

### SupaJam's 'Work Ready' Careers Programme



**Work Ready** is SupaJam's career programme, designed to support students in developing essential skills needed for the world of work. It has also been developed to build confidence that will support a smooth transition into the workplace and allow students to progress successfully in their careers.

SupaJam have branded the programme 'work ready' because of the unique opportunities that students are given to gain real industry experience. This programme runs alongside the delivery of the normal careers related topics. There are 5 different areas of focus to support students to improve their employability, confidence and independence and to guide and support them when moving on from SupaJam.

#### **1) Employability**

'Employability' gives students the skills needed to apply for jobs and to support career progression after college. 'Employability' activities include;

- CV writing skills
- Support with job searching and completing applications
- Interview practice (*Level 3 students in addition will have a mock interview with a qualified interviewer in the industry*).

## **2) My Career**

'My Career' focuses on ensuring students have every opportunity to explore different careers and supporting students in making well-informed choices to help them achieve their ambitions. 'My career activities' include;

- Opportunities to speak to guest speakers
- Access to, or be a part of, the student union, whose responsibilities include maintaining a careers board
- Scheduled 1:1 career discussions (*Level 3 students will have additional 1:1 careers and guidance*)
- The opportunity to complete a L2 stewarding course over the summer for 18+ students.

## **3) Stepping forward**

'Stepping forward' aims to support students to prepare for their next steps both within SupaJam and beyond. 'Stepping Forward' support includes:

- Welfare to maintain work and exam resilience
- Liaising with the Skills and Employability Officer from KCC when leaving SupaJam
- Helping early leavers to find alternative learning pathways
- University/college/apprenticeship applications.

## **4) Work experience**

All students at SupaJam will have involvement in key areas of managing SupaJam's stage at the Black Deer festival, which is integrated into the curriculum.

For more information on Black Deer, please visit their website: <https://blackdeerfestival.com>

Black Deer gives students the opportunity to workshop with and work alongside industry professionals, that in the past have included performing artists, technical stage managers, bookers, marketing and promotion and the festival organisers themselves.

Other fantastic work experience opportunities within SupaJam include;

- Stewarding at Neverworld festival
- Recording music at a professional recording studio
- Photography with a professional industry photographer
- Writing reviews for SupaJam's music website
- Other unique opportunities leading up to Black Deer, such as shadowing one of the founders of the festival.

## **5) SMSC Programme**

SupaJam's SMSC (*spiritual, moral, social and cultural development*) programme is designed to equip students with the necessary skills, knowledge and confidence to take on adult life in the working world. The programme is again integrated into the curriculum and covers 6 key areas over the academic year:

1. Equality and diversity
2. British Values
3. Health
4. Independent life skills
5. Community work
6. Career development

### **Government guidance: the Gatsby benchmark**

SupaJam is committed to embedding the [Gatsby benchmark of good careers guidance](#), ensuring that SupaJam provides:

- A stable careers programme
- Learning from career and labour market information
- Addressing the needs of each student
- Linking curriculum learning to career development and opportunities
- Encounters with employers and employees
- Experiences of workplaces
- Encounters with further and higher education
- Personal advice and guidance.

SupaJam's careers programme is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. The next review will take place in August 2021.

For further information on SupaJam's Work Ready careers programme, please contact:

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