

Careers Programme

September 2025 to July 2026

Summary: Careers trips/events at The Quest Academy are a vital part of the careers programme, offering students meaningful exposure to real workplaces, employers, and further education providers. These experiences help students understand the world of work, make informed choices about their futures, and see the relevance of their learning beyond the classroom. By linking trips to the Gatsby Benchmarks, the academy ensures each visit supports students' career development in a structured and impactful way.

Term	Event / Time	Summary	Year Group	Gatsby Benchmark
Autumn	SKY Up / 10am	The Sky Up: Our Future trip is a free, hands-on studio experience where students create media content in a real Sky facility, supported by professionals. It builds vital 21st-century skills, inspires career aspirations in media and digital tech, and is backed by strong teacher and student feedback - all as part of Sky's larger effort to reduce digital exclusion and boost future-ready talent. Helping students connect school learning with the world of work.	11	5 & 6
Autumn	Home Office Assembly	The assembly will introduce students to the work of the Home Office and the wide range of careers available within the department. Representatives will explain how skills developed in school, such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving are relevant to roles in areas including law enforcement, digital security, policy development, and public service. The session aims to help students understand how their learning connects to real-world careers and to inspire them to consider future pathways within public sector professions.	9, 12 & 13	1, 2, 3 & 7
Autumn	Year 11 Assembly – The John Ruskin College (where can certain subjects take you?)	The Year 11 assembly led by John Ruskin College focuses on helping students understand where different subjects can lead in terms of careers and further education. It highlights how subject choices connect to vocational courses, A-levels, apprenticeships, and future	11	1, 2, 3 & 7

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		job opportunities. Using real examples, the session aims to broaden students' awareness of post-16 pathways and inspire informed decision-making based on their interests and strengths.		
Autumn	Year 10 Work Experience	Year 10 students will take part in a work experience placement designed to help them gain insight into the world of work and develop key employability skills such as communication, teamwork, and problem-solving. The experience will allow students to explore different career pathways, understand employer expectations, and make informed decisions about their future education and career choices.	10	3, 4, 5, 6 & 8
Autumn	SEND Trip to Goldsmiths University	SEND students will take part in a range of activities designed to give them an authentic insight into university life and help them make links between their current studies and future career opportunities. The day will include a welcome and introduction to the university, followed by a series of interactive taster sessions led by Goldsmiths lecturers in different subject areas. Students will also take part in a careers and pathways talk exploring how university study connects to a wide range of professions and enjoy a guided tour of the campus to experience the facilities first-hand.	9	1, 3, 4, 5 & 7
Autumn	London Zoo Careers Assembly	The Animal Careers Talk or Assembly from London Zoo introduces students aged 9–18 to the wide range of careers in the zoo and animal care sector, including roles such as keepers, vets, conservationists, and researchers. The 45-minute interactive workshop (or 20-minute assembly) explores key skills, transferable abilities, and the importance of practical experience.	7	2, 4, 5 & 7
Autumn	What Career? What University? Live	Students will attend the What Career? What University? Live event, designed to help them explore future education and career pathways. They will have the	12 & 13	1, 3, 5 & 7

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		opportunity to meet university representatives, apprenticeship providers, and employers from a range of industries. The event will support students in understanding different routes after school, comparing courses, apprenticeships, and career options, and gaining insight into the skills and qualifications valued by employers.		
Autumn	KS5 Business Taster to Roehampton University	Students will have the opportunity to experience a range of Business taster sessions and explore career pathways linked to higher education and beyond. This visit is designed to help students broaden their understanding of university life, inspire future aspirations, and make meaningful links between their A-Level subjects and potential career opportunities.	12 & 13	1, 3, 4 & 7
Autumn	Year 11 Shakespeare Event	Year 11 students will take part in an engaging Shakespeare event and interactive workshop focused on Romeo and Juliet. The workshop will highlight careers in theatre, performance, creative writing, and the wider arts sector, showing how English and drama skills are used in a range of creative and communication-based professions.	11	1, 3, 4 & 5
Autumn	UCL Ambassador Visit (1:25pm)	Students in KS5 will complete 2x workshop sessions on Student Finance and Money Management / Personal Statements and Super Curriculum Engagement.	12	1, 3, 5 & 7
Autumn	KS5 Roehampton Ambassadors Visit	2 Roehampton University Ambassadors complete a 2-hour presentation focusing on life at university, choosing the correct options and how to deal with finances. This will support students in the next phase of their lives.	13	1, 3, 5 & 7
Autumn	NHS Ambassadors Visit (Medicine and Allied Health Professionals)	The talks are led by a healthcare ambassador from those fields; we would get one ambassador per profession so depending on how many professions you chose you	7 - 11	1, 3, 4 & 5

