



Careers planner for 11-14s

Age 11-12	Autumn Careers introduction	What's a career? Discover the careers information area in your school
		What are the jobs of the future? Predict the jobs that will exist and the skills you'll need
		What's your dream job? Match your classmates to their top job
	Spring Your future career	What makes you tick? Analyse your strengths and weaknesses
		Have you got the skills you need? Complete a skills health check
		Careers: how can you find out more? Start researching future jobs
	Summer Raising aspirations	Do you want to go to uni? Discover your options after sixth form
		Could you be an apprentice? Uncover the facts about apprenticeships
		What can you learn this summer? Plan how to make the most of your holidays

Age 12-13	Autumn Your future career	What have others decided? Explore real-life career stories
		Can a celeb help with your career plans? Discover what they did before they were famous
		How do you find a job? Try your hand at decoding job adverts
	Spring Build your skills	How can you showcase your strengths? Write down activities that have helped you grow your skills
		What are your values? Play the <i>Values game</i> to find out more
		What are transferable skills? Discover where else your skills can be applied
	Summer Raising aspirations	What is education all about? Discuss the value of learning
		What difference would a degree make? Discover how a degree could benefit you
		What could you study at uni? Find out the different courses available

Age 13-14	Autumn Subject choices	How do you work out what subjects to study? Discover the factors that can help you decide
		What subjects do you need for certain careers? Explore the impact of subject choices
		Have you opened a bank account? Learn how to compare banks
	Spring Foundations for the future	How can you prepare for exam success? Revision tips to help you do your best
		How can you make the most of your money? Find out how to make your money go further
		Save or spend? Create a budget and manage your money
	Summer Raising aspirations	What next after 16? Start thinking about what you will study next
		What do you know about uni? Sort the truths from the myths
		Are you ready to explore a uni? What to look for on a uni visit

Introduction

Secondary school is a really exciting time where you will make lots of different decisions and plans that will shape your future. Ask the right questions to help you on your way!

Did you know?

A degree could help you land your dream job.

HE stands for Higher Education.

You can now do a degree level apprenticeship.

An undergraduate is someone who is studying at university.

Transferable skills are general skills you can use in many jobs.





Careers planner for 11-14s

Future plans

- ▶ **What's a career?** Introduce your students to the careers information area at school – or start your own one for your class!
- ▶ **What are the jobs of the future?** Careers have changed a lot over the last hundred, ten, and even few years! As a class, predict what the jobs of the future might be like – where you will work, how long for, the role of technology in your job. Make a list of the skills that will be important for these future jobs – you may want to do some online research to support this.
- ▶ **What's your dream job?** Use this *Dictionary of skills* www.barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-to-develop-my-skills-for-work/school/the-dictionary-of-skills to encourage students to think about their environment, what subjects they like and how they work best. Put ideas in a hat for a group to match them to a job or type of profession that would suit.
- ▶ **Careers: how can you find out more?** Encourage your students to build on their initial career thoughts from last term using this National Careers Service A-Z tool: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobfamily/Pages/default.aspx>
- ▶ **Job, uni, both?** How much do students know about their options after sixth form? Run through the *What next after sixth form?* activity: www.which.co.uk/sixthformactivity
- ▶ **Could you be an apprentice?** Find out how much students know about apprenticeships, then share our quiz and articles with them: www.which.co.uk/apprenticeships. They could then create a list of reasons to do an apprenticeship.
- ▶ **Careers: what have others decided?** Arrange students into groups to read case studies from the National Careers Service (NCS) and compare thoughts as a class: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/job-profiles/home>
- ▶ **Can a celeb help with your career plans?** As a class or in groups, students can take this quiz: www.heart.co.uk/showbiz/first-jobs/ before researching the career paths of other well-known faces – you could hold a competition to find the strangest/funniest job.
- ▶ **How do you find a job?** Have a go at decoding job adverts using this short quiz: www.barclayslifeskills.com/i-want-help-applying-for-jobs/school/job-quiz

- ▶ **Why is education important?** Ask students to work in groups to create a BuzzFeed-style quiz explaining what education is for in five steps – and why it is important.
- ▶ **What difference would a degree make?** Get students to investigate whether A-levels could help them land their dream job: www.which.co.uk
- ▶ **What can you study at uni?** Ask students to name as many things as possible that they think you can study at university. Then share this list of subjects with them: www.which.co.uk/courses. What new options have they discovered?
- ▶ **What subjects do you need for certain careers?** See if students know of any degrees that require certain subjects at GCSE/BTEC/Higher level already. This can lead on to a broader discussion about good and bad reasons to choose subjects for GCSE: www.which.co.uk/gcse-choices
- ▶ **What next after 16?** First check what students know about current post-16 options by exploring university and apprenticeships: www.which.co.uk/university
- ▶ **What do you know about uni?** Students can complete the *Truth and myths about university* activity: www.which.co.uk/unimyths
- ▶ **Are you ready to explore a uni?** In groups, students can come up with what they would like to find out on a university visit. Use this article to continue the discussion: www.which.co.uk/opensdays

Skills development

- ▶ **What makes you tick?** Students can use the following link to research jobs that might fit their strengths: www.which.co.uk/showcaseyourskills. Students can note down the skills linked with these to use later in the *How can you showcase your skills?* task.
- ▶ **Have you got the skills you need?** Students can do this online questionnaire to see what skills they already possess and pinpoint those that they might need to gain: <https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/tools/skillshealthcheck/Pages/default.aspx>

- ▶ **What can you find out this summer?** Encourage students to investigate what's available in your area over the holidays using organisations such as <https://vinspired.com/>
- ▶ **What are your values?** Using ICT facilities, ask students to complete this game thinking about what's important to them – and how this might shape their future careers: www.futuremorph.org/11-13/play/values-game-who-are-you/
- ▶ **How can you prepare for exam success?** Ask your students to share their exam tips before looking at this link to get them into good habits early on: www.which.co.uk/revision

Skills showcase

- ▶ **How can you showcase your strengths?** Students complete the worksheet to consider how they can demonstrate their skills and then write a personal profile: www.which.co.uk/showcaseyourskills
- ▶ **What are transferable skills?** Students can read more about transferable skills using this link: www.futuremorph.org/14-16/applying-for-courses-and-work/transferable-skills/. They can then revisit their worksheet from the *How can you showcase your skills?* task and add any further skills to their lists.

Money matters

- ▶ **Have you opened a bank account?** Find out what students know about bank accounts in general and why they are important. Focus in on student bank accounts using this link: www.which.co.uk/studentbanking
- ▶ **How can you make the most of your money?** Ask students to think about the cost of uni: www.which.co.uk/studentcalculator
- ▶ **Save or spend?** Deliver this lesson outlining the implications for spending and saving with your class: www.pfeg.org/resources/details/money-management-spending-vs-saving

Activity overview

The careers activity planner provides a series of practical activities and ideas to get your students thinking about their future after sixth form, whether they plan to head on to uni, an apprenticeship or start working. Share the front side of this planner with your students. This reverse side provides more detail on running each of the activities.

Key

Use our key to find activities focusing on these key themes:

-  Future plans
-  Skills development
-  Skills showcase
-  Money matters

Why not explore our activity planners for ages 14-16 and 16-18?

- ▶ www.which.co.uk/activity-planner-2
- ▶ www.which.co.uk/activity-planner-3