

MANCHESTER COMMUNICATION PRIMARY ACADEMY

CURRICULUM ASPECT OVERVIEW

Aspirations and Careers

Curriculum





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WHAT

Ensuring the highest possible career aspirations is very important in primary school. It enables children to understand the importance of their formative years in shaping the person that they want to become and helps to broaden their horizons. Ofsted conducted a survey in 2011, finding that the primary aged pupils taking part 'already had established views on work 'roles' and quite stereotypical personal opinions even though they knew in principle that any job is possible, irrespective of gender.' This could also include ethnicity, religion, sexuality and socio-economic background. If this is the case, we must work to break down these boundaries. We must help children to 'understand the full range of opportunities available to them' (DfE).

WHY

It is important that all genders and those who identify as having no gender know, intrinsically, that all jobs are open for them. A piece of recent research states that 'children's career aspirations are unlikely to change between the ages of seven and 17'. If children are deciding what they want to do with their lives from such an early age, they need to be aware of what careers and pathways are available to them from an early age, to ensure that they have high aspirations and expectations for their lives.

In 2017 the government released their Careers Strategy in which they concentrate on giving the best opportunities for 'social mobility'. It also highlights the importance of helping children 'understand the range of opportunities available to them'. They 'want every person, no matter what their background is, to be able to build a rewarding career.'

This is an ambition which we share both as a school and as a trust. When Manchester Communication Academy (the high school) opened in 2010 (4 years before the formation of the trust and subsequent opening of MCPA), its mission was to 'be the agent of change in the local community'. Its intention was not just to be a school for children but to have a wider impact on the whole family and in turn the local community by raising the life chances of anyone who was connected to it. Our careers and aspirations strategy is closely aligned to that of MCA, to ensure that our careers pipe-line takes children to the top of their field.

An important aspect of this is to ensure children understand how their education impacts their future. By providing children with this knowledge, through meeting people who can talk about how their education impacted their future, and teachers having these conversations with their class, the children can better understand how important it is to value their education and always aspire to achieve their best. Equally, it is important to discuss how lives can change as they grow up, and learn about less conventional ways into certain job fields.

According to the IDACI ratings, Harpurhey has one of the highest levels of social deprivation in the country. Part of the DfE's career strategy is to 'end the generational cycle of disadvantage which means that people from poorer

backgrounds earn significantly less than those with wealthier parents'. In order to 'end the cycle of disadvantage', they need to be aware of the wide variety of jobs and interests that are open to them. Research by 'Education and Employers' show that 36% of primary school children base their career aspirations on people they know, whilst 45% rely on what they see on TV and in films. By interacting with real life people, who have different careers, many of which they may not have heard about before, children are exposed to more opportunity and become better informed about what they could do.

Moreover, deprivation statistics show that, in our local area, 22.5% of people suffer from income and employment deprivation. Therefore, it is even more important to ensure that children who live and grow up in Harpurhey are as informed as possible and over-exposed to positive career role models, including those with whom they can relate by way of being 'local' or other relatable features such as shared heritage or life experiences.

HOW

Whilst one-off events such as careers week have their place and can add value to the offer, the strategy is centred on integrating sessions with role-models throughout the curriculum. This has been planned to exploit the naturally occurring links, so that if children are learning about medicine, they speak to a doctor for example. Where possible, the role-models are chosen to challenge gender stereotypes, using for example a male dancer or a female mechanic. This is intended to reinforce the message that all careers are open to all people. Whenever possible, the demographic of our children is also considered, so that role-models provide relatable figures who will inspire children.

Attached at the end of this document is the current year plan. This is continually evolving with the curriculum and as new links are made. We work closely with the careers lead at MCA to ensure that any new links are capitalised on by both schools also.

IMPACT

MCPA's approach to careers and aspirations learning ensures that:

- Children are equipped with the career-focussed knowledge required for their continuous development into adulthood.
- Children understand the full range of opportunities available to them by meeting with people from different backgrounds, cultures, ethnicities, sexualities and religions, and learning about their lives and how they got in the position that they are in.
- Children have high aspirations for themselves and those around them.
- The impact of 'aspirations' and 'career-focussed learning' will be felt most keenly by the children in their future lives, when they reach the age at which they begin applying for jobs. By having such an education in their primary school years, and being taught what jobs are available, they will be more cognisant of the opportunities available to them.

