

How do we meet the Gatsby Benchmarks?

Good careers guidance is essential in supporting young people to raise their aspirations and to allow them to consider options that would otherwise be unknown to them. In 2014 the Gatsby Foundation published their report for schools and colleges with a series of recommendations and crucially eight key benchmarks with which to measure good careers guidance.

Further information available: www.gatsby.org.uk/education/focus-areas/good-career-guidance

How we align against the eight key benchmarks from the Department for Education Careers Strategy:

Benchmark	Department for Education Careers Strategy	How we will meet the benchmark
1	<p>A Stable Careers Programme</p> <p>Every college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by students, parents/guardians, teachers and employers.</p>	Students have opportunities to access information, advice and guidance and career related activities throughout their time at College
2	<p>Learning from Career and Labour Market Information</p> <p>Every student, and their parents/guardians, should have access to good-quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities. They will need the support of an informed adviser to make best use of available information.</p>	As a College we consider how we can best meet National and Local priorities and the changing landscape of employment. We have regular contact with and use information provided by the local Lancashire Enterprise Partnership
3	<p>Addressing the needs of each student</p> <p>Students have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each student. A college careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout.</p>	Students have regular contact with tutors and students are encouraged to consider their next steps beyond College. Careers Advisors are on hand to provide advice and guidance to students. Equality and Diversity is embedded throughout curriculum.
4	<p>Linking curriculum learning to careers</p> <p>All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. For example, STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of future career paths.</p>	Careers Advisors, Staff and Personal Tutors have close links with teaching staff and departments. Many career related activities that take place in College and are driven by subject areas linking learning to career progression.
5	<p>Encounters with Employer and Employees</p> <p>Every student should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.</p>	The College has links with a wide range of partnerships. Throughout the year students are able to attend talks from leading businesses and employers promoting opportunities outside of College.
6	<p>Experiences of workplaces</p> <p>Every student should have first-hand experiences* of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.</p>	All students have the opportunity to take up a work experience placement through a College approved provider and some students gain work experience as part of their course.
7	<p>Encounters with Further and Higher Education</p> <p>All students should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in colleges, universities and in the workplace.</p>	The College has links with a wide range of Universities who visit the College. Trips and visits are also arranged to enable students to ask questions and gather information about Further and Higher Education opportunities.
8	<p>Personal Guidance</p> <p>Every student should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a careers adviser. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all students but should be timed to meet their individual needs.</p>	All students have the opportunity to book an interview with a Carers Advisor in College. All students have regular contact with their Personal Tutors who use key resources to discover and explore progression options beyond College.