

Choices in Year 9

A guide for parents & carers

For students in year 9 this is an important time and they are likely to need your help and support.

The important thing is for your teenager to find a course that interests them and matches their ability. This way they are more likely to succeed and stay on in learning or training after leaving school.

Encourage your teenager to get involved and to see this as a positive way to take responsibility for their learning.

Check that they have thought through their choices, and what they will mean, not just for Years 10 and 11, but for the future.

Questions to consider

What do they enjoy?

Your teenager is much more likely to be successful at something if they find it interesting and enjoyable.

What are they good at?

What subjects does your teenager do well in at school? Also, look at what they are good at outside school.

How do they like to learn?

Think about courses that match your teenager's preferred style of learning, for example practical, creative, academic etc.

Do they have a career in mind?

Check that what they are choosing relates to their career ideas. They can research their career ideas on: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>

To help develop self-awareness and explore career ideas; they can do a quiz to find out what careers match their skills and personality on: www.allaboutschooleavers.co.uk

Do they need more information and advice?

You can contact your school's careers Adviser Shahanara Begum at:

Email: shahanara.begum@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 7364 1401

Tower Hamlets Careers Service

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