



**At Aldridge UTC@MediaCityUK we are committed to ensuring all learners progress onto their intended destinations post successful course and qualification completion. We provide a programme of careers education, information, advice and guidance to support them in making effective career and learning choices, aligned with their future career ambitions.**

Careers education is delivered as part of PSHE learning and complemented by relevant assemblies, whole school activities and visits. Careers education aims to help learners' understand more about themselves, their skills and strengths, increase their awareness about opportunities and options in the future but also to equip them with skills for decision-making and transition.

In addition, the entrepreneurial attributes of Teamwork, Risk-Taking, Creativity, Problem-Solving, Passion and Determination are embedded across the curriculum to help to develop these traits in students that will prepare them for future studies or the world of work and enterprise.

Aldridge UTC@MediaCityUK works with *Mploy Solutions*, a careers based company that delivers employability programmes linking together the worlds of business and education to provide independent and impartial careers advice and guidance. In line with statutory government guidance, Careers Advisers are qualified up to Level 6 in careers guidance. They visit the school to support students face-to-face or virtually with decision making relating to their post 16 and post 18 plans and progression.

There is also lots of information and resources available on their website at <https://www.mplysolutions.co.uk/contact/> as well as their contact details.

### **Students are helped to prepare for their future in the following ways:**

#### **At Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11)**

- Careers education
- In Year 10, students are given information, advice and guidance (IAG) about career intentions
- In Year 10, students prepare for the next steps in their education or career choice by learning more about further education options and the world of work
- In Year 11, students are given information on the courses that are offered in sixth forms and at local colleges for post 16 study.
- In Year 11, students receive help with applications and support for college interviews
- In Year 11, students receive assistance in applying for apprenticeships should they wish to
- Students can speak to their Tutors and Heads of Key Stage to discuss next steps
- In Year 11 students meet with a qualified Mploy careers advisor. They create a Personal Careers Action Plan.

#### **At Key Stage 5 (Years 12-13)**

- Careers education

- In Year 12/13, students are given information, advice and guidance (IAG) about career intentions. Students meet with a qualified MPLOY careers advisor. They create a Personal Careers Action Plan.
- In Year 12/13, students prepare for the next steps in their education or career choice by learning more about higher education options and the world of work
- In Year 12/13, students are given information on the courses that are offered at universities for post 18 study.
- In Year 13, students receive help with UCAS applications and support for interviews
- In Year 13, students receive assistance in applying for apprenticeships should they wish to
- Students can speak to their Tutors and Heads of Key Stage to discuss next steps

### **Careers Advice and Guidance.**

We believe that as a student your first day at UTCMediaCityUK is your first day as an industry professional. Our aim is to respond to your motivations for enrolling with us on a career pathway and to build a platform from which to launch your future career as a media professional.

UTCMediaCityUK deliver a bespoke package of study alongside industry experience that will give our students the opportunity to reach the highest level of employability. We aim to deliver key professional skills such as teamwork, communication, networking and project management all of which boost confidence and enhance the required professional ethic.

UTCMediaCityUK is recognised for its cutting-edge media courses but most of all for its talented staff that share their professional knowledge. Students are able to practice on a variety of live industry projects that are linked to the units on their course. Staff at UTCMediaCityUK also provide access to industry professionals, the opportunity to participate in work place visits, creative masterclasses, specialist industry workshops, work experience and University visits.

### **Individual Careers Guidance**



Students have an individual careers appointment to start exploring ideas and develop a personal careers plan. MPLOY career advisers help at every stage of the decision-making, career choice and progression. Appointments are arranged through the Head of Key Stage Mrs Natalie Burgess or Mrs Sharon Vardar.

### **Higher Education & University Applications**



We are committed to providing advice and guidance all the way through the student journey to their chosen university course. Your MPLOY careers adviser, Head of Key Stage and Tutors all help students to complete UCAS applications.

