

Support Your Children Facing the Career Barrier

Children from multicultural families may be more concerned about their career path, and thus have difficulties in setting their career goals. There may also be a lack of information on further education and employment. Therefore, parents should provide opportunities for their children to think about their own career options, and help them overcome any fears of career barriers.

Types of career barriers your children may face



Identity crisis

In general, Adolescence is a period when people have deep concerns about their identity. The concerns may be deeper for children of multicultural families due to appearance, language, and culture.



Lack of Korean language skills

Immigrant children may have poor Korean skills due to sudden changes in their language environment. This may lead to communication problems and difficulties in forming interpersonal relationships.



Low academic achievement

Korean language proficiency significantly affects academic achievement. A lack of Korean language skills may lead to psychological problems such as a passive attitude in class, and a lack of confidence.



Lack of self-esteem and self-efficacy

Identity crisis, language difficulties, and low academic achievement can lower self-esteem and self-efficacy.

Guide your children to develop self-esteem

Self-esteem is respecting yourself for what you are as an individual. People with high self-esteem think positively about everything, and are confident. They also believe that they can perform the tasks they are given and finish them.



The role of parents in multicultural identity is important

Self-esteem of children from multicultural families affects their school life and career path. When parents properly raise their children with affection, the children will better adjust to school. Support from parents, friends, and teachers who are close to children play important roles in children's school life, and the more support they receive, the faster they adjust to school.

Reference: Oh, Jung A· Byoun, Soo-jung (2020). <The Experience of School Dropout among Multicultural Adolescents>

Tips for developing your children's self-esteem

- Support your children in doing various activities to learn about themselves.
- Guide them to behave honestly and responsibly.
- Help them express their opinions confidently.
- Tell your children that they are precious and special.
- Allow them to set goals and feel a sense of achievement.
- Help your children understand and accept their multicultural identity (two countries).



Strengths of children from multicultural families who resolve career barriers

As children from multicultural families can learn Korean and their foreign parent's language, they can potentially become bilingual. In addition, understanding and broad-mindedness to multiculturalism lead to cultural openness. Being bilingual can boost your children's self-esteem and self-efficacy.

Reference: Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education & Training < School career counseling operation manual for multicultural students >

Reference: YouTube (youtube.com) > Career Mentoring > [Middle School: Self-Esteem and Self-Efficacy] KB Online Career Lesson: Career path and jobs



Information that Parents Should Know To Support Their Children's Career Path

What kind of information do you need to know to support the career and further education of children from multicultural families? Let's check out the information for parents and have a career conversation with your children. Help your children to find their career path by themselves and develop it.

Cases from multicultural families

A, a graduate of 0000 School, majoring in tourism



"I immigrated to Korea in 2011, and I am currently working at a high-end restaurant. I can speak basic English and am fluent in Chinese, which is my native language, so I am in charge of reservations. Speaking a foreign language at a high level provides me with more choices in jobs, so I obtained a certificate through the HSK test to improve my native language and was able to demonstrate my Chinese-language skills. I hope you will not forget about your native language while trying to learn Korean as soon as possible."

Reference: Korea Research Institute for Vocational Education & Training < School career counseling operation manual for multicultural students > Reconstruction of cases

B, who graduated from 000000 High School and got a job



"I got a job in producing solar cells after graduating. My mother is Korean. My father is Bangladeshi. I came to Korea in middle school and entered a technical high school for multicultural youth. I chose the computer and machinery department and got engaged in various activities in and outside school, including marathons, mountain climbing, piano, cooking, and volunteer work. Also, speaking three languages, Korean, Bangladeshi, and English helped me find a job."

Reference: Korea Education and Research Information Service <Understanding the guide and counseling of multicultural students> Reconstruction of cases

Career counseling for Children I want to know these things



When your children want to go to college, you need to be familiar with information for your children's situation, such as nationality, language skills, etc. When they want to get a job, make sure that their visa type allows work, and find the relevant institutions to get the appropriate vocational training.

Q What type of visa does a child from a multicultural family need to work?

Visas that allow employment include F-2, F-4, C-4, H-2, E-9, etc. For foreign nationals, you need to know what type of visa you have to be able to work. If your child becomes an adult while attending school in Korea, you may need to change the visa type depending on the circumstances.

Q What are the special admission programs for college entrance for children from multicultural families?

There are four types of particular applications: pure foreigners, overseas Koreans and foreigners, multicultural families, and foreign language skills. It is necessary to have competitiveness with foreign languages as strengths, focusing on the interests and aptitudes of your children, career after graduation, and development potential of the department.



Q What kind of education would suit children who have a hard time going to school?

Immigrant children or children from a foreign family can have difficulties in classes due to a lack of language skills. You can find alternative learning programs to deal with this. Children attending general high schools can receive vocational training. Check out the programs that your children can apply for by region, grade level, or nationality.

Q I would like to get professional counseling at school or other places. Is it possible?

Counseling is available at Wee(wee.go.kr) Class at schools, or at social welfare institutes, family centers, and Counseling & Welfare Center for Youth.

Major institutions for psychological and emotional support and services for multicultural students

No.	Region	Name of Institution	Contact No.
1	Nationwide	Multicultural Portal Danuri	1577-1366
2	Seoul	Rainbow Youth Center	02-733-7587
3	Ansan	Ansan Global Youth Center	031-599-1781
4	Suwon	Suwon Global Youth Dream Center	031-247-1324
5	Busan	Busan Youth Integrated Service Center	051-303-9601
6	Seoul	Seoul Metropolitan Counseling and Welfare Center for Youth	02-2285-1318
7	Suwon	Gyeonggi Youth Counseling & Welfare Center	031-248-1318
8	Ansan	Ansan Mental Health Welfare Center	031-411-7573
9	Incheon	Incheon Mental Health Welfare Center	032-468-9911
10	Nationwide	Wee Center, Wee Class	043-5309-182

Reference: Ministry of Education <Teachers' Manual for Career and Further Education Guidance for Multicultural Students>