



Fitzwaryn School Careers and Post School Guidance

Information for Families

A person's 'career' is their journey through life, learning and, where appropriate, work. Every person's career will be different, but our aim is to support our pupils with learning the skills and knowledge to move beyond the school into a meaningful lifestyle where they are happy with how they spend their time, have an active part in their local community and have a good standard of living.

Within school, pupils take part in a range of timely activities presented according to their individual needs. This ensures that they are well informed and able to play an active part in determining their future pathways post school.

This guide is to assist parents with the steps to be taken to support their child as they move through the school to ensure a smooth transition into adult life beyond Fitzwaryn.

School staff endeavour to understand the challenges faced by parents and carers and will support you throughout your child's time at school to help determine their best options for the future.

Independent advice and guidance is available for every young person and their family throughout their time at school. Our Careers Leader is Hannah Gordon and she can be contacted by email at office.7027@fitzwarryn.oxon.sch.uk or by phone on 01235 764504.

Young people in England are required to stay in education until the age of 18. This may be in full time education (6th form or college), on an apprenticeship/traineeship or in part time education accompanied by paid work/volunteering.

USEFUL LINKS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

[School leaving age - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

[Find an apprenticeship - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

[Careers advice - job profiles, information and resources | National Careers Service](#)

[Special educational needs and disability: The local offer | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

[Local Offer | West Berkshire Directory](#)

Yearly Planner

Year 9

Year 9 is a good time to start helping your child to think about their future.

From school year 9, the annual review will include a focus on preparing for adulthood.

Areas discussed will continue to include education, health, and community inclusion.

From this review onwards, choices for after Fitzwaryn will also be considered including employment and independent living.

Help your child think about their strengths, abilities and what they enjoy.	The Buzz Quiz is a fun way to look at personality type and what might be suitable choices for your future. Buzz quiz - icould
Research future choices.	Arrange a meeting with school for careers information, advice and guidance to find out more about future choices including post school education, employment, house, out of school activities/community inclusion/friendships, and use of the local offer. Key Topics to cover at annual reviews from year 9 2019 (preparingforadulthood.org.uk)
Check and update the All About Me parents perspective for your child's EHCP.	This must be submitted to school when requested prior to your child's annual review meeting. You can ask your child's teacher for support with this if needed. Ideas and support are also available online, including Nancy's tips for writing an EHCP parental statement - Special Needs Jungle
Agree EHCP outcomes in line with moving into adulthood at the annual review meeting.	This a significant review for your child where aspirations and plans for adulthood will begin to be discussed. School will support with updating your child's EHCP and will help with ensuring that the outcomes planning that is introduced in this review reflects their aspirations for adult life.
Open a bank account for your child.	Open a simple debit card bank account jointly in the child's name. Seek advice from your bank on an account that can transfer to your child once they reach adulthood.

Yearly Planner

Year 10

At the end of year 11, your child will have the choice to remain at Fitzwaryn school and move into the Student Centre (sixth form) or move on to further education elsewhere. Young people are expected to stay in education until the age of 18 years. Special educational need provision is available for longer if required (up to 25 years), if your child can be seen to be making progress.

A common pathway is for young adults to spend 3 years at sixth form and then go on to college, although college courses can be started at age 16.

Explore post 16 options	<p>Open days are a good way to explore what is on offer, both in terms of the course and support available for your child. Some examples of courses are below.</p> <p>General open days are advertised on the college websites, individual visits are also available – contact Hannah Gordon for guidance, help with contacts for arranging visits and for further options.</p> <p>Oxfordshire County Council information on further education, jobs and training for children and young people with SEN can be found at Further education, jobs and training for children and young people with SEN Oxfordshire County Council</p> <p>West Berkshire County Council information on further education, jobs and training for children and young people with SEN can be found at Preparing for Adulthood West Berkshire Directory</p> <p>Student Centre information can be found at Fitzwaryn School – About the Student Centre Student Centre visits by arrangement, please email the office.</p> <p>Abingdon and Witney College, Abingdon Campus Pathways – Towards Independence – Abingdon & Witney College (abingdon-witney.ac.uk) Pathways – Towards Employability – Abingdon & Witney College (abingdon-witney.ac.uk)</p> <p>Abingdon and Witney College, Witney Campus Pathways – Abingdon & Witney College (abingdon-witney.ac.uk)</p>
Ensure that your child is on the GP's lifelong disability register	<p>The learning disability register – how to sign up and why you should – United Response</p>

Yearly Planner

Year 11

At the end of school year 11, there is a choice on whether to remain at school or move onto education elsewhere.

