**Which way now? Careers guidance and advice**

A future career seems a long way off for most primary age children. Making a connection between what they learn in primary school and the jobs they might one day pursue is not easy.

We know at Iqra securing good academic outcomes provides a lifelong opportunity for success. This is why we ensure that all our pupils get our full support and guidance and are aware of the options and opportunities they have after their school life. The Department for Education’s new careers strategy highlights the importance of employer interactions at primary school, to help young people from an early age connect what they learn at school to jobs they might do in the future. With this in mind, at Iqra we work in partnership with a number of agencies to inspire our pupils, help broaden their horizons and raise their aspirations at this crucial early stage.

* **Transitions -** The transition from primary to secondary school is a big step for pupils. Induction days give pupils an introduction to the very different structure of secondary school. It helps them experience the new environment and what their life will be like. It sets the expectations for the future: students start to learn the routines of the new school and what is expected of them, which will inevitably be different from primary schools. Often pupils go home buzzing about their new school and rather than dreading their first day of Year 7, they start to look forward to it. Throughout the year, Iqra staff work in close partnership with most local secondary schools to ensure the transition process runs as smoothly as possible.

**Exchange program with local Grammar Schools** **-** Iqra pupils are often invited to spend a day at local grammar schools to encourage them to apply in the Autumn term in Year 6. During the day pupils experience what a secondary school timetable is like and are engaged in highly challenging activities such as mathematical challenges, chemistry experiments and setting up business proposals. These activities help pupils to decide what they could aspire to in the future.

* **Opportunities to explore career options** - Over the course of the year, pupils are visited by a range of people in the community for example the local police, fire service, healthcare practitioners and people from the public sector. Assemblies and workshops are delivered and pupils are given the opportunity to ask questions about their careers.

**Kidzania** - In Year 6 Pupils have the opportunity to visit KidZania: a purpose-built city where pupils experience first-hand a wide range of careers. KidZania is all about ‘learning by doing’ and represents experiential learning at its very best. The learning extends beyond the school curriculum and pupils are able to develop a wide range of essential skills and attributes including: team work, communication, entrepreneurship, digital literacy, emotional intelligence and global citizenship. Some of the most popular jobs our pupils try their hand at are: Doctors, Dentists, Paramedics, Police, Journalists and Programmers.

**Heathrow challenge -** In Year 6, Iqra work in partnership with ‘Heathrow Primary School Challenge’ which aims to encourage children to begin thinking about career prospects while teaching them about how the UK's biggest airport exports things like jewellery, machinery, tonnes of fresh salmon and medicines to many destinations across the world. During lessons, children will learn about the Airport's exports before using a computer programme

to create their own cargo journey. The challenge ensures that children have a positive bank of memories, skills and experiences to use when they are ready to get into the world of work.

* **Visits to a University -** Many Universities offer a wide range of inspiring events, workshops and activities for students from all year groups. These are specifically designed to raise aspirations, enhance attainment and encourage informed decision making about study routes and career progression. The activities are designed to provide opportunities for students to develop knowledge, skills and confidence in many areas of their journey towards university.

Please read the following documents for more information:

* <http://www.gatsby.org.uk/uploads/education/good-career-guidance-handbook-digital.pdf>
* <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/664319/Careers_strategy.pdf>