

# ROBERT BLOOMFIELD ACADEMY

VITALITY • OPPORTUNITY • INDEPENDENCE • COMMUNITY • EXCELLENCE

## CAREERS & ASPIRATIONS

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## CAREERS & ASPIRATIONS
## @ Robert Bloomfield Academy

**Inspiring Futures • Developing Ambition • Connecting Learning to the World of Work**

**Could you help us inspire the next generation?**

At Robert Bloomfield Academy, we want every student to leave RBA with **ambition, confidence and a clear understanding of the opportunities available to them.**

Our Careers & Aspirations programme helps students discover the world beyond school, understand how their learning connects to future careers, develop essential workplace skills and begin to make informed decisions about their future.

**But we cannot do this alone.**

We want to build strong partnerships with our **parents, local businesses, organisations, professionals and RBA staff** so that our students can meet real people, hear real experiences and experience the world of work.



# OUR VISION

We believe that **careers education starts early.**

Students should not have to wait until they are choosing GCSEs or leaving school before they begin thinking about their future.

Through our KS3 Careers & Aspirations programme, students will have opportunities to:

- Explore a wide range of careers.
- Discover different routes into employment.
- Meet employers and professionals.
- Understand the skills needed in the workplace.
- Develop confidence and communication skills.
- Connect subjects they study in school with future careers.
- Challenge stereotypes and broaden their horizons.
- Understand local, national and global employment opportunities.
- Develop aspirations and set goals for their future.
- Gain experience of workplace environments.

**Our aim is to help students move from:**

***"I don't know what I want to do."***



**to:**

***"I know what interests me,***
***I understand my options***
***and I know what I can do next."***



# WHAT DOES CAREERS EDUCATION LOOK LIKE AT RBA?

Careers education is not just a careers fair once a year.

We are developing a **careers-rich culture across the school**, where students regularly encounter careers, employers, skills and future pathways.

**Students may experience:**



### Careers Assemblies
**Professionals sharing their career journeys and experiences.**



### Employer Visits
**Opportunities to learn directly from local organisations.**



### Careers Talks & Workshops
**Interactive sessions exploring particular industries and professions.**



### Work-Related Learning
**Activities that develop students' understanding of the workplace.**



### Career Exploration
**Researching different jobs, sectors and pathways.**



### Skills Development
**Communication, teamwork, problem-solving, leadership and resilience.**



### Mock Interviews
**Developing confidence and interview skills.**



### Encounters with Employers
**Helping students understand what employers look for.**



### Aspirations Activities
**Encouraging students to recognise their strengths and consider their future possibilities.**

# WHY DOES YOUR INVOLVEMENT MATTER?

A student hearing from a real engineer, nurse, designer, entrepreneur, lawyer, scientist, chef, journalist, technician or business owner can make a career feel **real and achievable**.

Your experience can help students understand:

- What a typical working day looks like.
- What skills employers value.
- Which subjects are useful for different careers.
- What qualifications or training might be required.
- The different routes into employment.
- The challenges and rewards of different careers.
- How skills developed at school are used in the workplace.

Sometimes, **one conversation can change a student's understanding of what is possible.**



# HOW CAN YOU HELP?

You do **not** need to be a careers expert.

We are looking for people who are willing to share their **experience, knowledge and enthusiasm.**

## PARENTS & CARERS

You could:

- Talk to a class about your job.
- Take part in a careers assembly.
- Support a careers event.
- Share your career journey.
- Run a workshop linked to your area of expertise.
- Host a workplace visit where appropriate.
- Help students understand different routes into your industry.

**Your job doesn't have to be unusual or glamorous.**

Students benefit from hearing about the full range of careers and pathways available to them.



CAREERS & ASPIRATIONS

# LOCAL BUSINESSES & ORGANISATIONS

We would love to develop **long-term partnerships with local employers.**

You could support us by:

- Providing a guest speaker.
- Running a careers workshop.
- Attending our careers events.
- Supporting mock interviews.
- Providing workplace visits.
- Offering work-shadowing opportunities.
- Providing an insight into your industry.
- Supporting enterprise or problem-solving challenges.
- Helping students understand the skills your industry needs.
- Providing staff volunteers for careers activities.

We are particularly interested in developing relationships with organisations across **Central Bedfordshire and the wider local area.**



# RBA STAFF

Every member of staff has a role to play in raising aspirations.



You can help by:

- Making links between curriculum learning and careers.
- Highlighting careers connected to your subject.
- Sharing your own career journey.
- Inviting employers or professionals into lessons.
- Identifying careers opportunities for students.
- Encouraging students to recognise their strengths.
- Challenging career stereotypes.
- Signposting students towards opportunities.

**Every subject can open a door to a future career.**

# OUR STUDENTS HAVE A VOICE

We are establishing a team of **Student Aspirations Ambassadors** who will help shape careers education at RBA.

Our Ambassadors will:

- Gather student views.
- Suggest careers activities and events.
- Help organise careers opportunities.
- Promote events to other students.
- Welcome employers and visitors.
- Collect feedback.
- Help us make careers education relevant and engaging.

This means our careers programme will be shaped **with students, not simply for students.**







# WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

We would particularly welcome support from people working in:

**Health & Social Care | Engineering | Technology | Science | Construction | Finance Law | Education | Creative Industries | Media | Sport | Hospitality | Retail | Business Public Services | Environment | Transport | Manufacturing | Digital Industries Entrepreneurship**

However, **every career has value**.

If you are willing to share your experience, we would love to hear from you.

# YOU COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE

You might think:

***"I'm not sure what I could offer."***

You don't need to deliver a complicated presentation.

You could simply answer questions such as:

- ***What do you do?***
- ***How did you get into your job?***
- ***What skills do you use?***
- ***What do you enjoy about your work?***
- ***What would you tell your younger self?***
- ***What advice would you give to a 13-year-old thinking about their future?***

These conversations can help students develop a much clearer picture of the world of work.





# LET'S BUILD A CAREERS COMMUNITY

We want RBA to become a school where careers and aspirations are part of everyday school life. To achieve this, we need a strong community of:




## WORKING TOGETHER

Your time, experience and enthusiasm could help a young person discover an interest, develop a skill or see a career they had never previously considered.

# HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

If you are a **parent, carer, member of staff, local employer or community organisation** and would be interested in supporting our Careers & Aspirations programme, please contact:

### RBA Careers & Aspirations Team

**RBA-Enquiries@bestacademies.org.uk**

**01462 628800**

**www.robertbloomfield.beds.sch.uk/welcome**

We would be delighted to hear from you and discuss how you could get involved.

# YOUR EXPERIENCE COULD INSPIRE THEIR FUTURE

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Robert Bloomfield School  robertbms

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