



Soar Valley College

A SPECIALIST MATHS AND COMPUTING COLLEGE

Welcome to Key Stage 4

Sept 2026

ASPIRE ENJOY ACHIEVE



Aims of this evening

- Making a successful transition to KS4
- Work experience key steps
- How you can support your child



Key people

- Form Tutors and teaching staff Year 10
- Mrs O'Flynn – Associate Head of Year 10
- Mr Wade - Head of Year 10
- Mr Ridgeway – Assistant Principal KS4
- Miss Houlton - Careers Leader
- Mrs Patel – Careers Adviser
- Year 10- Parents/Carers
- Year 10- Students





Moving to Key Stage 4

- Expectations are still very high
- Demands and challenges are even greater
- GCSE subjects will require greater depth of study and new skills
- Every lesson, every homework, every piece of work – all will make a difference
- It's not all about results, but...
- Results will determine next steps, and that affects their future plans
- 100% **effort** will give the best results





Some facts about the GCSEs

- Majority have terminal exams
- A few have NEAs such as DT, Art etc.
- Tiers in Maths, Science, MFL
- Science is worth 2 GCSEs and so receives two grades, from 1,1 to 9,9. The grades can be different, e.g. 5,6
- Some subjects are vocational courses, e.g. Creative Media Production and Information Technology
- These are graded differently – Distinction*, Distinction, Merit, Pass



Post 16 requirements

- All students must achieve a minimum of a grade 4 in English and Maths
- Students not achieving grade 4 in English or Maths will need to continue studying these subjects as part of their post-16 studies.





In school

- High quality teaching
- Regular feedback for students and parents on targets and predicted grades, as well as effort, homework and attitudes to learning
- Targeted interventions for students
- Develop key skills such as resilience, independence





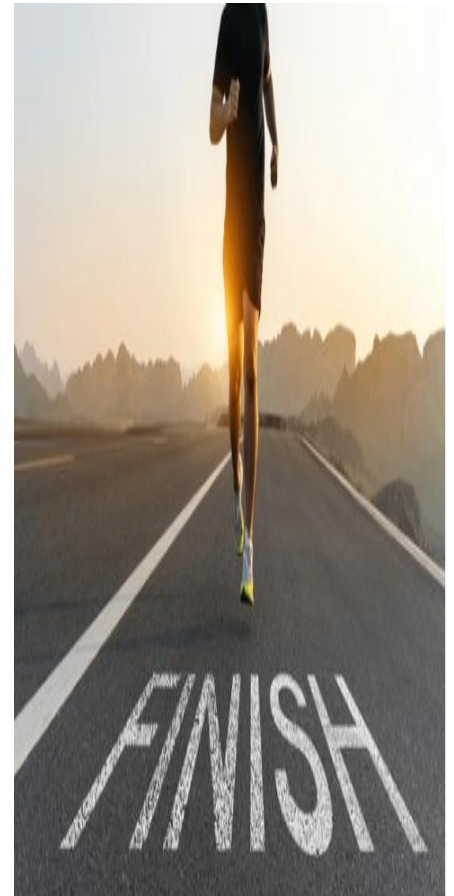
Pastoral

Support:

- Ensuring that students **emotional, mental and physical well-being** are supported

Curriculum:

- **Learning:** Developing their study and revision skills
- **Health:** Equip students with tools to help maintain their wellbeing
- **Careers:** Preparing students for **life beyond** Soar Valley





Work experience

- Key information
- Key dates
- Application process





Key information

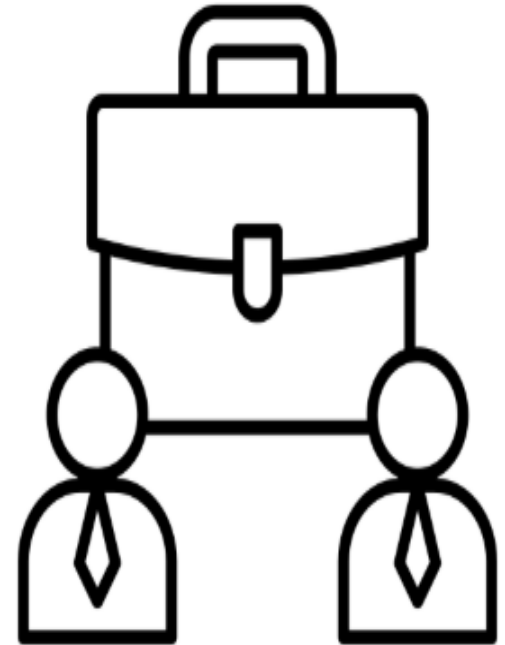
- **LEBC:**
- An external partner that organises work experience placements
- They 'match' student placements based on their applications
- They ensure all work placements are risk assessed





What is work experience?

