

## **Aspire Year 9**

Pupils have the opportunity to engage in vocational activities via the Aspire lessons. The activities mirror some of the sectors represented at Post 16 placements.

### **Term 1&2 Autumn**

#### **Public Services:**

- Introduction to Public Services, including fitness tests (Bleep Test, Strength and Conditioning, Smellen chart).
- Fire and Rescue Service – fire hazards and safety.
- Military Service – drill activities, radio communication.
- Police Service – Police visit for Q&A, case-study as part of CID investigation.
- Paramedics – First Aid training, VR ambulance experience.

#### **Digital & Creative Media**

- Photography – theme-based approach, different camera types (e.g. digital, 360 camera).
- Digital photography – use of computer software for effects.
- Film and Music Production – cinematography, camera, music & sound, film studies.
- Crowdfunding – project-based learning, product development and promotion.

### **Term 3 & 4 Spring**

#### **Hospitality & Catering**

- Enterprise project – group/ team competition. Spoken Language skills, such as formal presentations.
- Content includes:
  - \*Market research through questionnaires and focus groups
  - \*Branding – logos and slogans – in addition to marketing and promotion strategy.
  - \*Business planning – understanding pricing, profit margins, buying/selling strategy.
  - \*Sampling and manufacture – focus groups, use of Food Technology equipment, recipes and ingredients.

#### **Architecture**

- Research – different types of building/ housing/ roofing – photography.
- Blueprinting and groundwork preparation.
- 4D modelling – both with physical materials and digital software.

## **Term 5 & 6 Summer**

### **Maintenance and Gardening**

- Upcycling and restoration, in addition to home maintenance projects – e.g. painting, plastering, sanding, varnishing, wallpapering etc.
- Car and bike maintenance – x1 week visit from professional mechanic (tyre repair/ change, oil change, basic MOT checks, health and safety, car washing).
- Gardening and Landscaping – collaboration with local allotment (planting, weeding, strimming/ mowing, painting, bedding, construction – e.g. insect hotels), includes x2 week visitor from professional landscaper.

### **Animal Care**

- RSCPA and Dog Handler visit.
- Canine management – dog walking, dog training, laws pertaining to canines.
- Reptile and aquatics – fish tank management, vivarium maintenance.
- Environmental awareness – building suitable, eco-friendly habitats.

### **External Agency – Forest School**

All pupils attend Forest School x3 terms a year at a local site in Bearsted, Kent. They have the opportunity to develop skills such as:

- Field Studies Activities – mini beast hunts, tree and plant identification, bird watching.
- Bush-craft – shelter building, knot use, fire lighting and cooking, wild foods, whittling.
- Woodland crafts – willow crafts, natural jewellery, weaving, natural dyes, traditional crafts.
- Wildlife conservation – tree planting, nest box construction, coppicing, fence/path building.
- Physical play – tree climbing, balancing, log dragging, digging.
- Construction – shelter building, rafts, rope swings, tree houses, pulleys.