

CAREERS EDUCATION PROGRAMME AT DORCHESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

The designated careers lead for Dorchester Middle School is: **Mrs Donna Hammonds**. She can be contacted on: dhammonds@dms.wessex.ac

At Dorchester Middle School, we value Careers Education and ensure that we offer a number of broad and balanced opportunities for our pupils to explore and learn from. We work closely with the Thomas Hardy School, and other local schools and colleges to meet the eight Gatsby Benchmarks (please see the link below to find out more about these).

As well as incorporating Careers Education into our PSHE curriculum, we encourage students to explore various career websites that are specifically designed for children of middle school age. We feel it is important that we give students the opportunities to explore the vast array of careers and pathways pitched at a level they find appropriate and appealing.

To complement this, we are running a number of other events this year, to enhance and develop our pupils' understanding of a range of future education and career choices.

These include:

YEARS 5

- Author visit: Spring 2026.
- Visiting speakers in assembly time.

YEARS 6

- Author visits: Autumn 2025 and Spring 2026.
- Visiting speakers in assembly time.

YEAR 7

- Career choices questionnaire.
- Careers unit in PSHE curriculum during Spring Term.
- Careers Week – focus on careers linked with different subject areas.
- Visiting speakers who have followed different career paths in assembly time.
- Medical Mavericks visit in Summer Term.

YEAR 8

- Author visit: Autumn Term 2025.
- Career choices questionnaire.
- Careers unit in PSHE curriculum during Autumn Term.
- 'Introduction to Apprenticeships' assembly.
- 'GCSE soft skills and links to careers' assembly.
- 'GCSE Options at Thomas Hardy School' assembly.
- 'Sixth Form Options at Thomas Hardy School' assembly.
- Introduction to courses available at Weymouth or Poole/ Bournemouth College.
- Visiting speakers who have followed different career paths in assembly time.

If you feel that you would like to get involved in any aspect of careers education in school, perhaps as a visiting speaker, or if your workplace could offer our pupils a career-based experience, then please do get in touch with Mrs. Hammonds, our Careers Lead.

- [Dorset Careers Hub – information for young people and their parents](#)
- [Career Pilot – quizzes and information about different career paths](#)
- [Information from Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership about the local labour market](#)
- [MyPath Careers - A range of informative videos, covering various career options](#)