



Aspirations and Careers Policy

2026-2027



Vision

At Southwick Community Primary School, we believe that every child should be encouraged to dream big and understand that their future is full of possibilities. Our Aspirations Curriculum is designed to broaden children's horizons by exposing them to a wide range of careers, industries and role models, helping them to understand the many exciting opportunities and pathways that may be available to them in the future.

Through carefully planned experiences, meaningful encounters with professionals and opportunities to explore different occupations, we aim to inspire our pupils to develop ambition, resilience and a belief that they can achieve their goals through hard work, perseverance and lifelong learning.

The Aspirations Curriculum complements our wider curriculum by helping children make meaningful links between their learning and the world beyond the classroom, whilst developing an understanding of how individuals contribute positively to their local, national and global communities.

Intent (Rationale and Aims)

The intent of the Aspirations Curriculum is to ensure that every child develops an awareness of the vast range of opportunities available to them in the future.

Through this curriculum, we aim to:

- inspire children to think ambitiously about their future aspirations and potential careers;
- expose pupils to a diverse range of professions, industries and workplaces that they may not otherwise encounter;
- challenge stereotypes surrounding careers, including those related to gender, ethnicity and background;
- help children understand the knowledge, skills, qualities and education needed for different careers;
- develop children's confidence, curiosity, resilience and motivation to succeed;
- provide meaningful encounters with employers, professionals and role models from a variety of sectors;
- help pupils understand how different careers contribute to society and improve the lives of others;
- encourage children to see themselves as active global citizens who can make a positive contribution to their community and the wider world;
- make purposeful links between classroom learning and real-life opportunities.



Ultimately, our Aspirations Curriculum seeks to motivate pupils to work hard, believe in themselves and understand that the choices they make throughout their education can help them achieve the future they aspire to.

Implementation

The Aspirations Curriculum is delivered through dedicated **Aspirations Days**, which take place once every half term.

Each half term focuses on a different career or employment sector, allowing pupils to explore a broad range of professions throughout their time at Southwick Community Primary School. The selected careers represent a balance of traditional professions, emerging industries, skilled trades, public services, creative careers and opportunities within the local economy.

During each Aspirations Day, pupils will:

- investigate what the featured job involves and the skills required;
- explore the qualifications, training and pathways into the profession;
- meet a visitor from the industry or visit an authentic workplace where possible;
- participate in practical activities where possible that allow them to experience aspects of the role;
- learn about inspirational role models who have made significant contributions within that profession;
- discuss how the career supports individuals, communities and society;
- consider how the role contributes to the wider world and supports responsible global citizenship;
- reflect upon the personal qualities that would help someone succeed within that career.

Where appropriate, learning will be linked across the wider curriculum so that children understand how subjects such as mathematics, English, science, computing, art, geography and design technology connect to real-world careers.

Visitors will be carefully selected to reflect the diversity of modern Britain and provide pupils with positive role models from a wide variety of backgrounds, cultures and experiences.

The school will actively seek partnerships with local businesses, employers, colleges, community organisations and professionals to ensure pupils experience authentic encounters with the world of work.

Impact



The Aspirations Curriculum aims to have a lasting impact upon pupils' attitudes, ambitions and understanding of the world beyond school.

By the time children leave Southwick Community Primary School, they will:

- have an increased awareness of the wide variety of careers available to them;
- demonstrate greater ambition and confidence when discussing their future aspirations;
- understand that success can be achieved through determination, effort and perseverance;
- recognise the importance of education and lifelong learning in achieving personal goals;
- challenge stereotypes and appreciate that careers are open to everyone regardless of gender, ethnicity or background;
- understand how different professions contribute to local communities and the wider world;
- demonstrate increased confidence in talking about their own interests, strengths and future ambitions;
- make meaningful links between their learning in school and future employment opportunities.

The impact of the curriculum will be evaluated through:

- pupil voice and discussions about aspirations;
- reflections following Aspirations Days;
- class displays and recorded learning;
- feedback from visitors and community partners;
- teacher observations of pupil engagement;
- monitoring by senior leaders.

Equal Opportunities

Southwick Community Primary School is committed to ensuring that every pupil has equal access to aspirational experiences. We actively promote equality of opportunity by providing children with diverse role models and ensuring all pupils are encouraged to consider careers without limitation or stereotype.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that the Aspirations Curriculum continues to reflect the needs of our pupils, developments in the world of work and the priorities of Southwick Community Primary School.

Last reviewed: July 2026



Next review date: July 2027