As part of the UCAS application process we offer -

- One to one personal statement and application support
- Industry focused course choice advice
- Visits and support from student ambassadors from local universities
- Meetings with university admissions tutors.
- Advice from our 'Alumni' and those currently working in the media industry
- Finance and student life talks from university advisers.

As a specialist college we are able to ensure that students are guided to the best destinations for their career pathway.

## Annual Events

Our Head of Key Stages and the Employer Engagement Team in College organise a number of visits and events each year to help students research and prepare for their next steps, including:

- Visits to popular Universities including Manchester Film School, UCLAN and MMU
- Annual Higher Education Information and Advice Evening for yourselves and parents
- Apprenticeship opportunities fair with local opportunities from BBC and Juice Academy.
- Personal Statement Advice from local universities and GM Higher
- UK University and apprenticeship search event at Old Trafford
- Attendance at the annual UCAS Higher Education Exhibition in Manchester



## Apprenticeships

Lots of our students feel that after their four years studying with us they are ready for the world of work. We support our students who do not want to move onto University to seek an apprenticeship in the creative media industry or similar. We use our employer partners who are often looking for College leavers with the hands on experience our students have.

We run an annual Apprenticeship Fair. This includes stalls from BBC apprenticeships, Juice Academy digital, degree apprenticeship opportunities. We also signpost our students to the UK Apprenticeship Fair at Old Trafford. Other information is shared through assemblies:

MMU – Degree Apprenticeships assembly

BBC Apprenticeships Assembly



## Aldridge Creates

6<sup>th</sup> Form students can also have one to one business start-up support from 'The Business growth hub'. Once a business plan has been written students are entitled to free office space in College, perfect for students wanting to become freelance or start their own company whilst studying with us.



## GM Higher

We work closely with GM Higher, which is an impartial partnership providing information, advice and guidance about progression routes to higher education (HE), alongside offering a menu of activities to raise the aspirations of young people in Greater Manchester.

Learners from UTCMediaCityUK have previously benefitted from **Go Further mentoring, campus visits, workshops, industry insight days and Uni:4U summer schools.**

There is information available for Parents and Carers: <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/parents-and-carers> as well as resources for students: <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/my-student-journey/>

Y10-13 learners can ask GM Higher staff questions at any time about Higher Education: <https://gmhigher.ac.uk/askus/>

### **Building a network of people who could help you:**

The Aldridge Foundation has launched **Aldridge Connect**, a free site on the social media platform LinkedIn, which has over 27 million users in the UK and focuses on jobs and careers. Joining can help you grow professional connections in industries that interest you; gives you immediate access to a network of all Aldridge students AND professional companies; and provides help with CVs.

### **Destination Data**

Of students taking their GCSEs at Aldridge UTC@MediaCityUK in the summer of 2020, 96% either continued their studies at a sixth form, further education college or took up an apprenticeship post. This is in line with the national average and 4% more than the local authority, according to DFE published data.

Post 18 data suggests that 91% continued their studies at University, Apprenticeship or took up employment.

For more information, please visit <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/137063/portslade-aldridge-community-academy>

### **Useful Websites for Careers Research, Information and Planning**

Occupations and Jobs Exploration

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/advice/planning/jobfamily/Pages/default.aspx>

CV Builder

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/tools/cv/Pages/default.aspx>

Check out Your Skills

<https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk/tools/skillshealthcheck/Pages/default.aspx>

Apprenticeships

<http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk/be-an-apprentice.aspx>

<http://www.apprenticeships-in-sussex.com/>

University and Higher Education

[www.ucas.com/](http://www.ucas.com/)

<https://www.gov.uk/contact-student-finance-england>

Local Employment and Job Search for School/College Leavers

<https://www.gov.uk/find-a-job>

<https://www.careers.manchester.ac.uk/findjobs/>

Apprenticeships - Studying in the UK

<https://www.studying-in-uk.org/apprenticeships-uk/>