

Aspirations and Careers:

A conversation guide for teachers, parents, carers and students

1. Skills and interests

Questions for students to ask parents/carers/teachers

What were you good at in school?

What do you think your talents are? What are you good at?

What skills or qualifications did you need for your job?

What do you enjoy doing most about your job?

What do you think your talents are? What are you good at?

Questions for teachers/parents/carers to ask students

What do you enjoy most in and out of school?

What do you feel you are good at in school?

What is your favourite subject? Do you know what kind of jobs are related to these subjects?

Which of your interests, skills, abilities and values* do you think will help you most in your future career?

** See page 3 and 4 for a 'Values' card sort*

2. Learning about careers

Questions for students to ask parents/carers

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 has completed an apprenticeship? What did they tell you about it?

Do you know anyone who has 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 teachers/parents/carers 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? Who is your Careers Advisor?

Do you hear from employers in school? Which ones did you like? What inspired 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? Have you been on Unifrog?

Is there anything you are unsure of that you've been introduced to but need more information about?

3. Making choices

Questions for students to ask parents/carers

What did you want to be when you were my age?

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?

How did you choose the path you've taken?

What advice would you give me about making choices?

Questions for teachers/parents/carers to ask students

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 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?

Values list

How to use:

- Cut out the cards
- Pick 10 cards that describe you
- From those 10 cards, pick the top four that describe you
- Use these top four values to help you decide on a career that will help you fulfil these.

Remember to log onto your **Unifrog** account and complete the personality quiz and the Interests quiz – you will then get a list of suggested careers to suit your personality and interests.

Contribution <i>To make a lasting contribution in the world</i>	Power <i>To have control over others</i>	Knowledge <i>To learn and contribute valuable knowledge</i>
Commitment <i>To make, enduring, Meaningful commitments</i>	Achievement <i>To have Important accomplishments</i>	Industry <i>To work hard and well at my life tasks</i>
Duty <i>To carry out my duties and obligations</i>	Health <i>To be physically and mentally well and healthy</i>	Hope <i>To maintain a positive and optimistic outlook</i>
Adventure <i>To have new and exciting experiences</i>	Autonomy <i>To be self-determined and independent</i>	Responsibility <i>To make and carry out responsible decisions without blaming others</i>
Logic <i>To live rationally and sensibly</i>	Faithfulness <i>To be loyal and true</i>	Fame <i>To be known and recognised</i>
Humour <i>To see the humorous side of the world</i>	Mastery <i>To be competent in my everyday activities</i>	Dependability <i>To be reliable and trustworthy</i>
Independence <i>To be free from dependence on others</i>	Flexibility <i>To adjust new circumstances when required</i>	Ecology <i>To live in harmony with the environment</i>
Honesty <i>To be honest and truthful</i>	Complexity <i>To have a life full of variety and change</i>	Realism <i>To see and act realistically and practically</i>
Friendship <i>To have close and supportive friends</i>	Order <i>To have a life that is well-ordered and organised</i>	Growth <i>To keep reflecting, changing and growing to improve</i>
Fun <i>To play and have fun</i>	Caring <i>To take care of others</i>	Leisure <i>To take time to relax and enjoy</i>
Stability <i>To have a life that stays fairly consistent</i>	Courtesy <i>To be considerate and polite towards others</i>	Authority <i>To be in charge of and responsible for others</i>

Safety <i>To be safe and secure</i>	Self-Knowledge <i>To have deep and honest understanding of myself</i>	Simplicity <i>To live life with minimal needs</i>
Creativity <i>To have new and original ideas</i>	Risk <i>To take risks and chances</i>	Wealth <i>To have plenty of money</i>
Religion <i>To live by religious beliefs</i>	Helpfulness <i>To be helpful to others</i>	Teamwork <i>Working with others collaboratively</i>
Virtue <i>To live morally pure and excellent life</i>	Respect <i>To appreciate others & their views</i>	Attractiveness <i>To be physically attractive</i>