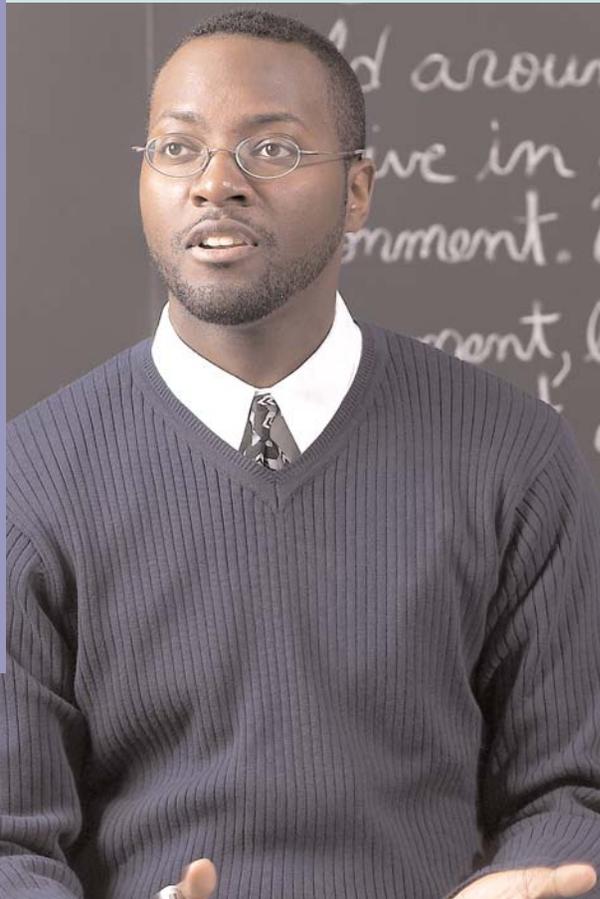


# Purpose of the Handbook

This handbook has been written for parents\* of children in Middle Years schools. Research indicates that parents are the number one influence on their children's success in their educational pursuits and their choice of occupation. Helping children build on their skills, strengths, and confidence will assist them in planning for the future. This handbook has been written to encourage parents and children to begin thinking about and discussing career exploration. Many parents are already doing many of the activities proposed in this handbook.

## How do I use the handbook?

This handbook provides discussion topics and activities that will engage your child to begin exploring the career-planning process.



## How can parents and schools work together?

Although schools are providing some career-planning activities, research shows that students are more successful if parents and schools work together. Parents can find out what career-planning objectives have been determined for their children in school by attending parent-teacher conferences and parent-teacher evenings, working with parent councils, reading school newsletters, visiting the school website, or contacting the school principal.



**\*In this document, the term “parents” refers to both parents and guardians and is used with the recognition that, in some cases, only one parent may be involved in a child’s education.**