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		would need a slot each to cover all the talks. Normally we suggest 30-45mins per talk to give enough time for the presentation and questions. The presentation will generally cover things like key skills needed, different pathways into the industry, etc).		
Autumn	Careers Uncovered – Science Museum, London	The Careers Uncovered session at the Science Museum is a free, 60-minute workshop aimed at Key Stage 3 and 4 groups. During this session, students meet technical professionals from leading UK organisations, engaging in hands-on activities and live Q&A. This helps them understand what technical roles involve, the skills required, and how to pursue these careers	10	3, 4, 5 & 6
Spring	Bank of England Seminar	Students with an interest in finance are invited to attend a Bank of England Seminar. This event offers students the opportunity to learn more about the role of the Bank of England, how the UK's financial system works, and key economic topics such as inflation, interest rates, and monetary policy. It's a valuable chance for students considering careers in finance, economics, or business to gain real-world insight from professionals in the field.	10	3, 4, 5 & 6
Spring	London Lifesavers	Students will take part in the London Lifesavers workshop, a practical session focused on essential first aid and emergency response skills, including CPR and how to use a defibrillator. The event will build students' confidence to act in real-life situations and raise awareness of health and public service careers. It will also link learning to roles within the NHS, emergency services, and community health, helping students understand the value of teamwork, communication, and responsibility in lifesaving professions.	8	1, 3 & 5
Spring	South Bank College	Students will attend an assembly delivered by South Bank Colleges. The session will introduce students to what college is, how it differs from secondary school, and the	7	2, 4, 5 & 7

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		opportunities available after Year 11. Students will also learn about the wide range of courses on offer and explore the different career pathways that studying at college can lead to.		
Spring	London UK University & Apprenticeship Search Event (Emirates Stadium).	Students will attend the London UK University & Apprenticeship Search Event at Emirates Stadium, where they will explore a wide range of post-16 and post-18 pathways. The event will provide opportunities to meet representatives from universities, apprenticeship providers, and employers, helping students compare different routes into higher education and the workplace. It will support informed decision-making about future careers and study options, while also developing students' confidence in engaging with professionals and planning their next steps.	12	1, 3, 5 & 7
Summer	EDT Careers Carousel	The carousel event will be a full-day, on-site programme designed to engage the entire Year 9 cohort, with workshops running concurrently and repeated throughout the day to fit the school timetable. The format will include at least three interactive, employer-led workshops, each providing insight into the organisation and sector, a scenario-based task for students to complete, and feedback from employer representatives to enhance learning and engagement. Additional workshops may be less hands-on, such as sessions focused on labour market information, skills development, Q&A discussions, or sector overviews. All sessions will be tailored to the interests and aspirations of Year 9 students, which the school will share in advance through the Future Skills Questionnaire.	9	2, 3, 4, 5 & 7
Summer	The John Ruskin College Taster Day	Visiting John Ruskin College for a taster day is important because it helps students make informed decisions about their next steps after Year 11. It gives them a real feel for	10	4, 5 & 7


















