INTRODUCTION

Your career is your pathway through life - a combination of living, learning and earning. The activities in this booklet are designed to build on your knowledge about careers and the world of work and help you to achieve the six career development skills:

- Grow throughout life by learning and reflecting about yourself, your background, and your strengths
- Explore the full range of possibilities open to you
- Manage your career actively; making the most of opportunities, and learning from setbacks
- Create opportunities by being proactive and building positive relationships with others
- Balance life and work effectively
- See the big picture by paying attention to how the economy, politics and society connect with, and affect your own life and career.

You can clearly see that each TASK starts with a link to one or more of the 6 career development skills ^{1,2}. At the end of this booklet, there is an opportunity for you to review how the exercises and activities have contributed to your career learning.

During this school year, you will need to choose which subjects and pathways you are going to follow for the next few years. The decisions you make now affect your learning and training choices after you are 16, after 18, and beyond. Like most young people in the UK, you will probably continue in education or training until you are 18³ -but that doesn't mean that you have to stay in school until you are 18. You might go to another school, a college, or a training provider. You could start work as an apprentice when you are 16, earning while you learn. You might even work or volunteer, and carry on learning and training at the same time – it's up to you!

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