- One week Monday 14th – Friday June 18th 2027
- Students experience a real working environment
- Develop key employability skills to support students in making their post 16 choices
- Explore a chosen job sector to see if it meets their expectations





Key work experience dates

- 8th September- Key Stage 4 Transition Evening
- 9th September- Work experience email
- **22nd September- Work experience application deadline**
- 27th October- Self placement form deadline
- W/B 4th May- Work experience placements confirmed
- 4th May onwards students must contact their employers
- 14th June-18th June Work experience



Three key documents

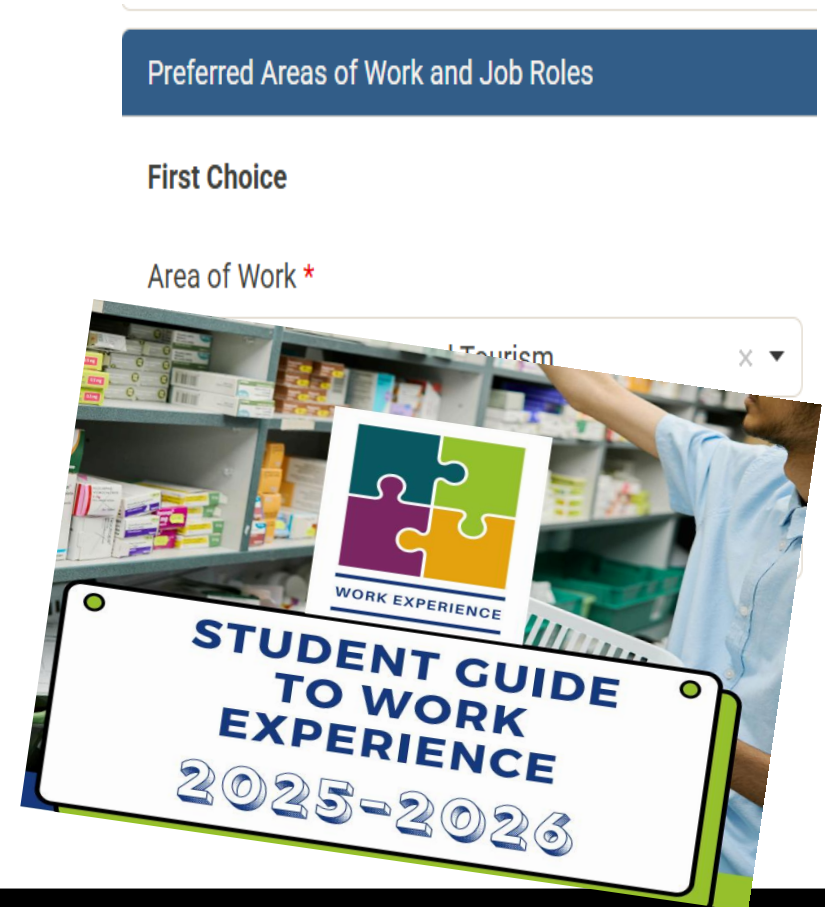
1. **Student directory:** facts about the sectors available and future jobs
 2. **Online application form:** all students **MUST** complete this form
 3. **Student self placement form:** this form must be completed **ONLY** if you are seeking a self organised placement
- **You will receive all documents in an email on 9th September**





Online application form-1

- **Areas of work** : Select 3 choices
- **Job role**: After each area of work, you will be asked to select a job role
- Students **must** be prepared to work in **all three** of their choices





Travel areas

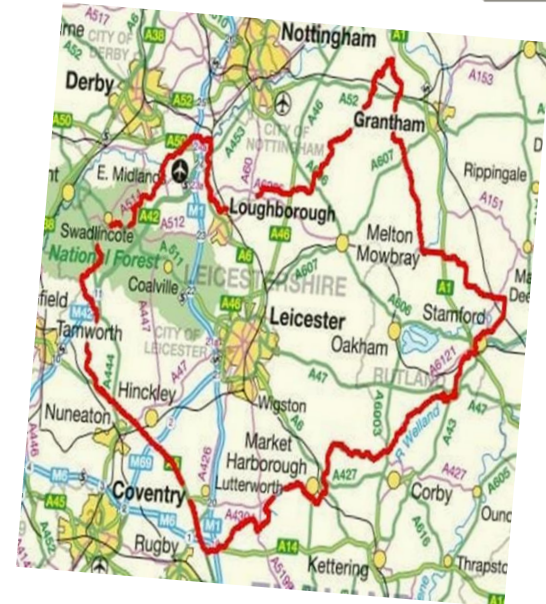
- What is in the local area?
- What are the bus routes like?
- How will they get to the designated area?
- It is essential you consider travel when completing the application form, you must select 4 areas

Travel Areas

Please select ALL the areas to which you would be able to travel. Ideally, at least 4 areas should be selected.

