

CUC Careers Programme

The Careers Programme is a wraparound programme for all students. It recognises that the journey to a career starts today, every day, right here, in the CUC Building. It provides the opportunities for students to access a range of careers activities with clear progression during their time with us. Activities should engage and interest students to properly prepare them for life and work in the 21st century. Statutory guidance focuses on the [Government careers strategy](#) which explains the need for a clear and progressive careers programme that is accessible for ALL students and includes impartial careers guidance for all of our students.

The Careers Programme at the CUC is very much focused like a journey to their chosen destination. As students' progress through the years, they focus on several distinct aspects related to careers and in the Sixth Form this takes the format of Continued Professional Development (CPD).

Reflecting on the experiences and achievements of our alumni students has reminded us that students learn from more than just their academic subjects, and succeed because of more than just their final grades. We see the impact of this in their stories and know it's success is true from the positions they now hold.

The programme is framed within our civic responsibility. Projects are shaped through the lens of our location and sectors. It focuses on a mix of demonstrable hard and soft skills that students select and develop over time in line with their personal aspirations and targets. It brings together a combination of personal and professional development designed to help students have the confidence in their own abilities.

The programme supports students to build the gateway skills, achievements, responsibilities and experiences they need alongside their academic qualifications to secure their next step be that a job, degree apprenticeship or university place. We want them to have a portfolio full of accomplishments and to recognise their progress and potential.

It is our intention that by the end of this programme, our students will be willing to give things a go, will feel they belong in a wide range of situations, will know that it is okay to be a beginner and to try and fail as long as they learn.

- The economy is changing and there is an opportunity for people to disrupt the status quo. Our local catchment is enterprising and creative by nature. This programme is an opportunity to embrace this spirit for our students' gain.
- Improved range of new enrichment activities to allow development and application of skills
- Supplemented with professional qualifications that demonstrate core skills that employers value. These should be hard skills, covering basics like writing a CV, constructing a professional email, touch typing and more advanced skills like data analysis, coding, Google and Microsoft packages, project management, basic design
- Framed in community and sector specific scenarios that allow students to develop and reflect on their soft skills including self awareness, resilience, communication, leadership, teamwork etc.
- With an explicit CPD programme which describes techniques and skills so that students can understand the rationale for their learning, apply it in the future and reference it in applications and interviews
- Applied in real life with opportunities for real responsibility, networking and visibility of role models
- Considered amongst implications of society, politics, economics and ethics to build awareness of current affairs and historical events
- With support for mindfulness, gratitude and resilience to help students become fully functioning adults
- With opportunities to work independently through quality signposting, half termly reading/ listening list of texts, podcasts, magazine articles and virtual experiences
- Linked to our industry partners, university sponsor Liverpool University and LJMU Innovation programmes
- With Unifrog and LinkedIn as mechanism to record and frame this so it can be relayed to potential employers.

The Careers Programme is a layered programme with employability skills and understanding the world of work at its core. This is enhanced through the PSHE programme which builds on the skills of resilience, emotional intelligence and self awareness. It is further personalised through our unique induction programme and Freshers week leading on to 'Build My Future' events throughout the school calendar. Wider impact and real experiences are reinforced through masterclasses, showcases, workshops and mentorship.

Key Stage 4
Young Professional Programme

Induction	Understanding skills and careers	Preparing for interview professional conversations
Sector skills	Labour Market Information	Digital networks
Money Matters	Politics and Economics	Experience of work
Grow your professional Networks	Wider reading	Philosophy and Ethics

Sixth Form CPD – 3 themes

Professional

Freshers Week	Working towards degree apprenticeships	Preparing for interview professional conversations
Sector skills	Wider reading	Professional and Digital Networks

Societal

Politics and Economics	Current Affairs	Community
Philosophy and Ethics	Debate	Wider World

Personal

Resilience	Mindfulness and wellbeing	Self awareness
Mental Health First Aid	Communicating effectively	Personal finance