

Careers Guidance and resources at Redruth 6th Form

For many students, the decision about which career they wish to pursue is a difficult one and one which many are still to make before they leave the Sixth Form. Often the issue is that there is too much choice. However, support and advice is available and once an idea has formed about a potential future, student often feel a sense of renewed motivation and purpose. At 6th Form there are four main sources of Information and guidance:

1. Higher Education and employment taster sessions.

During student briefing each week (and pinned to the opportunities board, and e-mailed directly to students) students are informed of countless opportunities through the year to attend a workshop/ presentation/ open day/ summer school/ residential programme/ internship/ work experience placement at any number of Higher Education institutions and associated employers. Given that many degrees are vocational and tailored to particular careers, these opportunities are a superb way of gaining first-hand experience and insight into a potential area of employment.

In most cases, there is a need to make an on line application (or at the very least sign up for a school organised visit) and it is the responsibility of the student to act on these notices and explore potential futures.

2. Success at School:

This interactive web site is full of information advice and guidance on choosing your future career. You can explore different areas of work, take part in blogs and forums on career related topics and build your own CV. All you need to do is log in and get started. There is a Pdf helpsheet to get you on your way. Click the links below:

<N:\Careers\Success at school\How to Use Success at School.pdf>

successatschool.org/redruth (log in page)

3. My Career Springboard

This is a second on line resource that is free to use and on the site you can take a free careers test to find a bit of inspiration and explore different career sectors. All you have to do is log in – follow the link below (or google it):

[My Career Springboard](#)

4. Work Experience

There is no substitute for experience when it comes to finding out what it's really like to work in a particular career and we offer our students the chance to gain this valuable experience. All Yr 12 students will complete a week long placement in the late Summer term and should make their applications for a placement in March. In addition, many students also complete smaller work placements throughout the year, taking advantage of Wednesday afternoon enrichment time or

other times in the week when they are not in timetabled lessons. To search for a placement you have two options:

- A) Approach employers directly and ask if they can provide work experience. Then you need to see Mr Hammond to check they are registered with the school (don't worry if not, it just means they have to fill a form in).
- B) Use the link below to search the database of approved employers. (You need a pin number to access the database and you can get this from your tutor, Mrs Knights or Mr Hammond)

<http://cornwall.learnaboutwork.net/log-in-school.asp>

Deciding on your future career is not something you can do in a lesson, instead it is a process. The steps you should consider taking are below (and may not necessarily be completed in this order)

1. Think about your interests, hobbies, strengths and weaknesses – are any of these connected to a dream job? Aim High, go for the career you want, not the one you think you will have to accept.
2. Consider all possibilities: visit some universities, go to a careers convention. If you decide that a degree in business isn't for you that's ok, at least you looked first. Try something else, eventually you will come across an employment area that interests you.
3. Visit the two web sites above, search for all sorts of potential careers, look at what the jobs are about, how you apply, what they pay; get informed.
4. Talk to friends and family, what jobs do they do? What do they think you would be good at?
5. Discuss your future plans with your tutor. They will have a structured conversation with you and be honest about your potential for application.
6. Apply for a work experience placement. If you have an idea of a career that might be for you, take the chance to try it out.