



The Quality in Careers Standard >>>>

NEWS:
QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD HOLDERS AND COMPASS RESULTS

*“ANALYSIS SHOWS ADDED VALUE OF ACHIEVING THE STANDARD
AS WELL AS JOINING CAREERS HUBS”*

Published 12th January 2022

1. Background:

The Quality in Careers Consortium provided the Careers & Enterprise Company with details of schools and colleges holding the national Quality in Careers Standard at the end of September 2021. This enabled the Careers & Enterprise Company to match (via Unique Reference Numbers) the Compass data held for 719 schools and colleges across England which had achieved the Standard.

2. Statutory Duty and national policy for careers education and guidance

The Department for Education¹ expects all schools and colleges to work towards meeting the Gatsby Benchmarks for ‘Good Careers Guidance’, and **‘strongly recommends’** all schools and colleges to work towards achieving external accreditation for their careers provision through the national Quality in Careers Standard.

3. The Analysis

The Careers & Enterprise Company provided a ‘Note’ to the Consortium on 7th January 2022 describing the analysis of the data matched for the 719 schools and colleges. **A copy of this ‘Note’ is attached to this news item.**

4. Commentary from the Quality in Careers Consortium Board

After consulting with the DfE on the analysis, Dr Barrie Hopson, Chairman of the Quality in Careers Consortium Board, publishing this analysis today said:

¹ Careers Guidance and access for education and training providers (Statutory guidance for schools and colleges on providing careers guidance – 15th July 2021)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/careers-guidance-provision-for-young-people-in-schools>

“This detailed analysis, which covers the period of the COVID 19 pandemic, shows the commitment of schools and colleges to high quality-assured careers education and guidance for students facing the most challenging of circumstances.

*We are grateful to the research team at the Careers & Enterprise Company for their work undertaking the analysis and providing us with the results. **The analysis confirms the importance of schools and colleges joining Careers Hubs and working towards achieving the Quality in Careers Standard. By doing so, the evidence is that schools and colleges increase their achievement in respect of the Gatsby Benchmarks, and therefore provide better careers education and guidance for their pupils and students.***

We commend this analysis to all school and college leaders across the country.”

5. Invitation to Schools & Colleges not yet engaged with the national Standard

Dr Hopson added:

“All schools and colleges not yet engaged with the Quality in Careers Standard can still access our 2021 Virtual Event on our website² – which provides testimonials from schools and colleges holding the Standard alongside video introductions to our Awarding Bodies.

I can announce today that we are currently updating the Virtual Event ready for its relaunch in mid-February this year.

We are revising the video introductions to our Awarding Bodies and will be adding three new testimonials from schools:

- *a **secondary school in Lincolnshire** which has a long history of holding a quality award for its careers provision and was successfully reaccredited with the national Standard at the end of 2021*
- *a **special school in Staffordshire** which achieved the national Standard for the first time in the Autumn term of 2021, and*
- *a leading **Independent School in The City of London** which was successfully reaccredited with the national Standard in September 2021.*

All three new schools have shown true commitment to achieving the highest quality careers provision for their pupils and students despite the difficulties created by the pandemic.

No-one is pretending it’s easy in these ongoing COVID19 times - but we hope that, when we launch our revised Virtual Event in February, these three new testimonials will inspire others to make the commitment to work towards and achieve the national Standard. The evidence, as shown by the Careers & Enterprise Company’s detailed analysis, is that by doing so schools and colleges achieve higher results in their Compass scores against the Gatsby Benchmarks – which in turn means their students are receiving careers support of the quality of the best.”

² <https://www.qualityincareers.org.uk/virtual-event-registration/>