



DANES HILL SCHOOL

Careers and Future Education Policy

This policy applies to Prep School

Author/Reviewer responsible:	Head of PD	Date of Review:	September 2024
Authorisation:	SLT	Approved date:	pending
Reviewed by:	Deputy Head Pastoral, Head of Upper School	Date of next Review:	September 2026

1. Introduction

1.1 Throughout their journey at Danes Hill, all pupils are given many opportunities to develop as confident and articulate individuals. During their time at the school they are equipped with values, skills and a desire for learning to enable them to successfully take on the challenges of the next stage of their education and life beyond. The school aims to provide a broad-based education, enabling every pupil to reach their full potential. By educating the whole child, the school can guide and encourage pupils to explore and develop areas of learning that will benefit them when taking the next steps in their education and in choosing a future career. In the Upper school, pupils in years 6, 7 and 8 have Personal Development (PD) lessons, assemblies and workshops which focus on careers. More details are below.

Career and Further Education development at Danes Hill

- In Year 6, all pupils take part in the *Discover You* programme. This enables the pupils to discover their unique passions and qualities, and prepares them for formal interviews for senior schools and beyond.
- All Year 6 pupils have a formal practice interview with a member of SLT, where, amongst other topics, their ideas for future careers are discussed.
- As part of the PD programme, Year 6 pupils attend a Junior Citizenship Day at Epsom Racecourse where they attend sessions from public sector workers such as the police and the RSPCA.
- Every four weeks an external speaker talks to the Upper School children about the sector they specialise in. There is always time for questions from the pupils and the opportunities for any pupils to follow up in more detail. The speakers are mainly parents of pupils at the school or friends or family of pupils at the school, who have mainly been gathered from an annual notice in the school newsletter.
- For year 8 pupils there is a PD day in the summer term where they attend three or four workshops. Topics vary each year but the most recent PD day in summer 2023 included marketing and surgery careers workshops as well as their annual first aid training.
- Danes Hill children are encouraged to take every opportunity to develop sporting, musical, dramatic and other non-academic talents and interests. Each pupil experiences a wide range of activities, enabling them, and their teachers, to identify and encourage potential pathways to future examined subject choices and careers. These opportunities include author workshops, drama and musical productions, trip days to Kidzania, first aid training, sporting fixtures and subject-specific workshops at senior schools. These activities aim to inspire and motivate the pupils to develop their aspirations.
- Extra-curricular clubs and trips support the children's knowledge of areas outside that of the timetabled curriculum.
- Fundamental British Values are embedded within all aspects of the curriculum, enabling the pupils to become responsible and active citizens.

- Future careers are discussed as part of the PD programme, throughout the year groups, but in particular in years 7 and 8 where pupils spend half a term learning about 'life beyond school.'
- In January 2023 a new programme of careers speakers began, and the children hear a talk from, and are able to ask questions of, a visiting speaker about their career every fourth Friday, in the Upper School sectional assembly.
- Alongside assemblies and the pastoral system, the PD scheme of work aims to develop characteristics such as good social and communication skills, resilience, leadership and innovation, which will support the children both during their time at Danes Hill and beyond.
- Pupils in Year 7 are invited to take part in The Raven Award, contributing to the school and the wider community.
- In the Upper School, pupils in years 6, 7 and 8 look more specifically at careers. They are given the opportunity to analyse and reflect on their own skill sets and learn the difference between hard and soft skills