

Alder Community High School

Careers Newsletter

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Introducing our new careers advisor



Amos Madra

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Last term we welcomed our new careers advisor, Amos Madra, to Alder. Amos specialises in helping people identify and achieve their personal goals. His role as a Careers Advisor is to help students make informed decisions about their future.

Amos is passionate about helping students as he believes Careers Guidance is vital in supporting young people to achieve their aspirations. Amos' aim is to equip young people with the right skills, experience and opportunities to prosper and fulfil their potential.

One to one careers appointments will be provided to all students during their time at Alder. Appointments can be made on request via progress leaders. Lunchtime 'drop in's' can be made at any time. Amos is located in the careers room in G1 at the entrance to Headway. He is in school every Thursday and Yellow week Mondays.

What to expect in your careers interview

- A chance to talk about future plans.
- The opportunity to talk about Colleges, apprenticeships, Universities and courses available.
- You may be asked about things you like doing outside of school and your aspirations for the future.
- If you have a career in mind we will look at the skills and qualifications you will need.
- You will be given ideas of where you can research your ideas further in your own time.
- You may discuss latest labour market information

Y11: Preparing for life after Alder

All of year 11 should have completed at least one college application by the end of January. Please see the careers advisor at any time for further support, or Head of Careers, Mr Eaton.

Local College information

All applications can be made via College websites. Information about predicted grades will be required which can be found on latest student reports;

Ashton Sixth Form <https://www.asfc.ac.uk/>
Application deadline: Friday 14th February 2020

Tameside College <https://www.tameside.ac.uk/>
Clarendon College <https://www.clarendon.ac.uk/>
Application deadlines: No specific deadlines but the sooner the better

Alder careers day 2020

On Friday 28th February 2020 our annual careers themed enrichment day will take place. All students will take part in range of engaging activities providing them with information about future career pathways, encounters with employers from the local community and a chance to develop their employability skills. Here are some highlights of what will take place on the day;

Year 7: Learn by Design STEM Workshop

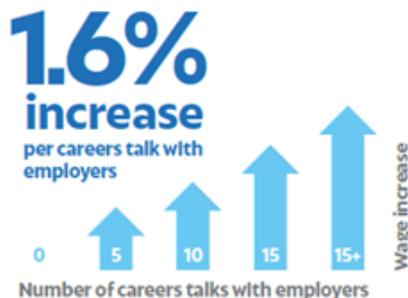
Learn by Design's mission is to help young people achieve and sustain better lives. They partner with some of the biggest industry brands to give young people extraordinary opportunities, particularly in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts and maths (STEAM).

Their ambition is to inspire and motivate young people through these opportunities, to equip them with the skills they need for work and life.

In this workshop all year 7 pupils will build their own electric car in a hands-on session. They will investigate the effects of powering their cars with varying quantities of electrical energy, whilst testing the effect on distance of travel.

Year 8: Star student board game

This 'hands on' activity session will introduce learners to higher education through an exciting team activity. Human counters move around the large board and teams answer a series of questions. Answers are given through mime, drawing, multiple choice questions and spelling.



Year 9: Medical Mavericks

In this active workshop students will be able to take blood from a fake arm, record their own ECG, try key hole surgery, see inside their body with an ultrasound machine, take a picture of the inside of their eye and much more. Every student gets their own medical observation sheet to fill in during the workshop as well as a print out of their ECG.

We know the most common answer to 'what careers do you know about in the NHS?' comes with the answer: doctor, nurse, physio, dentist, midwife etc.. So, in the workshop students can find out about these BUT also focus on the lesser known careers such as biomedical science, healthcare science, medical engineering, medical physics, physiology, bioinformatics and many more.

Year 10 and 11 Speed networking event

All of year 10 and 11 will take part in a 'speed networking' workshop where they will engage in small group question and answer sessions with at least 5 different employees and employers to help gain an insight into the world of work and develop their communication skills.

Guests will include representatives from the following organisations;

- Morrison's group
- Jet 2
- Platform 81
- Brother UK
- The Skills Company
- Juice Academy
- The Army

Year 10 work experience

As part of your child's Careers Education Advice Information and Guidance at Alder we are pleased to be able to offer the opportunity for all year 10 students to take part in a week of work experience during 18th – 22nd May 2020.

