



# NORTHWOOD COLLEGE

FOR GIRLS

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Careers Education  
and Guidance

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# Careers Education & Guidance

Careers Education and Guidance begins at an early stage at NWC, with a progressive programme that runs right from Year 7 through to Year 13. We believe it is important to consider all options carefully and to keep an open mind as the girls move up through the school.



Girls are encouraged to carry out their own research, using a range of resources suggested by the Head of Careers and have dedicated time during the PSHE programme to explore ideas. Form tutors, Heads of Year and subject staff all lend their support and offer advice.

This booklet highlights key points in the Careers Department Calendar.





# Careers Education & Guidance

## YEAR 7

### Autumn Term

Girls have an introduction to careers through their PSHE lessons. They use the Job Explorer Database software (JED) to explore different careers, and complete the Buzz Test to establish their own interests and learn about key skills for the workplace.

### Spring Term

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme.

### Summer Term

Girls have a dedicated 'Careers Day' during which they have the opportunity to practice key skills by taking part in a business – based team challenge.



# YEAR 8

## Spring Term

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme.

## Summer Term

Girls take the Morrisby Aspirations Questionnaire, which allows them to research possible career paths based on their interests.

Girls take part in the Take our Daughters to Work Day, to experience a day in the life of an adult in the workplace. They complete a task during the day and present their experience to their peer group.

Girls take part in a STEM Careers Day, led by the science staff and supported by NWC alumnae who are now studying a STEM degree or working in a STEM career. Sessions include optometry, psychology, chemistry and engineering.

# YEAR 9

## Autumn Term

A number of PSHE sessions focus on choosing GCSE options and girls have an individual interview with a senior member of staff to discuss their ideas and choices. Girls and parents are invited to attend a GCSE Options Evening.

## Spring Term

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme.

## Summer Term

Girls take part in a Careers Day, at which they hear talks from four visiting speakers before splitting into groups to work on a project around a career area that interests them. This is led by an industry expert (often a NWC alumna or parent).

Girls take part in the 'Girls Like You' event, meeting with NWC alumnae to hear about their journeys and careers.

# YEAR 10

## Spring Term

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme.

Girls are introduced to Unifrog, a fantastic resource that allows them to research future career paths and higher education courses. They can also begin to record their activities and skills and will continue to use Unifrog until they leave in Year 13.

## Summer Term

Girls take part in an 'Enterprise Day', during which they have the opportunity to practise key skills by taking part in a business-based team challenge.

Girls take the Morrisby Profile, a series of psychometric tests that assesses their skills in key areas. The results are then combined with those from an Interests Questionnaire to generate suggested careers and higher education options.

# YEAR 11

## Autumn Term

Having had time to read the Morrisby Report over the summer, girls have an individual interview with the Head of Careers to discuss the findings of the report and to create a Career Action Plan.

## Spring Term

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme.

## Summer Term

Girls take part in a week's work experience, after the GCSE examinations. Placements can be arranged with family or friends, or can be sourced through the company 'Work Experience Partners' who have worked with the school for many years.

Support and guidance is available on GCSE results day.

# YEAR 12

## Autumn Term

Girls are introduced to NWC Connect, an ever-expanding network of alumnae, parents, staff and associates of the school, who are willing to offer support and advice, as well as work experience opportunities. They can also access the GDST Alumnae Network, to take advantage of the experience and expertise of thousands of former GDST students.

## Spring Term

Girls and parents attend a Higher Education evening, to learn about post-18 options, including UCAS applications, apprenticeships and applications to Art/Drama colleges.

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme.

## Summer Term

Girls attend the UCAS Exhibition at the Excel Centre in London, to meet representatives from universities and major employers.

Girls attend the in-house Higher Education Conference, which includes workshops on choosing courses, personal statements and student life.

Registration on UCAS Apply is also completed at this event.

Preparatory courses for girls applying to highly competitive courses, such as, Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Sciences, are held in school and also at GDST Head Office.

Girls continue to use Unifrog to finalise choices and to log activities and skills.

Individual interviews are held to discuss choices and options.





# YEAR 13

## Autumn Term

There is continuing support with UCAS/apprenticeship applications and preparation for interviews is arranged on an individual basis. Mock interviews are conducted by school staff and also external interviewers.

## Spring Term

Advice and guidance given on choosing Firm and Insurance offers.

Girls attend a presentation on Student Finance.

All girls have the opportunity to attend a minimum of three Careers talks, as part of the NWC Horizons programme

## Summer Term

The PSHE programme includes sessions on life skills such as cooking and budgeting. Support and guidance is available on A level results day.





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