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

# Career Decision Checklist

*Before You Choose a Career, Course or Direction*

**Who is this for? Students, graduates and parents**

Purpose: Make a more informed decision.

## Understand Yourself

☐ I know my interests, strengths and areas to improve.

☐ I have considered the work environment I may prefer.

☐ I know what matters to me: learning, income, stability, creativity, impact, independence or other factors.

☐ I have separated my preferences from other people's expectations.

## Explore Options

☐ I have identified more than one possible career direction.

☐ I understand what people in these careers actually do.

☐ I have looked beyond degree names and explored possible roles.

☐ I have spoken with or listened to someone working in a field I am considering.

☐ I have researched the future relevance and opportunities.

## Check the Fit

☐ The work matches some of my interests and strengths.

☐ I understand the skills the career requires.

☐ I am willing to develop skills I currently lack.

☐ I understand the actual work, not just the title or status.

☐ I can realistically see myself learning and working in this field.

## Check the Reality

☐ I know typical qualifications and entry routes.

☐ I have considered time and financial investment.

☐ I have considered location and mobility requirements.

☐ I understand that no career guarantees a particular salary or outcome.

## Make the Decision

☐ I can explain why I am considering this option.

☐ I have identified advantages and concerns.

☐ I have compared it with at least one alternative.

☐ I know what information is still missing.

☐ I know my next step.

## My Next 3 Actions

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

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