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		college life, introduces them to different courses like T Levels and apprenticeships, and allows them to meet staff and explore the facilities. This experience builds confidence, helps clarify their interests, and ensures they choose a path that suits their goals and strengths.		
Summer	KPMG – Opening Doors	This workshop will give young people real insight into different sectors, boost confidence and develop workplace skills. What's in it for your students? Experience two major local employers in one day, Network with professionals and volunteers from two organisations (KPMG and Croydon Council), Develop core transferable skills such as confidence, problem-solving and communication skills through challenging and engaging hands-on activities, Gain a real sense of what it's like to work in a modern office environment.	8	4, 5 & 6
Summer	Croydon Commitment – Careers Fair (Mock Interviews)	The Croydon Commitment will be organising a Careers Fair for students, bringing together a range of employers and industry professionals. As part of the event, students will take part in mock interviews to help develop their confidence, communication skills, and interview techniques. This event will support students in developing employability skills and preparing for their future career aspirations.	10	3, 5 & 8
Summer	The Army	The Army will visit the school to deliver an assembly followed by a full-day workshop. This provides students with insight into career opportunities within the armed forces, helps develop key skills such as teamwork and leadership, and gives a real understanding of training and career pathways available after school.	8, 9 & 10	5, 6 & 7

The Quest Academy Careers Programme Overview 2025-26

Vision Statement: To prepare all our students for the transition to life beyond secondary school and to support them in making informed decisions which are suitable and ambitious for them.

THE QUEST ACADEMY: YOUR CAREERS ROADMAP 2025-2026

AUTUMN TERM – Exploring Foundations & Aspirations	SPRING TERM – Finance, Health & Future Planning	SUMMER TERM – Practical Skills & Transitions
 <p>Sky Up: Our Future Experience Year 11 students visit a real Sky facility to create media content, building digital tech skills and future-ready talent. 5 6</p>  <p>Home Office & Public Sector Insight An assembly for Years 9, 12, and 13 introducing roles in law enforcement, policy, and digital security within the Home Office. 1 2 3 7</p>  <p>London Zoo Careers Assembly Year 7 students explore diverse roles in animal care, conservation, and research, focusing on transferable skills. 2 4 5 7</p> <p>Higher Education & University Visits Includes SEND trip to Goldsmiths (Yr 9), Business Taster at Roehampton (Yr 12/13), and UCL Ambassador workshops on finance and personal statements. 1 3 4 5 7</p>	 <p>Bank of England Seminar Year 10 students interested in finance learn about inflation, monetary policy, and economic careers from industry professionals. 3 4 5 6</p> <p>Core Skills: Communication, Teamwork, Problem-Solving, Leadership</p>  <p>London Lifesavers Workshop Year 8 students gain practical CPR and first-aid skills, linking community responsibility to careers in the NHS and emergency services. 1 3 3</p> <p>Core Skills: Communication, Teamwork, Problem-Solving, Leadership</p>  <p>University & Apprenticeship Search Year 12 students attend the Emirates Stadium event to meet employers and university representatives to plan post-18 pathways. 1 3 5 7</p> <p>Core Skills: Communication, Teamwork, Problem-Solving, Leadership</p>	 <p>EDT Careers Carousel A full-day immersive programme for Year 9 involving employer-led workshops and scenario-based tasks tailored to student interests. 2 3 4 5 7</p>  <p>KPMG – Opening Doors Year 8 students visit modern office environments at KPMG and Croydon Council to develop problem-solving and communication skills. 4 5 6</p>  <p>Croydon Commitment Careers Fair Year 10 students participate in mock interviews with industry professionals to build confidence and refine interview techniques. 3 5 8</p>  <p>The Army: Leadership & Training A workshop and assembly for Years 8, 9, and 10 focusing on teamwork, leadership, and training pathways in the armed forces. 5 6 7</p>  <p>John Ruskin College Taster Day Year 10 students experience college life first-hand, exploring T Levels and apprenticeships to inform post-11 choices. 4 5 7</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">AUTUMN TERM ACTIVITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Year 11 John Ruskin College Assembly (Yr 11 GB 1 2 3 7)  Year 10 Work Experience (Yr 10 GB 3 4 5 6 9)  What Career? What University? Live (Yr 12, 13 GB 1 5 9 7)  Year 11 Shakespeare & Creative Arts Workshop (Yr 11 GB 1 9 4 9)  NHS Ambassador Visits (Healthcare Pathways) (Yr 7-11 GB 1 3 4 5)  Careers Uncovered at Science Museum (Yr 10 GB 3 4 5 6) 		