The Career Compass
Building Career-Ready Professionals for the Real World of Work.

# Career Exploration Guide

*Move Beyond 'What Can I Become?' to 'What Work Could I Actually Do?'*

**Who is this for? Students and early-stage career explorers**

Purpose: Explore careers through roles, work, skills and industry.

## Start With Questions

☐ What subjects or activities attract my attention?

☐ What problems do I enjoy solving?

☐ Do I prefer people, information, technology, ideas, processes or physical products?

☐ Do I prefer structured work or changing situations?

☐ What kind of impact would I like my work to have?

## Explore Each Career

☐ What does a person in this career actually do?

☐ What entry-level roles exist?

☐ What qualifications are commonly required?

☐ What technical and professional skills matter?

☐ What industries employ people in this career?

☐ What are possible career paths?

## Experience the Career

☐ I have attended an industry talk, webinar or workshop.

☐ I have spoken to a professional where possible.

☐ I have looked for an internship, project, volunteering or job-shadowing opportunity where appropriate.

## Test My Assumptions

☐ I am not choosing it only because it is popular.

☐ I am not rejecting it because of one person's experience.

☐ I have checked what the work is actually like.

☐ I understand both opportunities and challenges.

## Shortlist

☐ I have shortlisted 2–4 directions.

☐ I can explain why each interests me.

☐ I know the next action for each option.

☐ I know which option I want to explore first.

## My Next 3 Actions

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

*Career Compass reminder: A compass provides direction. It does not walk the journey for you.*