



STUDYCARE

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES - ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΤΙΚΕΣ ΥΠΗΡΕΣΙΕΣ

How parents can help their child's educational and vocational choices?

Parents have an important role for the educational and vocational choices of their child. In order to be able to contribute positively to the implementation of their child's goals, to the process of developing and maturing his¹ personality, to the factors that affect his choices, and to the information possibilities that exist about the labor market, they need to apply five approaches.

1) Discuss with your child

Discussing about your child's educational and vocational choices as early as possible, and providing encouragement to look for as much information as he can and is interested in, it is a good practice. Discussion about career issues with the child significantly affects his behavior towards school and his educational performance. A "no" or "you won't make it" in his ideas and dreams, can frustrate him to the point where he stops exploring. You could help him understand the consequences of his choices and learn how to manage maturely and responsibly.

2) Be your child's Coach:

Parents become coaches, allies and supporters of their child. In particular, they help him explore his interests, abilities, talents and skills. They help him set high but achievable goals and recognize and reward their child for his efforts and successes. They support their child on the decisions he makes regarding his career, explore the issue of their child's career adequately and acquire the appropriate knowledge to be able to help him make the right choices. Parents also, could even introduce their child to individuals and sources of information that will assist them make the right decisions and "try" professions that may interest him as a volunteer.

3) Share with your child information about labor market

A third approach would be for parents to be informed about the labor market by systematically researching occupations and discovering professions that they may not have considered or professions that will be in demand in the future. Also by discussing with the child articles about the occupations you have read, the child subconsciously understands the importance of educational and vocational choices in his life.

4) Be your child's role model

You could achieve this by sharing with your child the positive experiences you had in your own professional space, passing him the message that life is a combination of hard work and fun. Show him that you accept changes and new experiences that arise in your life, providing to him that lifelong learning and skills development are important. Explain to your child that it is acceptable to make a mistake at work and his personal life. Share with him your own mistakes and how they have helped you mature and evolve.



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5) Plan your child's career together

It is therefore important for parents to help their child discover his personality, interests, abilities and skills, so that he can explore what studies and professions suit him, set goals and plan how to achieve them. Then determine what it takes to succeed in his chosen career. If necessary seek for help of specialists, as such cooperation takes place within the framework of respecting the child's personality and the right to make decisions concerning himself.

Choosing a profession is a lifestyle choice and should be done carefully and methodically after exploring all the relevant parameters. And because unexpected events can happen on every journey, you need to help them to be prepared, and consider alternatives to their plans.

¹ in all cases where male is mentioned, the female is also meant.

Georgia Komodromou,

Educational and Vocational Counselor

STUDY CARE Educational Services MEng, MA