



Parent Forum

**The Axe Valley Community College
& Sixth Form Centre**

Careers Consultation Report

November 2013

Objective

- To ascertain perceptions and views from parents of Years 7-10 students regarding careers information and guidance provided by the College and to gather comments and suggestions as to how best improve on what the College currently offers.
- To obtain views of parents of Years 9 & 10 students regarding information provided to assist options choices for GCSE courses.
- To find out if Years 7 & 8 pupils know what they would like to do as a career and if so what.

Overview

- Questionnaires were handed out at each year group parents' evening. The level of response varied but at least a third of those in attendance submitted a form.
- The majority of responses from Years 7, 8 & 9 viewed current careers provision as good or adequate but less than 40% from Year 10 shared the same view.
- Just over half the responses from Years 9 & 10 thought there was sufficient Options information provided in or before Year 9.
- Around 80% of parents from Years 7 & 8 thought their child had some or good understanding of careers families and options within them and approximately half the students from each year group had a good idea of what they wanted to do as a career.

Comments & Suggestions

There were a large number of comments and suggestions but they can be broadly categorised and amalgamated as follows:

School Based

- Give careers and options advice earlier (possibly before Year 9).
- Use Tutor Times to discuss possible career families.
- Use mind-mapping to indicate possible areas of career choice.
- Group pupils according to similar career interests then provide tailored advice.
- Offer talks from former students.
- Promote the sixth form more.
- Send more information to parents.

Employers and Businesses

- Organise workshops and careers open days with visits from or to local businesses.

- Organise a careers fair (possibly regional with other schools in the area to pool resources) at which a wide selection of careers are represented.
- Offer careers advice from employers *before* options are chosen.

Universities and Colleges of Higher and Further Education

- More open days at Colleges and Universities from Year 7 upwards.
- University visits have been found by parents of students in Year 9 and above to be extremely motivational.

Graphical Representation of Responses