RESET AREAS

- ☐ Aylestone
- ☐ Beaumont Leys
- ☐ Belgrave
- ☐ Braunstone
- ☐ Evington
- ☐ Eyres Monsell
- ☐ Fosse Park
- ☐ Glen Parva
- ☐ Glenfield





Self placement

- The **employer** needs to complete the **entire** form and sign it
- All employers must have **employers' liability** insurance
- If the form is not fully completed it will **not** be accepted
- LEBC will then run associated Health and Safety checks



30 Frog Island
Leicester
LE3 5AG
Tel: 0116 240 7270 Fax: 0116 240 7001

SELF PLACEMENT FORM 2024/2025 School Name

Student - This form is to be taken to the company you wish to work with and be completed by your employer.

Please note you can only find a Self-Placement in Leicestershire and the following areas: Derbyshire, Rugby Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Rutland, Northamptonshire, Atherstone, Nuneaton and Bedworth. Additional charges may be incurred.

Important: students please note you must complete the front and the back of this form!

Employer - Please complete this form fully and return to the student ASAP.

If you have not previously offered work experience, one of our Employer Assessors will shortly be in touch to arrange a brief meeting to ensure the information held on our database about your organisation is both accurate and satisfactory. Please ensure you provide a valid contact number that you can be reached on during the week between 9am and 5pm.

Insurance - When students are on work experience they are classed as employees and we ask that you confirm below that you have these insurances otherwise the placement cannot go ahead. The Employer Assessor will need to see the certificates when they visit.

Do you have Employers Liability Insurance? YES ☐ NO ☐ Public Liability Insurance? YES ☐ NO ☐

ALL DETAILS ARE TO BE COMPLETED

Student Name Placement dates:

Company/Business Name

Address

..... Post Code

Phone Number Email

Company Contact Full Name:

Company Contact Position.....

Work Experience Role (e.g. Office Assistant).....

CONTACT SIGNATURE PRINT NAME DATE

By signing this form I consent to LEBC holding my personal details for the purposes of arranging this placement. I understand that I can ask for my data to be permanently removed from the records following my placement and that to make this request I have to send an email to contactus@leics-ebc.org.uk

TEACHER SIGNATURE PRINT NAME DATE

Privacy Statement - We like to keep in touch with you about the service in which you are participating and other services we offer to young people. We will never sell your data and we promise to keep your details safe and secure. You can change your mind at any time by emailing contactus@leics-ebc.org.uk For further details on how your data is used and stored, please visit www.leics-ebc.org.uk/privacy-policy



Student placements

- Once students receive their placement, **they*** **must** contact the employer
- Unplaced students will be **given** a list of placements to choose from
- Students must take their paperwork with them on the first day of their work experience





Further information and questions

- LEBC will work directly with the school only
- Once a work experience placement has been secured there is no option for change
- Please contact Miss Houlton or Mrs Patel
- Email careers
<mailto:careers@soarvalley.aspirelp.uk>





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How you can support your child





Building the right habits

- Establish the habits now
- Simple rewards to reinforce the right habits





Attendance and punctuality

- Attendance is **crucial** in supporting your child to achieve their potential
- **17 missed school days** a year = **1 GCSE grade DROP** in achievement.
- Equally important is PUNCTUALITY – to registrations and to **all** lessons
- Key messages are given in registration
- The start of lessons are hugely important
- Ensure they organise their school bag the night before





The best conditions

- Diet, make sure they are hydrated, and get some exercise
- Distraction free environment
- Sleep is **essential** for success
- Encourage a positive mind-set
- Encourage them to make the most of opportunities and participate
- Encourage ongoing revision, from DAY ONE!





For Parents



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Transition tips for Key Stage 4

1 Make sure your child is aiming for **100% attendance** between now and their final exams.



2 Encourage your child to read for pleasure. It's a great way to wind down before bed and is proven to reduce stress and improve academic performance.



3 Stick a copy of the **key dates** & their school timetable on the fridge so you are able to keep informed of upcoming events and to help your child get organised.



4 Make sure your child is punctual every day by helping them to get into positive habits such as organising their school bag the night before, and getting enough sleep.



