



Careers conversations:  
Q&A prompts for students and  
parents

## **Theme: skills and interests**

### Questions for students to ask parents

- What were you good at in school?
- What do you enjoy doing most at home, work, with friends or family?
- What do you think your talents are / you are good at?

### Questions for parents to ask students

- What do you enjoy most in and out of school/college?
- What do you feel you are good at in school/college?
- What is your favourite subject? Do you know what kind of jobs are related to these subjects?
- Which of your interests, skills and abilities do you think will help you most in your future career?

## **Theme: learning about careers**

### Questions for students to ask parents

- How did you learn about careers when you were at school?
- Do you think there are more/different career options available now?
- Do you know anyone who's completed an apprenticeship? What did they tell you about it?
- Do you know anyone who's been to university? What did they tell you about it?
- Do you know anyone who went straight into a job after school or college? What was that like for them?

### Questions for parents to ask students

- What takes place in school/college to help you with your future?
- Who can help you at school/college with questions about careers? Is there a Careers Leader, Careers Advisor or Head of Careers?
- Do you hear from employers in school? Which ones did you like? What inspired you?
- Do ex pupils / students come back into school to talk about their post-education experience? Did some of their experiences inspire you?
- How much do you know about Further Education and employment options including apprenticeships, traineeships and T-levels? Do you know where to find out more about these routes?
- Is there anything you're unsure of that you've been introduced to but need more information about?

## Theme: making choices

### Questions for both students and parents

- What did you want to be when you were 10 years old?
- If money wasn't a factor what would be your dream job?
- What are the top five things that you think are important when choosing a job or career?

### Questions for students to ask parents

- How did you choose the path you've taken?
- What advice would you give me about making choices?

### Questions for parents to ask students

- What do you think of jobs that involve travel? Do you want a job that will give you the opportunity to travel, or would you prefer to stay near home?
- What sort of environment would you like to work in? An office / in a big team / independently / outside?
- My path has included (education, apprenticeship, university, work, homemaking etc). What would you like your future to include?
- What challenges do you need to overcome to get to your preferred option?
- What support do you need from me to help you research your options and make decisions?
- What do you think my job entails? What do I do day to day? What do you think are the main tasks?