



Robert Carre Trust

Work-Related Learning Policy (formerly Schools' policies)

Introduction

The Trust is committed to maximising the benefits for every student, in the development of a whole school approach to work-related learning. The Trust recognises that there should be meaningful work-related learning for all students, and more for some. The Trust wishes to promote work-related learning as part of the learning entitlement for all students and as a means for learning 'about work', learning 'through work' and learning 'for work'

Rationale

Work-related learning has an important contribution to make to the education of all our students in order for them to make an effective transition from school to adulthood and employment. So that students are able to make this effective transition the school provides a wide range of opportunities for students to learn, about, through and for work in a range of contexts. The school has clearly identified work-related learning outcomes for all students together with a set of procedures for assessing individual student's progress. The School Development Plan includes a framework to evaluate the effectiveness of the school's programme of Careers & work-related learning.

Purposes

Work-related learning is concerned with those planned activities that use work as a context for learning or illustrate aspects of working life. The Trust encourages innovative approaches to work-related learning in order to motivate students and to raise standards. The accreditation of students' achievements in work-related learning has an important role to play in supporting the Trust's objectives.

The main purpose of work-related learning is to provide students with a range of activities as part of a balanced and integrated curriculum. The work-related learning opportunities provided by each school contribute to:

- attainment in individual subjects by increasing students' understanding;
- achievement of vocational qualifications by enhanced understanding and relevance to general and specific occupations;
- achievement and development of the main key skills and the wider key skills;
- careers education and guidance by providing an insight into the factors which can inform career choice;
- learning about the world of work and better preparation for the transition from education and training to work;
- personal and social education through the improvement of interpersonal skills, presentation skills, self-confidence, taking initiative, teamwork and taking on responsibility; and
- increasing the breadth of curriculum experience for every student to support them in their preparation for adult life.

Aims for Work-Related Learning

The aims for work-related learning focus on the provision the Trust makes for opportunities for students to prepare for adult and working life and include:

- to improve educational standards through using contexts that improve motivation and attainment for all students;
- to ensure that students follow courses and programmes which are appropriate to their longer-term aspirations and needs;
- to improve students understanding of the world of work and its demands;
- to improve the quality of provision and guidance;
- to increase access and choice for all students;
- to improve the transition of students from school to adult and working life.

The Trust's Objectives

The key objectives for work-related learning are:

- to raise levels of attainment through high quality meaningful work-related learning for all students;
- to develop a range of opportunities which enhance the curriculum;
- to promote greater awareness for students about the world of work, the development of key skills and employability;
- to develop a range of appropriate and relevant activities which assist in raising all students' aspirations and achievement and which are of the highest possible quality and are regularly monitored;
- to promote awareness and understanding of work, industry, the economy and community;
- to relate skills attitudes, concepts and knowledge learned in school to applications in the wider world;
- to develop students' personal and social skills in relationships in a range of contexts;
- to provide students with informed and impartial guidance on the choices available for education, training and employment as well as other interests;
- to improve employability through work-related learning.

Curriculum Provision

The Trust offers a wide range of activities that contribute towards work-related opportunities in order to help prepare students effectively for adult and working life. These activities complement subject teaching, contribute towards the development of students' key skills as well as contributing to lifelong learning opportunities.

The range of activities used across the Trust to meet the objectives will include a selection of the following:

- Vocational BTEC and CTEC
- Other relevant vocational courses such as CAA and IMIAL
- Literature and Project Resources provided by Business
- Careers Education and Guidance through PHSE lessons and Drop Down days as well as tutor time
- Work Experience
- Extended Work Placements
- Work shadowing
- Visits to employers
- Enterprise projects
- Problem Solving and Insight into Work Activities
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)
- Business Mentoring
- Drop Down Enterprise/STEM and Careers Days
- Visitors from Industry and Business
- Remote learning and online opportunities that connect employers to students

Work-related learning within the schools enables each curriculum area to make a full contribution through:

- the development of schemes of work that recognise the importance of work-related learning in preparing students for adult and working life;
- ensuring that all students have access to work-related activities which are appropriate to their needs;
- the use of appropriate teaching and learning strategies;
- the regular review of learning outcomes and assessment arrangements for all work-related programmes and courses;
- ensuring maximum understanding for students of the various aspects of work-related learning to adult and working life;
- ensuring continuity and progression in schemes of work, so that all students can build on work-related experiences from previous levels.

Accreditation

Where possible the Trust ensures that all work-related learning programmes contribute, where appropriate, to approved qualifications set out in the DfE Section 96 list.

Management of Work-Related Learning

The Careers Lead at each school is responsible for

- the management and co-ordination of the various aspects of work-related learning;
- the range of activities in each key stage;
- how the effectiveness and benefits of work-related activities are to be measured, monitored and evaluated;
- the assessment procedures and strategies for student evaluation of activities and learning outcomes;
- the systems to secure balance, progression and continuity; and
- ensuring appropriate channels of communication at senior management level, the Local Governance Tier and across the Robert Carre Trust

Individual subject staff are responsible for:

- ensuring that their schemes of work contribute to work-related aims;
- identifying the types of activity at relevant points in the schemes of work;
- identifying appropriate learning outcomes: skills, attitudes, concepts, knowledge and the strategies to achieve them;
- clarifying how the activities helps progression and learning about, for and through work; and
- indicating the scope for students to set their own learning objectives.

Staff Development

The Trust provides a number of opportunities for staff to undertake relevant and appropriate professional development to support the teaching of work-related learning.

Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic

The Trust is aware that some Work Experience providers are still reluctant, or unable due to their staff working from home, to offer placements, arrange visits or attend school careers events face-to-face. Alternative arrangements, including virtual sessions, will be found wherever possible.

Agreed by the SLT February 2024

Review date: February 2025 (Annually)