

Intent

The careers programme is used to develop and improve the programme of career education, advice and guidance offered to our students. Our primary aim is to encourage each student to become a mature, independently minded individual who has the necessary skills and knowledge to be of value to themselves and society.

Gatsby Career Benchmarks

The Gatsby Career Benchmarks identify good practice and define the essentials of good career guidance providing a robust and realistic framework for developing a career programme that is first class.

The Gatsby Benchmarks are as follows:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each student
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experience of work places
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Students at the College should expect careers education information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) as an entitlement and know where to access up to date information about work and labour market information, training and educational opportunities. They should also experience a wide range of career related activities including careers workshops, employer talks, career fayres, motivational speakers, college and university visits and workplace visits where possible. These career related activities should be sequential, with knowledge and experiences built upon over students' time at Catmose College.

Careers Guidance

Academies have a duty to secure access to independent and impartial (no bias towards a particular education or work option) careers guidance for students in years 7-11. (Education Act 1997, 2011, 2022 & Careers Guidance & Inspiration in Schools March 2015 Statutory Guidance). The Academy's duty to secure independent career guidance for all years 7-11 pupils is intended to expand advice and guidance for young people so they are inspired and motivated to fulfil their potential, develop high aspirations and consider a broad and ambitious range of careers.

Key priorities

- Provide independent and impartial careers advice, prevent stereotyping and promote the best interests of the student to whom it is given.
- Ensure individual support for students with SEN or disabilities.
- Work with the local authority to identify those 'at risk' of not participating post-16 in education or training and the services to support them.
- Work with education and training providers to provide information on the range of available education options including apprenticeships.
- Inspire and motivate students to fulfil their potential and develop employability skills.
- Provide direct students access to trustworthy websites, including The National Careers Service and Unifrog, giving labour market information, career profiles and other online career guidance sites.
- Provide access to online impartial careers and further and higher education resources.
- Inspire students through real life experiences/real life contact with work.
- Develop understanding of the world of work through linking curriculum learning to careers and with experiences of the workplace and world of work.
- Provide entrepreneurial challenges to develop employability skills and self-employment opportunities.
- Develop and build on essential skills by linking curriculum and PHSE learning to careers during students' time at Catmose.
- Encourage students to study STEM subjects.
- Develop employer-College links with Rutland County Council and the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Careers Hub to address career aspirations and link the work completed in lessons to the world of work (WOW).

Outcomes

- Ensure all students are well informed when making subject and career decisions all transitions points.
- Reduce the amount of 16–18-year-old NEETs.
- All students to have a clear sense of achievable direction about future education, training options and goals.
- All students understand the importance of STEM subjects.
- All students are aware of out of school opportunities (e.g., trips, visits, voluntary activities).
- All students are aware of any post-16 funding available to them (e.g., 16-19 Bursary Fund, Oakham United Charities Fund).
- All students to have interacted with employers and understand the skills employers are looking for.
- All students to have developed some, if not all, of the key essential skills needed to progress to employment and further and higher education.

Implementation

Across the tutorial, PSHE and wider curriculum students are offered a range of opportunities to access information relating to the world of work, careers and local labour market information. Below is an example of the implementation and delivery of Career Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG). This is a fluid document giving a flavour of our provisions and is not an exhaustive list.

	Autumn terms	Spring terms	Summer terms
All year groups	<p>WOW Weekly</p> <p>Careers Advisor attending annual review meetings for students with an EHCP</p> <p>Academic scholarship programme</p> <p>My Future Careers Fayre</p> <p>T levels assembly</p> <p>Career-related displays in curriculum areas</p> <p>Email to all parents regarding access to Unifrog</p>	<p>WOW Weekly</p> <p>Lunchtime careers talks</p> <p>National Apprenticeship Week including assemblies</p> <p>National Careers Week</p> <p>Careers Advisor attending annual review meetings for students with an EHCP</p> <p>Academic scholarship programme</p> <p>Take your child to work day</p> <p>Career-related displays in curriculum areas</p>	<p>WOW Weekly</p> <p>Lunchtime careers talks</p> <p>Careers Advisor attending annual review meetings for students with an EHCP</p> <p>Academic scholarship programme</p>
Year 7	<p>PSHE activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routines for learning • Identity and personality <p>My Future Careers Fayre</p>	<p>PSHE activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal online safety • Speaking, listening and giving feedback. • Identifying careers 	<p>PSHE activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendship & rivalries • Self-management and emotions. • Enterprise challenge <p>Employer Encounter Experiences</p>
Year 8	<p>PSHE activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becoming an adult • Discrimination and democracy • Police and military roles <p>My Future Careers Fayre</p>	<p>PSHE activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My aspirations • Interpersonal skills • Goal setting <p>Employer Encounter Experiences</p>	<p>PSHE activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dealing with fear and stress • Banking and currencies • Enterprise challenge

Year 9	PSHE activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online literacy and responsibility Fake news Visit to a University Employer Encounter Experiences My Future Careers Fayre	Key Stage 4 options event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE taster sessions in lessons Options interviews with senior leaders Problem-solving 	PSHE activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consumer rights and finance Building confidence Career opportunities Managing anxiety
	My Future Careers Fayre	Writing a CV and personal statement.	Employer Encounter experiences
	Apprenticeship awareness assembly	Interview skills	
Year 11	1:1 Interviews with Principal and Careers Advisor	1:1 Interviews with Principal and Careers Advisor	1:1 Interviews with Principal and Careers Advisor
	Assembly on opportunities at 16	Support with applications	Support with applications
	My Future Careers fayre	Survival/revision tutorial programme	Exam preparation tutorial programme
	Harington School Awareness Assembly Post-16 taster sessions		

Impact

Student survey data reports above 80% of students across the College agree or strongly agree that their experiences of CEIAG are useful for future career aspiration. 100% of students who have met with the Careers Advisor found their meeting useful.

Destination Data

Details of the Destination Data for the latest academic year can be found here - <https://www.catmosecollege.com/destination-data/>

COMPASS

CAREERS BENCHMARK TOOL

Since the updates to the Gatsby Benchmarks, we have undertaken one Compass evaluation (November 2025) which provides a start point for us to make progress from.

