

# PARENTING AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT.

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Lack of knowledge concerning the available careers in correlation to the Talent, Personality, Behaviour, strengths, Abilities and the Gifts of the individual learners has affected the morale of many learners, in all learning institutions.

In essence, a CAREER is the sequence and variety of occupations (paid and unpaid) which one undertakes throughout a lifetime. More broadly, career includes life roles, leisure activities, education and work.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT is the process of managing life, education and work over the lifespan.

CAREER GUIDANCE is an inclusive term that has been used to describe a range of interventions including career education and counseling that help people to move from a general understanding of life and work to a specific understanding of the realistic life, learning and work options that are open to them. Career guidance is often thought to incorporate career information, career education and career counseling.

A career includes all the roles you undertake throughout your life - education, training, paid and unpaid work, family, volunteer work, leisure activities and more.

"Career" was traditionally associated with paid employment and referred to as a single occupation. In today's world the term career is seen as a continuous process of learning and development.

## **CAREER PATH CAN INCLUDE!**

- Training.
- Education.
- Employment.
- Work experience.
- Community activities.
- Enterprise activities.
- Employment.
- Different life roles.
- Volunteer work.
- Leisure activities.

## **CHOOSING A CAREER INVOLVES 4 MAIN STAGES:**

- Self-Awareness.
- Opportunity Awareness.
- Decision Making.
- Taking Action.

Sometimes these stages will overlap and sometimes you have to return to a previous stage. Be aware the cycle is not always as linear and consistent as it is presented here.

## **SELF AWARENESS.**

The first stage of Career Choice is Self-Awareness. This involves looking at your **SKILLS, VALUES, TALENTS, and GIFTS, INTERESTS and PERSONALITY** and analyzing where your strengths and weaknesses lie. This is important both in choosing

the right career and also for success in applications and interviews where you will find many questions which test whether you have been through this process.

It is at this stage that the parent should help his/her child on becoming aware of his/her attributes.

But, not forcing him/her on taking on a career, he/she is not fit, due to the esteem put on the Career.

Help your child think about skills that might help him/her become a success.

### **OPPORTUNITY AWARENESS**

Once they have done some preliminary self-analysis, the next stage is to gather information on the opportunities open to them.

### **MAKING DECISIONS.**

It is important to make Decisions early in life. Help them in making the right decisions.

### **TAKING ACTION.**

This is the final process of career planning.

This involves the actual studying to gain the skills and knowledge required to fit in a career.