

Pre-Gatsby Benchmarks: Laying the Foundations for Future Success

Blowers Green Primary School

Our Intent

At Blowers Green, careers education begins with **ambition, identity and opportunity**. From the earliest years, we ensure pupils understand that their background does not limit their future. Through our **knowledge-rich EXCEL curriculum, strong oracy culture, and inclusive ethos**, pupils develop the confidence, skills and aspiration to succeed in an ever-changing world.

We deliberately connect learning to life, ensuring every child:

- **Understands the purpose of their learning**
- **Sees themselves represented in future pathways**
- **Develops the knowledge, skills and character to succeed**

This approach lays secure foundations for the **Gatsby Benchmarks** and prepares pupils exceptionally well for secondary education and beyond.

Pre-Gatsby Framework for Blowers Green

Focus Area	What This Looks Like at Blowers Green	Linked Gatsby Benchmark
1. A Culture of Aspiration	A relentless culture of ambition where pupils are taught that disadvantage does not define destiny. Assemblies, curriculum texts, and leadership roles promote high expectations and self-belief .	1 – Stable Careers Programme
2. Awareness of Work and Community	Strong links with the local community, including police, NHS, local businesses, local MP and civic leaders through JLT and enrichment work.	5 – Encounters with Employers
3. Linking Learning to Life and Careers	The EXCEL curriculum makes explicit connections between subjects and real-world careers; pupils understand how knowledge applies beyond school.	4 – Linking Curriculum to Careers
4. Building Future Skills	Pupils develop oracy (Voice 21), leadership, resilience, and teamwork through structured pedagogy and leadership opportunities.	3 – Addressing Individual Needs
5. Exploring Pathways	Pupils take part in a careers fayre at the local high school and participate in workshops that challenge gender stereotypes , helping them broaden their understanding of future opportunities beyond their immediate context.	7 – Encounters with FE/HE

6. Personal Reflection	Through PSHE, pupil voice and leadership roles, pupils reflect on their strengths, interests and ambitions.	8 – Personal Guidance
7. Family and Community Partnership	Strong parental engagement and community links ensure pupils' aspirations are supported beyond school . Visiting members from the local community, parents, ex-pupils' alumni talk about their career paths	2 – Labour Market Awareness
8. Transition to Secondary	Pupils leave Year 6 as confident, articulate and ambitious learners , well-prepared for secondary education and future careers.	All

Progression Through the School

EYFS

- Learn about **people who help us** and simple roles through play and talk
- Develop **communication, language and independence**, crucial for future success
- Rich role-play and real-world experiences build early awareness

KS1

- Explore a **wide range of jobs linked to curriculum learning**
- Develop teamwork, resilience and communication
- Begin to understand how jobs contribute to society

Lower KS2

- Understand different **career pathways and necessary skills**
- Take on leadership roles and present ideas confidently
- Encounter diverse role models, challenging stereotypes

Upper KS2

- Understand future education pathways and **connect strengths to careers through careers fayre, visiting speakers.**
- Develop independence, organisation and leadership
- Engage in enrichment and real-world experiences (e.g. community projects, leadership roles)

Our Vision in Action

- Careers education is fully embedded within the EXCEL curriculum, ensuring pupils understand the purpose of their learning and recognise that **they belong in every room and every future pathway.**
- Through a strong focus on oracy (Voice 21), pupils develop the confidence to **articulate their ideas, aspirations and ambitions**, enabling them to overcome barriers and drive **social mobility.**
- Leadership opportunities (JLT, ambassadors, prefects) build **real-world skills**
- Strong inclusion ensures **every pupil sees themselves in future success**
- Pupils leave Blowers Green as **confident, aspirational and socially responsible citizens**

In Summary

Blowers Green's Pre-Gatsby approach ensures that pupils:

- Achieve exceptionally strong academic outcomes
- Develop the knowledge, skills and cultural capital to succeed
- Understand the link between education and future opportunity
- Leave primary school ready to thrive in **secondary education and beyond**