



Family career conversation

While it's important for you as an individual to make your own decisions regarding your future career choice, it can be really helpful to have a conversation with your parents (if you haven't already done so).

Your parents have arguably spent more time with you than anyone else, and so they happen to know you really well. That's a brilliant resource as we often overlook aspects about ourselves that may be useful when thinking about future careers. Let's make no mistake, it may not be the easiest conversation in the world but its certainly necessary. The following questions will help you explore some of these aspects. If you want to write down some notes as you go then great but the important part is simply that you are present in the conversation and able to communicate well with each other. Try and listen attentively and approach it from the same side. After all you are a family and everyone wants the same thing...for you to move towards a career that will bring you lasting joy.

Here are 8 questions. Spend a few minutes chatting about each.

- Having known me my whole life, are there any career areas you have thought I would be well suited for?
 - What do you think my strengths are? E.g. interpersonal skills, communicating, problem solving, work ethic etc.
 - If you could go back in time would you have studied anything different or changed careers in anyway?
 - Who do you think I am the most alike in our family? What traits do I have in common with that person?
 - Do have any concerns about particular career choices, or about me studying further in general?
 - Are there any financial concerns that may impact where I study? Or whether I need to consider taking a student loan?
 - What are your views on a gap year?
 - What is the most important piece of advice you would give me in terms of my career journey?
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