CAREERS / ASPIRATIONS EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

	AUTUMN 1	AUTUMN 2	SPRING 1	SPRING 2	SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
NURSERY	All About Me What's my Job? (Key Worker Parents)	Glow in the Dark	Arctic Adventures	It's a Bug's Life Bug Workshop (Creepy Crawly Road-show)	Wonders of the Ocean	Lotions and Potions
RECEPTION	Getting to Know You What's my Job? (Key Worker Parents)	We're in the land of make believe (Shrek 2)	Fantastic Beasts Trip to Lyme Park	Superheroes (real vs make believe) Helping the Community (Key Worker Parents) Marvel Character Creation (STEM) Visit a Sikh Gurdwara	Buckle up, we are going on a journey Air Host or Pilot (Manchester Airport) Tram Driver (Metrolink or HC) Bus Driver (First Bus)	Amazing Animals Animal workshop (RSPCA / PDSA / Pets at Home/ Manchester Dogs Home)
YEAR 1	Under the Sea Marine Biologist (STEM)	Great Fire of London Firefighters (Blackley Fire Station or HC) Bakery Trip (ASDA) Baking Workshop (MCA)	Dinosaurs Archaeologist (Kieran - MCA) Dinosaurs Exhibition (Manchester Museum)	The Royal Family	Where we live Tram Driver (Metrolink or HC) Bus Driver (First Bus)	Where We Live Librarian workshop/trip (North City Library)
YEAR 2	Pirates Marvel Music Composer (STEM) Science Nurse visit to talk about good hygiene and balanced diet	Gunpowder Plot Explosions Show (MOSI) Visit a church Drama Workshop (CM)	On Safari Air Host or Pilot (Manchester Airport) African Drumming Workshop (RNCM or other)	Magnificent Mancunians Emmeline Pankhurst - women's rights charity or museum Alan Turing - computer science connections via MCA/BT Lowry Trip - possible events?	Oh I do like to be beside the seaside Lifeguard (RNLI) Trip to Blackpool	Stories from Around the World Cookery/Art Workshop (MCA) African Drumming Workshop (RNCM or other)
YEAR 3	Ancient Egypt Science Nurse visit to talk about good hygiene and balanced diet	Natural Disasters Journalist (Media City) News Reporter (Media City)	Romans in Britain Architect Roadworks Engineer Pizza Making Workshop (Pizza Express or MCA) Visit a Synagogue	Tudors	Contrasting Settlements Farmer (JN) Farming and Production Workshop (Arla) Farming to Plate Scheme Horticulture (Allotments or Hulme Community Gardens)	Inventors

CAREERS / ASPIRATIONS EVENT OPPORTUNITIES

	AUTUMN 1	AUTUMN 2	SPRING 1	SPRING 2	SUMMER 1	SUMMER 2
YEAR 4	Extreme Weather Weather Reporter (Media City) Satellite Analyst?	Vikings Carpentry and Joinery Workshop (The Manchester College) Science Audiologist (NB)	Pollution Pollution Workshop (Protecting the Playground Project)	Medicine throughout History BAME NHS links (North Manchester General Hospitals) Midwife / Doctor (H EL-B) Pharmacist / Orthotist (FA)	Manchester, so much to answer for. Industrial Revolution (MOSI) Female Coaching Session (Manchester City) Visit a Mosque	English Myths (King Arthur / Robin Hood) Tree Surgeon Planting Trees Scheme?
YEAR 5	The Industrial Revolution Females in the industry Workshop (MOSI - STEM) The Revolution Manchester Show (MOSI) Textiles Demonstration (MOSI)	Charles Dickens Author / Illustrator Workshop Victorian Drama Workshop (CM) Science Trip to Jodrell Bank	The British Isles Economy links?	Mountains and Rivers Engineer / Technician Talk or Workshop (United Utilities)	Ancient Greece Politician (Local MP) Olympic or Paralympic Sport?	Greek Mythology Cook or Chef (Greek Restaurant)
YEAR 6	Macbeth Drama Workshop (Shaking Up Shakespeare)	Crime and Punishment Solicitor / Barrister (NB) Communication Workshop (Debate Mate) PE - netball British netball coach Science Optician (NB)	Wartime in Britain RAF Bootcamp Training (MR - MCA) Aircraft Engineering (MOSI) Railway Engineer (National Rail or Network Rail)	Wartime Abroad RAF Bootcamp Training (MR - MCA) PE-tennis Wheelchair tennis coach	Rainforests Climate Change Ambassador (STEM) Conservation / Preservation Charity	
WHOLE SCHOOL	Black History Month African Drumming / Steel Pans workshop (RNCM or other) Akeim Mundell BEM Storytelling Workshop (Storie Storie) Wear Red Day (16th October) Whole School Assembly and/or workshops (Show Racism the Red Card) SRtRC Charity Fundraiser		MCPA Careers Fair The Manchester College Links with MR	National Careers Week (1st - 6th March) What's My Job (TVR) World Book Day (4th March) Poet / Poetry Workshop Reading with Sports Coaches (Manchester City) International Women's Day (8th March) Midwife (H EL-B) British Science Week H EL-B links Red Nose Day (13th March) RND Charity Fundraiser		Sports Day