

## Careers Newsletter- Autumn Term 2021

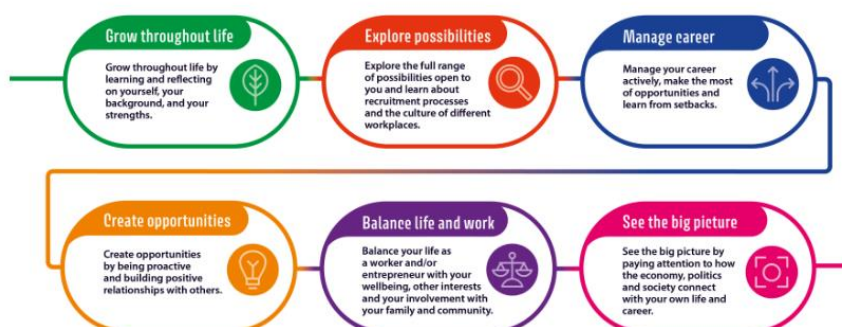
Dear Parent/Carers

Welcome to all our new students and parents, and welcome back to everyone else. Thank you for taking the time to read this latest edition of the Careers Newsletter. The focus this term is to provide important information for our Year 11's as they start to look to the future and make informed choices about their preferred study options post 16. All young people **MUST** continue in education or training at least until they are 18. There is lots of information, advice, and guidance available to help them take the next steps confidently.

### The Importance of Good Career Guidance

At Acle Academy we believe that Good Career Guidance is the key to social mobility: it is about showing young people whatever their social and family background, the options open to them and helping them make the right choices to set them on the path to rewarding future careers. Every young person needs high-quality career guidance to make informed decisions about their future.

This process of career development takes skill as well as knowledge and the right attitude. Individuals need to work on their career development skills throughout their lives. The main purpose of the CDI's Career Development Framework (below) is to clarify the skills, knowledge, and attitudes that individuals need to have a positive career. A 'positive career' will mean something different to everyone, but it will typically include being happy with the way you spend your time, being able to contribute to your community and being able to have a decent standard of living. At Acle Academy we also actively promote the notion of lifelong skills in line with the CDIs framework, promoting these skills as part of our whole school curriculum. They need to be developed alongside academic skills and knowledge and employability skills



**You can find further information about the Careers Development Framework on our website.**

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## Year 11 Post 16 Options

Year 11 students are currently preparing for their next steps; they are being informed of their post-16 options via their tutorial sessions. They will be given the opportunity to explore their choices which include traditional A-levels, Vocational qualifications and Apprenticeships – all being offered from a number of local providers. (More information can be found at the end of this newsletter.

All Year 11 students are in the process of having half hour one to one career meetings with our career's advisor, who will offer them impartial advice and will guide them through any difficulties they might be facing. If they feel that they need a meeting more urgently and have not yet had one, please advise them to speak to their Year Head and this can be arranged. In addition to this support, it is crucial that your child visits prospective colleges during their open events which will be happening over the coming weeks. Dates for open events can be found on the relevant college's website and students have also been provided with a full list of open events provided by local providers. **Some colleges require you to register online before attending so please check in advance.** Many colleges' application processes are now open, with the majority of deadlines at the end of January 2022, so please encourage your child to begin actively preparing themselves for this next step.

We encourage students to use these three simple steps when making informed decisions about their future. 1. Exploration. 2. Understanding self. 3. Making the best choices for you. Research, Explore, Identify Strengths – What is going on around you personally and your environment include all the internal and external factors. For example (going on holiday, taking driving test, part-time job, meeting up with friends, exams) Questions you need to ask yourself include: What are you motivated by? What are your interests, strengths, and preferences? What skills do you need, what does the local labour market look like? Is the career you are interested in a growth sector? Do you feel confident to make the right choice for you? Have you asked the right questions? Have you researched all available options in order for you to make an INFORMED POSITIVE CHOICE for your future?

***All young people are required to remain in education or education based training/employment until the age of 18. This is a government policy and must be adhered to. For more information and guidance please use our career website or get in touch with Ms Skarin (Careers Lead)***

## Year 10 Work Experience

After the half term break, Year 10 students will start to explore Labour Market Information via their Character and Culture lessons, which should teach them the importance of researching the local area and encourage them to set realistic expectations of their career journeys.

