

MEA Careers

At Manchester Enterprise Academy we aim to provide an aspiring CEIAG (Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance) programme, which meets the needs of all our students in preparing them for the world of work and a fantastic future. We aim to provide our students with impartial advice and guidance to help them make decisions about their future pathways.

[Read more](#)

What we offer:

MEA Mentoring

To raise aspirations, fuel ambition and prepare students for the world of work students from Y9 to Y11 are involved in a bespoke “Entrepreneurship Mentoring Programme” with Lloyds Banking Group. The mentoring programmes involves:

- Careers guidance
- Sessions on building students employability skills, such as leadership, organisation, personal branding, networking, confidence, team working and communication
- Mock interview
- A Visit to Lloyds Banking Group to gain an insight into the work place environment and behaviours.

To introduce students to the construction sector and provide guidance on careers in construction, a group of students are given the opportunity take part in a bespoke 12 week mentoring programme with Willmott Dixon.

Year 11 students have the opportunity to be mentored by a teacher in the Academy who can provided CEIAG and academic guidance regularly.

All of our sixth form students are provided with a mentor from local businesses and organisations who they meet once a week to discuss and gain guidance on career pathways.

Careers Talks and Events

MEA welcomes employers, colleges and careers advisors to host **careers talks** for our students. We also attend local **careers fair** and host our own careers fair where students are given the opportunity to talks to organisations from a range of different sectors, such as health, sport, banking, charities, construction, retail finance, army, police, fire services.

Students from Year 7 to Year 11 take part in the **Gateways Programme** with the University of Manchester, which allows our students to participate in a coherent series of academic enrichment and higher education (HE) awareness activities to develop their knowledge and understanding of university, the subjects offered in HE, and to continue developing their skills.

Students are given the opportunity to take part and attend **STEM events** throughout the year to gain an understanding of the different jobs available in that field.

Workplace Visit

At MEA there are many opportunities to visit different workplaces. Each year our students attend workplaces such as SETA, Amazon, Jaguar Land Rover, Manchester NHS hospitals, Manchester Universities, Siemens, Electrium, Ernst & Young, Accenture, Manchester Airport, UK Fast, Vodafone, Willmott Dixon, Manchester United, BBC and Lloyds Banking Group.

Every Wednesday afternoon, our sixth form students take part in work experience.

Sixth Form, College and University Applications

Students in Year 11 and 13 are fully supported when they are applying for colleges and universities, with CV writing, personal statements, completing application forms, preparing for an interview, providing a reference, UCAS applications and organising visits to universities. This takes place during Fantastic Futures lessons, tutor time, one to one drop in sessions with career advisors and staff.

In addition to the CEIAG Fantastic Futures lessons, students take part in CEIAG activities once a week during tutor time such as completing destination surveys, one to one interviews, researching courses and college, learning about the labour market.

Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to gain impartial guidance from a careers advisor as well as guidance from our in-house team.

Enterprise and Employability Skills

At MEA we provide a variety of opportunities and activities to help students develop their employability skills to prepare them for the world of work. The employability skills we focus on developing are the LORIC skills (leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communications). Opportunities and activities include students leadership roles, PIXL Edge –Apprentice Programme, MEA X-TRA's, Dragons Den competition, Stock Market Challenge, Debate Mate, Diversity Ambassadors. Students are encouraged regularly to build their skills, and also reflect on the skills which they have used.

Fantastic Futures Curriculum

CEIAG is provided through our Fantastic Futures programme in all years. Each year has a different focus:

- Year 7 – Employ Me project with Accenture
- Year 8 - Choosing GCSE Options
- Year 9 – What does the future look like for me
- Year 10 – Looking at careers choices
- Year 11 – Making post 16 career choices

For more information see the Careers Plan document.

Year 7

In our Fantastic Futures lessons a careers unit is delivered to all years, from Y7 to Y13. Our Year 7 students take part in an “Employ Me” unit of work in partnership with Accenture. This unit of work is based around students recognising employability skills, including soft skills such as being a team player, being organised, considerate of others etc. The unit also introduces students to a wide array of jobs - they consider location, salary and qualifications. Students are given the opportunity to complete an application form, present in front of the class with 12 finalists going through to a final ‘mock’ assessment centre at Accenture.

Year 8

In Year 8 students are taught a unit called My Future: Academic and Careers. This unit includes what jobs students would like to do in the future and the importance of being employed. They will research what qualifications and employability skills they will require. Students take part in a range of activities such as:

- Emotional intelligence
- Women in Business
- Getting a job, keeping a job
- Performance management

Students are supported throughout the options process through assemblies, talks, option evenings and option booklets. Students receive guidance to facilitate a successful study pathway for each and every student.

Year 9

In the summer term, during the Fantastic Futures lessons, students focus on

- What lies ahead of MEA, and how can networking help me?
- Exploring and addressing what the future looks like for me.
- What will my journey be after MEA?

Year 10

In the Year 10 Fantastic Future lessons, students are taught a unit called “My Career Choices”. During this unit they focus on:

- Leadership skills
- The importance of developing LORIC (leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communications) skills, which are required in order to be employable.
- Exploring different post-16 choices.
- Linking own strengths and weaknesses to job profiles.
- Developing an awareness of different job sectors.
- Learning about apprenticeships.

Towards the end of Year 10 students receive impartial guidance from a careers advisor to discuss their future destinations.

Year 11

In the Year 11 Fantastic Futures lesson students start the academic year by:

- Completing personal development plans.
- Understanding the skills employers are looking for.
- Planning suitable career pathways.
- Learning how to write a CV, personal statement and complete an application form.
- Learning about university life.

In addition to the CEIAG Fantastic Futures lessons, students take part in CEIAG activities once a week during tutor time such as completing destination surveys, one to one interviews, researching courses and college, learning about the labour market.

Throughout the year, students have the opportunity to gain impartial guidance from a careers advisor as well as guidance from our in-house team.

In the autumn term we host a Fantastic Futures week which involves:

- Students learning about how their subjects link to different jobs
- Attending the MEA careers fair
- Sixth form taster day
- Inspirational talks from Manchester United

Sixth form

In the sixth form Fantastic Futures, students:

- Explore the different pathways such as apprenticeships, higher education courses, and employment
- Explore universities
- Receive one to one impartial guidance from a careers advisor
- Complete UCAS applications