All young people must stay in some form of learning until the age of 18 years.

Once a young person reaches the age of 16 years, provided they have the mental capacity, the right to make requests and decision is now theirs, rather than their parents (Part 3, Children and Families Act 2014, Mental Capacity Act 2005).

Decide with your child on their choice of post 16 education and make an application for a place.	Special educational needs and disability: The local offer Oxfordshire County Council Local Offer West Berkshire Directory
Seek advice on benefits for young people aged 16 years and over.	Child Benefit stops on 31 August or after your child's 16 th birthday if they leave education or training, however, it will continue if they remain in approved education or training and they do not apply for other benefits in their own right Child Benefit when your child turns 16 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Once a child reaches 16 years old they can claim benefits in their own right. Individual circumstances must be considered in deciding the best options for your family. Your child may be entitled to New ESA, Universal Credit, a Student Bursary, PIP. If your child is unable to manage their own benefits, you can become their appointee. This gives you the responsibility to make claims on their behalf and to keep the DWP informed of any changes in your child's circumstances. You can also manage their benefits payments. A guide for parents of disabled children can be found at Benefits at 16 Contact A webinar can be seen at Webinar Recording - benefits for disabled young people 16-19 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland - YouTube
Understand the implications of the mental capacity act	A 5 minute video on the mental capacity act for parents and carers can be found at The Mental Capacity Act: an animated guide by Infodeo - YouTube
Consider if it is appropriate to become a Deputy for your child via the Court of Protection	The Court of Protection make decisions on financial or welfare matters for people who can't make their own decisions at the time they need to be made. They may also appoint a deputy who makes ongoing decisions for those that lack capacity. This is a legal process. See Court of Protection - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
Continuing helping your child plan for the future by starting to consider post 19 options.	For advice and guidance, call and arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher or Hannah Gordon (Careers Lead).

Yearly Planner

Year 12

Even though young people have just arrived in the Student Centre, we will begin planning with them and their families ready for leaving Fitzwaryn School.

Apply for a student bursary if appropriate.	If your research has determined the best option for your family is for your child to apply for benefits in their own right and they are entitled to New ESA (Employment and Support Allowance) and PIP (Personal Independence Payment), apply for a student bursary.
Consider your child's community support once they reach 18 years old.	If you do not have a social worker in the Children's Disability Team, and your child is aged 17 and a half, you can choose to apply to the adult social care team for support for them once they reach adulthood online here Social and health care Oxfordshire County Council
Support your child to research post 19 options.	<p>Discuss ideas for post 19 provision with class teacher or careers lead at the Autumn Term Parents Evening.</p> <p>Visit post 19 providers to help firm up choices. Hannah Gordon can help with contact details if needed. Consider local colleges, residential colleges, supported internships, employment.</p> <p>Abingdon and Witney College Pathways - Abingdon & Witney College (abingdon-witney.ac.uk)</p> <p>Newbury College High Needs (newbury-college.ac.uk)</p> <p>Horizon College, Swindon Horizons College - Home</p> <p>Oxford College SEND - City of Oxford College (activatelearning.ac.uk)</p> <p>Residential Colleges Home Page - Natspec</p> <p>Employment and local labour market information Find Your Future OxLEP (oxfordshirelep.com)</p> <p>Further education, jobs and training for children and young people with SEN Oxfordshire County Council</p> <p>Inform annual review meeting of thoughts on post 19 choices, and the general decisions that have been made such as type of education provider, living arrangements etc.</p>

Yearly Planner

Year 13

At the end of this school year the Transition Annual Review will take place.

Students should be ready to state where they want to go after Fitzwaryn by the year 13 Transition Annual Review.