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Useful revision sites for all subjects	- GCSEpod https://www.gcsepod.com/ - BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize https://www.soarvalley.aspirelp.uk/parents/how-to-support-your-child/
Extra subject specific websites	
Art	www.studentartguide.com - GCSE Art and Design - BBC Bitesize
Citizenship	https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/login https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/myrevisionnotesdownloads
Computer Science	https://isaacomputerscience.org/ https://www.w3schools.com/
Design Technology	https://technologystudent.com/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zby2bdm
Drama	- BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbckjxs - National theatre https://www.ntathome.com/
English Language English Literature	https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/english-language-gcse/?sub_nav_level=digital-resources#tab_resources https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature-gcse/?sub_nav_level=digital-resources#tab_resources
French	www.lingvascope.com https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658
Food preparation and nutrition	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zdn9jw https://senecalearning.com/en-GB/
Geography	https://www.internetgeography.net/topics/ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zpsx2p3



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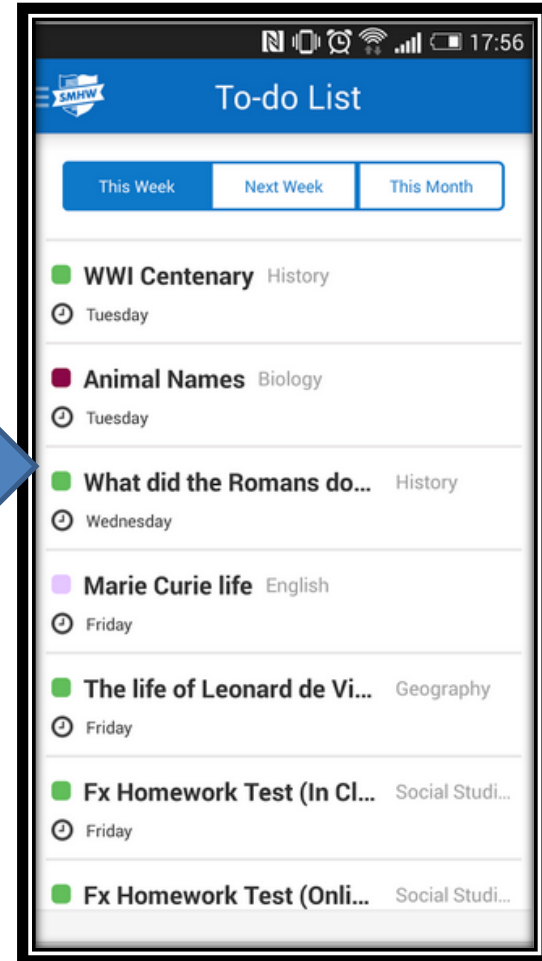
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Useful websites for all subjects	- Careers mailto:careers@soarvalley.aspirelp.uk - GCSE pod https://members.gcsepod.com/login/
Extra subject specific websites	
Art	www.studentartguide.com - GCSE Art and Design - BBC Bitesize
Careers	https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/
Citizenship	https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/citizenship-studies/gcse/citizenship-studies-8100/specification https://www.hachettelearning.com/answers-and-extras/my-revision-notes-aqa-gcse-9-1-citizenship-studies-third-edition-answers
Computer Science	https://isaacomputerscience.org/ https://www.w3schools.com/
Design Technology	https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zby2bdm https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/gcse/design-and-technology-8552/specification
Drama	- BBC Bitesize https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zbckjxs - National theatre https://www.ntathome.com/
English Language English Literature	https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/english-language-gcse/?sub_nav_level=digital-resources https://www.educas.co.uk/qualifications/english-literature-gcse/?sub_nav_level=digital-resources



Satchel One (Show My Homework)

Log in and see all
outstanding homework
and when it is due :





Year 10 key dates

Key dates	Event
September 8th 2026	Year 10 KS4 Transition Evening
September 22nd September 2026	Work experience application deadline
November 20th 2026	Progress Check 1
February 8th – 14th 2027	National Apprenticeship week
February 14th 2027	Progress Check 2
March 1st - 6th 2027	National Careers week
April 8th 2027	Parents' Evening
May 24th– May 28th 2027	Year 10 Assessment Week
June 14th – June 18th 2027	Year 10 Work Experience
July 2nd 2027	Progress Check 3



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- We have high **aspirations** and high **expectations** for your child and will provide them with lots of support
- We want your child to have high **aspirations** and high **expectations** of themselves
- We thank you for showing your support at the start of the GCSE journey by viewing this short presentation

Good luck to the class of 2028!