Work experience is planned for the week commencing 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022. More information will be shared with students and parents during the Autumn Term. We strongly encourage Year 10 students to start to consider where they might want to complete their work experience and to start to research local

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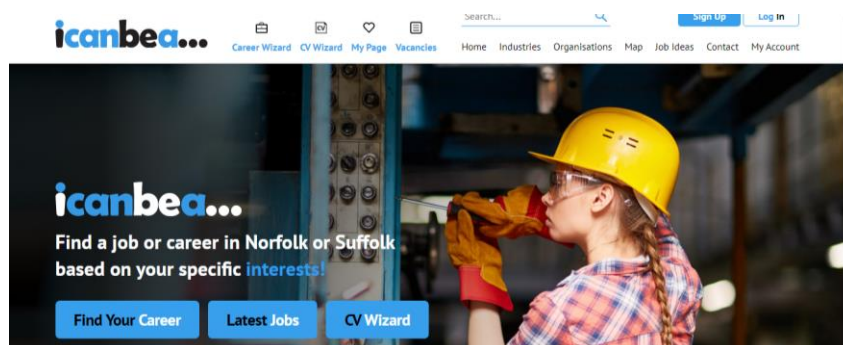
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business and potential placements in their area of interest. Year 10 students are also welcomed to contact our careers advisor for one-to-one support if they require it. Please advise them to speak to Ms Skarin to arrange an appointment.

## UNIFROG

All students have access to the Unifrog platform which brings together all available careers related information into one single, impartial, user-friendly platform to help students to make the best choices for their future. It allows you, our parents and carers, to consider these things alongside your child. I would encourage you to get your child to log-in and explore the world beyond school with you. Students- each student has their own log-in details, they should check their school Outlook email if they need to find these details. Parents and carers- you can log in as a guest and explore the students' platform. Go to- <https://www.unifrog.org/code> Log in with Code provided via email. If you have any questions please see Ms Skarin

## Icanbea... – CV Wizard



Icanbea... is a great online tool to support young people in exploring careers in and around Norfolk and Suffolk. They have just launched their online CV wizard that enables young people to use the CV builder to create their own CV by taking them through all the necessary steps such as the personal statement and education/qualifications. Students do require an Icanbea login and there are 'how to' demo videos on the Icanbea website. The CV Wizard can be accessed here.

[Icanbea – CV Wizard](#)

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## Careers Drop Down Day Years 8 and 11

This term students in both year 8 and 11 have taken part in careers drop down days.

Year 11 took part in a range of workshops provided by local employers from a range of different sectors, delivering meaningful encounters with employers to support students with an understanding of different employment skills and values in the context of different sectors. In the afternoon all students took part in a mock interview in preparation for possible sixth form/college interviews in the autumn term. In addition, Norfolk County Council outreach team provided students with workshops in order for them to gain knowledge and up to date information about post 16 options (T-Levels and Apprenticeship route). Thank you to local employers, our governors and parent volunteers who came along on the day and supported the students. Our students were a real credit to the school and the feedback from our visitors was very positive.

*'Just thought I should say how much I enjoyed the experience today, the students were a credit to the school. Some absolute stars in there and nearly all of them have really clear career goals'.*



Year 8 took part in a day with focus on green energy, and employment opportunities in our local area within this area. We were very lucky to have two great companies in to support us, RenEnergy and Vattenfall came to talk to students about the use of alternative green energy. Special thanks to Damien Baker, the founder of RenEnergy who came to talk to students about his experience of building and starting the company and going from the local to the global market. Students were set a STEM challenge to apply the new technologies they had learnt about to 'make Acle Academy greener'. Myself and our visitors were very impressed with the creative thinking, teamwork and presentation skills they demonstrated!

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## Quick Careers Directory

### Need some quick and easy inspiration to boost motivation?

Dip into these careers' websites for video stories and activities. Encourage our young people to find what interests them – and focus on how to get there.



- [BBC Bitesize Careers](#)
- [Career Pilot](#)
- [Careers Box](#)
- [National Careers Service](#)

If any parents, family members or members of the local community would like to share information with our students about their current role or their career journey and to get involved in working with the school on future careers events for our students we would love to hear from you. Please get in contact with Ms Skarin- Careers Lead via email [cskarin@acle.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:cskarin@acle.norfolk.sch.uk)

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