

St Patrick's College Dungiven



CEIAG Policy

Rationale

A young person's career is the progress they make in learning and work. All young people need a planned programme of activities to help them choose 14 – 19 pathways that are right for them and to be able to manage their careers and sustain employability throughout their lives. Schools have a statutory duty to provide careers education in Years 8 – 12 through the Northern Ireland Curriculum, the Entitlement Framework (14 -19 only) and to give students access to careers information and impartial guidance so that they may become effective career decision makers.

St Patrick's College is committed to providing a planned programme of careers education and information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) for all students in Years 8 – 14 in partnership with DEL, Employers and other key stakeholders.

There are three main strands of the CEIAG programme:

1. **Self-Awareness and Development**: Learners can identify, assess and develop the skills and qualities necessary to choose an appropriate career pathway.
2. **Career Exploration**: Learners can identify, explore and investigate the diversity of opportunities available in education, training and employment.
3. **Career Management**: Learners can identify, explore and review appropriate career pathways.

The school endeavours to follow the statement of careers education principles and the learning intentions for CEIAG as set out in Preparing for Success – A Guide to Developing Effective Decision Makers (DE 2009), the Quality Indicators for CEIAG (ETI 2008) and other relevant guidance from DE and ETI that appears from time to time.

Objectives

The careers programme is designed to meet the needs of students at St Patrick's College. It is differentiated and personalised to ensure progression through activities that are appropriate to students' stages of career learning, planning and development.

Students are entitled to CEIAG which meets professional standards of practice and which is person-centred, impartial and confidential. It will be integrated into students' experience of the whole curriculum and be based on a partnership with students and their parents or carers. The programme will raise aspirations, challenge stereotyping and promote equality and diversity.

The CEIAG learning offer will include the five component parts of an effective careers programme:

- Careers Education
- Careers Information
- Careers Advice and Guidance
- Work related learning
- Development of employability skills

Implementation

Mrs Laoiseach Cassidy is the Head of Careers. She is responsible for the planning, monitoring and evaluation of the CEIAG programme. The Head of Careers also plans and implements work experience as part of her duties.

All staff contribute to CEIAG through their roles as subject teachers and as Form Teachers.

In Years 8 and 9, units of work on Employability are delivered by the LLW department.

In Years 10 to 14, a discrete careers programme is delivered by staff in the Careers department.

The Careers department also works closely with the Careers Service representative (John Lang) to provide pupils with appropriate, impartial careers advice and guidance.

Careers information is available primarily in the Careers Room. There is also information available in both the school library and the sixth form study centre – which has a dedicated notice board for Careers.

Curriculum

- The careers programme includes careers education sessions, career guidance activities - group work and individual interviews (years 10, 12 and 13), information and research activities – school library, internet, etc.
- Work related learning (including one week's work experience in years 11 and 13), and individual learning and career planning/portfolio activities.
- Careers lessons build on the education for employability strand of the LLW programme.
- Other focused events, e.g. a visit to a Careers Fair, Interview Skills Day, are provided from time to time.
- Work experience preparation and follow-up take place in careers lessons and other appropriate parts of the curriculum e.g. Pastoral time.
- Careers Talks from a wide spectrum of businesses and organisations, including past pupils from our school.
- STEM activities are promoted by the four departments involved.

Partnerships

An annual service level agreement is negotiated between the school and the Careers Service, which identifies the contributions to the programme that each will make.

The Head of Careers is a member of the Limavady schools ALC Careers Group which meets on a regular basis to discuss joint strategies and share good practice, in relation to Careers. Young Enterprise regularly visit the school to lead a wide variety of Careers based activities. Other links are being developed, for example, with Project Fusion a local community group.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The careers programme is reviewed annually by the Head of Careers and the Careers Service representative, using the ETI quality indicators to identify areas for improvement.

Reviewed March 2017