When firming up on what's next, consider all of the outcomes from the EHCP. Think about education and health, but also community inclusion and keeping in touch with friends, routes to employment and living arrangements. Will a young person remain in the family home or move to residential college or supported living?

<p>In the Autumn term, complete any final visits to place that your child may wish to move onto after Fitzwaryn.</p>	<p>As decisions are finalised, keep school and your child's SEN Officer informed of your plans, especially if you are considering out of county placements.</p> <p>Discuss ideas for post 19 provision with class teacher and Careers Lead at the Autumn Term Parents Evening. Further support to help with visits / decision making can be provided if needed. Be clear as to why your choices will provide the best outcomes for your child, and why other options aren't suitable. When making decisions, try to look forward to where your child would like to be after their next destination.</p>
<p>Inform annual review meeting of firm decision on post 19 destination.</p>	<p>Your choices for your child's next destination can be recorded in the parent / carers section of the EHCP report. This will inform the local authority SEN team when they begin to consult with colleges about whether the college can offer a place early in year 14.</p> <p>Local college is the most straight forward case where funding for continued education and the provision of transport should continue. The SEN Team have a statutory duty to ask if the local college feels that they can meet your child's educational needs as this is likely to be the most cost effective option (and they are using public money). However, if you and your child feel that the best option for your child is elsewhere, a clear explanation will be required along with why a local option would not be considered suitable.</p> <p>It is important to keep in touch with the SEN Officer during this year as this may enable you to agree the desired destination for your child without a need for challenging decisions and a possible tribunal later in the process.</p>
<p>When your child turns 18, their social care will move from the children's disability team into the adults social care team. Health care (including therapy services) will move to the adult health team.</p>	<p>If your child has a social worker, this transition should begin around the time that they reach 17 and a half years old.</p> <p>A social worker from the adult team will meet with you and complete an assessment to determine the package of support that your child will receive once they become an adult.</p> <p>The adult social worker will also support the family alongside the SEN officer and school with what your child's day to day life will consist of once they leave school.</p>

Yearly Planner

Year 14

Your child is now in their final year at Fitzwaryn School. This school year will have an emphasis on supporting them to move onto their next destination (transition).

School staff will support individual students alongside staff who will be supporting them wherever they will go to next. This often includes staff from colleges visiting students at Fitzwaryn and then Fitzwaryn staff supporting students for transition sessions with whichever provider the student will move on to.

<p>During the Autumn term the SEN team will consult with colleges and other providers to check that they are able to meet your child's needs.</p>	<p>Having a clear plan as to where your child would like to go next is vital for this process to run as smoothly as possible.</p> <p>The SEN team will often consult with more than one possible provider for your child. They then have a statutory duty to update your child's EHCP with the name of their next education provision by the 31st of March in the year that they will leave Fitzwaryn.</p> <p>The SEN team will work with the adult social care team to determine funding for education, transport and the other support (such as clubs, activities and support from care services) that your child will require</p>
<p>During this year, your child will complete a CV with information about themselves ready for moving on from Fitzwaryn.</p>	<p>Where appropriate, students will complete work experience placements as independently as possible during this year.</p> <p>Where appropriate, families are encouraged to seek work experience or part time work for their child using their own community contacts. Information on work experience and volunteering can be found on the OXME website. Work experience OXME.INFO</p> <p>All students will continue to develop their skills for work during Student Centre's enterprise activities (coffee mornings, card production and sales, onsite staff lunch services).</p>
<p>Work on independent travel training will continue to promote as much independence as is appropriate within the local community</p>	<p>Independent travel training will continue to build upon skills developed in years 12 and 13. The aim is for each student to be as independent as possible in getting around the local community before they leave school. These skills can be supported outside of the school day.</p>
<p>If your child has chosen to move into employment support services are available</p>	<p>Oxfordshire Employment offer supported internships / traineeships (a supported scheme similar to an apprenticeship) and support into work Oxfordshire Employment Oxfordshire County Council</p> <p>Further opportunities can be found at Find a traineeship - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Local colleges also offer traineeship and apprenticeship schemes. The local Job Centre will have a named Disability Employment Advisor who can help your child with finding work.</p>