



QUALITY IN CAREERS WEBSITE ©

## CEIAG Case Study: The Samworth Church Academy, Mansfield

### The School

The Samworth Church Academy is an 11-18 Academy located in Mansfield, Nottinghamshire and is part of the SNMAT Academies Trust. There are approximately 1000 students on roll.

The Academy's vision is to create an environment that provides the best start to a bright future for all our students, by giving them all the opportunity to be fully qualified for adult life, in the fullest sense of the term.

The Academy seeks to realise this vision by offering a broad range of courses, to cater for as many interests and abilities as possible, working in partnership with other Mansfield schools to maximise opportunity.

To broaden the educational experience, the Academy fully integrates Sport, Dance, Music and Drama into the curriculum. Not just for the select few, but for absolutely everyone. There are many different ways of defining achievement but the Academy's approach is unusually holistic. Good qualifications are crucial to young people and their futures but staff at the Academy know that other things are important to prepare young people for the challenges they face.

Staff at the Academy describe their approach in these ways:

- *"We give all our students the best start for a bright future and help them become the adults they want to be.*
- *We welcome, value and respect students of all faiths, or none, and encourage their input in how the Academy is run.*
- *We have a distinctively Christian ethos that is tolerant and respectful of everything except bad behaviour and bullying.*
- *We raise aspirations and nurture self-confidence so that all our students can raise their expectations of what the future holds.*
- *We make quality, leadership and a business and enterprise culture part of daily life in this Academy.*
- *We encourage students to challenge themselves and embrace the Outward Bound approach to enjoyable and constructive learning.*
- *We play an active role in the community outside the school gates.*

- *We respect the environment in all we do.”*

### **Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)**

The CEIAG team consists of Laura Jones (Careers Lead and Head of Sixth Form), Sean Panting (Progress Careers Adviser), and Josh Adesina (Progress Careers Adviser).

The Academy runs an inspiring Careers programme for all students in the school, aiming to deliver a Careers programme that:

- Is tailored to the student needs, so that they can gain the most from it.
- Provides motivation to make the most of the opportunities available to students outside of the Academy.
- Provides world class support to help students to be successful.
- Gives students the tools they need to make informed decisions about career pathways.

The Academy has a long-standing and successful partnership with Progress Careers who provide the Academy with access to high quality one to one personal guidance from a highly qualified and impartial Careers Adviser.

The successful partnership between the Academy and Progress Careers has contributed to the Academy achieving consistently low NEET figures that are below the respective local and national averages. The annual Service Delivery Agreement is aligned with supporting the Academy in working towards achieving all of the Gatsby Benchmarks and enables systems and processes to be regularly reviewed.

The curriculum offers a range of delivery methods including workshops, drop down day sessions, guest speakers, assemblies and schemes of work with careers education embedded. The breadth of the curriculum offer raises awareness and motivation for students to achieve a positive next step. CEIAG student experiences are recorded and analysed via the Unifrog platform which tracks individual student’s progress in relation to the Gatsby Benchmarks.

Students at The Academy are provided with the opportunity to participate in a range of careers-based activities to enhance their future career aspirations. These include:

- Presentations from external speakers from a range of professions.
- Involvement in Careers events, workshops and drop-down day sessions
- Engagement with Unifrog sessions and the platform for work experience, UCAS and next steps planning
- Participation in the year 10 and year 12 work experience placements
- Opportunities to hear from post 16 providers
- Mock interviews provided by external employment and educational partners.

### **Student and Parental/Carer voice**

Students, along with their parents/carers, are integral to the planning and evaluation of CEIAG provision at the Academy. This is achieved through:

- Students have opportunities to review CEIAG provision throughout the academic year through student voice surveys and student council meetings
- An annual CEIAG questionnaire to Parents/carers for their feedback on the Careers programme

### **Quality Assurance**

In 2025 the Academy was assessed and accredited by the national **Quality in Careers Standard** through the Licensed Awarding Body – Ixion (part of the Shaw Trust). Comments from the Assessor at that time included:

*“The Samworth Church Academy has demonstrated a strong commitment to delivering high-quality careers education and has made good progress against the Quality in Careers Standard. The programme is well-structured, strategically led, and aligned with the Gatsby Benchmarks and CDI framework. There is clear evidence of a planned and inclusive approach to supporting all students with their career development.*

*The Careers Leader is passionate about CEIAG and proactive, with good support from senior leadership. Staff across the school are increasingly involved in embedding careers learning into the curriculum, (although to ensure consistency this is a development point) and partnerships with external providers and employers are developing well.”*

The 2025 **OFSTED** report identified CEIAG provision as a strength of the Academy

*‘Impartial careers guidance and work experience help pupils make informed choices about their future. Sixth-form students are particularly positive about the careers programme and support for their next steps in employment, education or training.’*

(The Samworth Church Academy, Ofsted Report, 2025).

#### **CONTACT DETAILS:**

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