



## The Swanage School Human Careers Library – Inspire, Excite, Share the Positives and Purpose of Work

**Why do we need a Human Careers Library?** Young people at The Swanage School, at any school, have an adult network limited to family, carers and friends. This network is unlikely to include someone doing exactly the job the young person wants to investigate and test. This should not put them off or limit their aspirations. The more human library books we can recruit, the more likely our local young people will be able to pursue their passion and find their best next steps at 16.

**What is a Human Careers Library Book?** A book with us is a person that volunteers to represent an employment sector or job group and based on their personal experiences, answers questions from students to help them understand the reality and potential of a career path. To help shed light on the facts as they know them and to share the joy and challenges experienced. Books are not on a mission when with us but follow the agenda of the student and allow them to lead the conversation with their queries.

**How Often Are Books Borrowed?** Impossible to say...it will depend on the story and the reviews! However, books can choose their availability too. Normally 30 minutes is needed on site at the school or online, at a prearranged time, if a book is reserved. If more than one person is keen on the book, it may be a group reading. We also plan to host Library events when a number of books will come together for students to develop several ideas at the same time.

**Is that it?** It can be, for sure. However, if a book and reader connect well and both want to pursue the story further, they may, with another trusted adult, discuss options to observe or try a job with the book or a relevant connection. There is an increasing demand for meaningful work encounter and work experience opportunities for students at The Swanage School of all year groups.

**All Second-hand Books Are Valued** All our books are second-hand and much loved! We need books that left school a year ago to those who have recently retired. All have a story to tell, great advice based on experience, and suggestions for further books to move on to or actions to take.

**Library Categories and Sections** This new library has borrowed its categorisation system from the <https://occupational-maps.skillsengland.education.gov.uk/> national system and the Government's Industrial Strategy.

**Safeguarding and Health and Safety** You will understand that the safety and wellbeing of our students is our top priority, as is the protection of our valuable books. Guidance and support for books will be a permanent feature of the library. Staff will be available to coordinate and all interactions between Students and Books will be supervised by a member of school staff.

No books can interact with students outside the school and no follow up actions can be pursued unless staff have agreed to this, and documented it (a work encounter or experience opportunity).

**How do I Join?** If you would like to become a human careers library book, find your industry sector and shelf on the list and please fill out the short registration form. We look forward to having a fabulous range of books to offer our students and to igniting a work purpose. Thank you.