To help maximising student success in gaining the best work experience possible, we will be working alongside work experience specialists 'Changing Education' who an established database of over 25,000 tried and tested employers on an app called 'CONNECT'. This variety allows them to ensure that placements match a pupil's interests and ambitions providing a worthwhile experience for them with an opportunity to realise their potential. Students will need to download this app which takes them through the process step by staff.

Further support will be given with how to do this in the launch assembly, form time tutor support and PSHE careers lessons to ensure all students are able to access the process.

Initially we will encourage students to find their own placement where possible as it develops good practice for the real world. It shows initiative and gives the employer a good first impression of the student, showcasing the student's employability skills and personal attributes. If successful, this can in turn lead to good references, employment, a traineeship, apprenticeship or useful networking opportunities for the future. Taking advantage of local contacts through family and friends is advised. The deadline for self-placement will be the end of January 2020. Again, support will be given through PSHE lessons and form time about how to self-place and the app also provides a bank of resources to support this process.

If students are unsuccessful in finding their own work experience further support will be given.

Why is work experience important?

- 88% of businesses believe young people are not prepared for the world of work

- 76% of businesses believing that a lack of work experience is the reason.

- It will help develop key employability skills

- It will provide examples to use in CVs, job applications and interviews

- It can lead to references the help gain employment or get onto apprenticeships

- Doing work experience shows passion and interest.

- Evidence that you have done work experience shows the employer that you are motivated to get into a chosen career and that you've done your homework.

Tips and deadlines

- Work experience must take place between 18th – 22nd May 2020

- Make sure you have downloaded the 'CONNECT' App to help secure a placement

- If you are having trouble with the App a placement can be secured using a paper application form provided by form tutors

- Aim to have secured a placement by the end of January 2020

- Make use of friends and family contacts

- Use the internet to help research local employers

- Make use of social media to find placements and promote yourself

- Make sure you have an up to date CV ready to share with employers



Year 9 pathway assemblies

Year 9 will soon begin the process of choosing their GCSE pathways. During the spring term we will deliver a series of assemblies to inform students of the GCSE courses on offer. This will help inform their decisions and in conjunction with Pathways Evening, on Wednesday 29th January, should give them the confidence to choose what is right for their future studies.

All students will be given the opportunity to take advantage of a one to one careers meeting with Amos to support them with this pathway process. Please contact Mr Eaton if you would like an appointment to be arranged.

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Did you know?

Which industries are the best to target for future career pathways? What are the top Growth Industries in Greater Manchester? Read on to find out more about what they are and how they're expected to continue to grow.

Business Finance and Professional Services

One of the largest sectors in Greater Manchester currently employing around 192,693 people. In the years up to 2025, it is predicted that a further 3,063 jobs will be produced, with an additional number of replacement demand vacancies from the retiring workforce. GM plans to build on current strengths in legal and accounting, insurance and business services.

Manufacturing

Although this sector has shrunk significantly since 2005, in the years up to 2025, it is predicted that 1,232 new jobs will be created, and a further 1,892 jobs per year will need filling due to replacement demand from its aging workforce. Skills in advanced manufacturing, science and engineering will be crucial to employers with 25% of its workforce needing to be qualified at Level 4 and above.

Health and Care

GM is looking to build on key strengths in life sciences, medical technology/devices and its health services. The sector currently employs around 174,111 people and this is expected to increase by 3,824 by 2025. Primary Care services are looking to innovate by incorporating more allied health professionals from secondary care to combat the current shortage on GP's.

Creative & Digital

GM is again looking to build on key strengths in this sector such as ecommerce, cyber security, media and data analytics. This sector is vast and includes Animation, Publishing, Visual Effects, Photo Imaging, Advertising & Marketing, Television and Gaming. The sector currently employs around 64,477 people and is expected to increase by a further 5,047 by 2025. So as you can see there are certainly some big growth areas in GM, but these are not the only ones. GM has recognised that there are other industries, which are important to the local economy.



Help us make a difference

We are always looking to develop links with employers to help support our careers programme. Please contact Tom Eaton, Head of Careers, for more information. t.eaton@alderchs.uk