Preparing for the Work World

Focus on Relevant Education and Skills

- **Vocational Training**: Enroll in courses offering practical skills for fields like IT, healthcare, or construction.
- **Certifications**: Obtain certifications relevant to your industry to enhance your qualifications.

Gain Practical Experience

- **Internships/Part-Time Jobs**: Seek roles in your interest areas to develop hands-on experience and strengthen your resume.
- **Summer Jobs**: Work in related fields to gain industry insights.

Develop Essential Soft and Business Skills

- Participate in activities to build communication, teamwork, and leadership skills. For aspiring entrepreneurs, focus on innovation, creativity, and basic business management including budgeting and marketing.

Utilize Job Search and Networking Resources

- **Career Counseling**: Use school services for resume and interview prep.
- **Networking**: Attend job fairs and join online groups or local entrepreneur networks to connect with mentors and peers.
- **Online Presence**: Establish a professional website and engage on social media to build your business's digital footprint.

Prepare for the Job Search or Business Launch

- **Resume Building**: Create a comprehensive resume highlighting your skills and experiences.
- **Business Plan**: Develop a clear plan outlining your business idea, market analysis, and financial projections. Seek feedback from trusted mentors.

Understand Your Rights and Benefits

- Familiarize yourself with labor laws relevant to young workers and explore funding options for startups, such as small business loans or grants.

By strategically developing your skills, gaining experience, and building a network, you'll enhance your prospects in the job market or as a new entrepreneur.