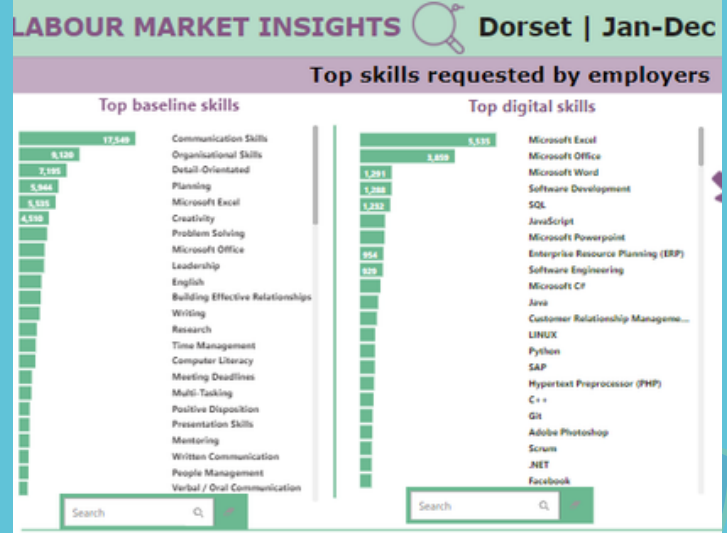
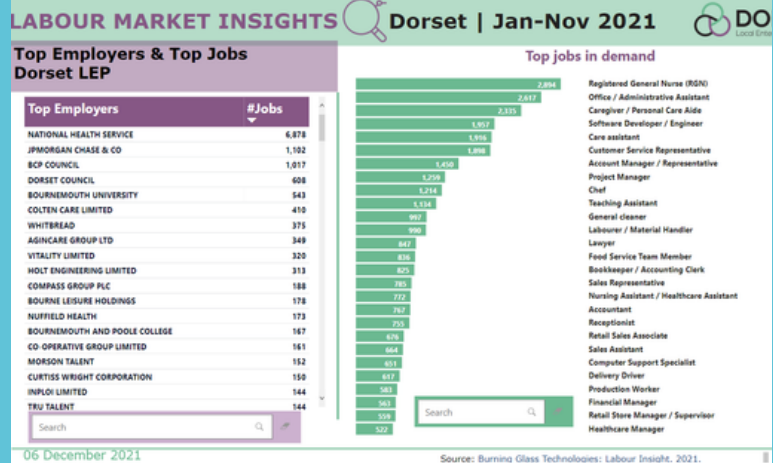
EDGE Events

This term, year 8 EDGE students took part in a session called ARCHITECTURE: IS THIS ART OR SOMETHING ELSE? This session was delivered by one of our Art teachers who shared with students the qualities needed to make a good Architect, and was an opportunity for students to speak to a practicing Architect during the session about all that this career involves.

Edge students also took part in a Buzz Quiz or START Profile Careers Session with Mr Rigby. These sessions encouraged students to self reflect on their personalities and what careers may be suited to their personality traits.

Local Labour Market Information

Below is an outline of the local labour market information for the South West region. This gives students and their families a clear outline of what is going on across the job and employment market across the South West region. Looking at information like this can be valuable for students as they begin to plot their own future careers.



Individual Careers Advice and Guidance

Careers information, advice and guidance can be a powerful tool. High-quality guidance helps young people make effective decisions and can be associated with significant wider benefits. It also forms a central part of the Department for Education's Careers Strategy. The Gatsby Benchmarks which are a framework of 8 guidelines that define the best careers provision in schools and colleges has personal guidance as its eighth and final benchmark.

Here at St Edward's we also place a high importance on making sure that every student receives impartial and appropriate careers advice and guidance. By doing this we believe that we can help all students understand the different options that are open to them and to begin to discern the plan that God might have for their lives. To make this happen we aim to ensure that every student has a minimum of three individual careers appointments with our independent advisor.

Aaron Rigby is employed as our independent careers advisor. He has been providing careers advice in St Edward's for the past three years. This year Aaron is working with the school for two days a week, and is now based in the Eden Centre. Aaron is working in partnership with St Edward's as part of a larger project facilitated by the Southern Universities Network.

Careers Fair

Later this year, we are looking to run a Careers Fair, date to be confirmed, where we invite local employers and education providers to have a stall and allow students planned access to the event throughout the school day. Students will have the opportunity to speak to these visitors to find out more information about the potential post 16 routes available to them, as well as careers within sectors of interest.

Mrs Eastwood will be providing some question starters and tips on how to engage with the visitors and we will also ask students to complete an evaluation form to ensure we are continually developing the careers education programme in school.

We will also be supporting the next Careers and Apprenticeship show at the BIC on 17th March 2022, which is open to students with their parents and carers between 4-7pm. There will be over 100 employers and providers at this event to enable students to find out what they would like to do and how to achieve it.



Looking ahead....

It seems like only yesterday that this year group arrived at St Edward's for the first time. Now they have completed four terms and will very soon be half way through Key Stage Three.

With this in mind attention will soon turn to planning for the immediate future and thinking about Key Stage Four. This will mean beginning to consider GCSE options.

To do this effectively students should have begun to think about what future career they might want to pursue as well the subjects that they enjoy and are good at.

