

Compass results for the secondary schools and colleges in England with the Quality in Careers Standard 2023

This note describes the careers provision in the schools and colleges which achieved the Quality in Careers Standard in academic year 2022/23 as recorded in the Compass data held by The Careers & Enterprise Company. It has been produced by The Careers & Enterprise Company for the Quality in Careers Consortium.

17th November 2023

Compass Data

The Compass data used for this analysis are the latest evaluation returns by Careers Leaders as of the end of July 2023 for the academic year 2022/23. It is the same data used in the Gatsby Benchmark Insight Briefing published in October 2023¹. The results reported in this note are the average number of Gatsby Benchmarks fully achieved and the proportion of schools and colleges achieving each of the eight benchmarks. To fully achieve a benchmark, schools and colleges must meet all the sub-benchmarks (approximately 44 in total across the eight benchmarks, depending on the age range of students in the education institution).

Matching process

The Quality in Careers Consortium provided The Careers & Enterprise Company with a list of over 745 schools and colleges that had gained external accreditation under the national Quality in Careers Standard as of September 2023. To prepare the data for matching with Compass data, institutions in Northern Ireland and the Channel Islands were excluded, as were those in the primary/middle school sectors.

Analysis was carried out on 660 schools and colleges that were matched with the Compass data (88.5%, slightly below the national proportion of schools and colleges completing Compass).

Results

The Quality in Careers Standard has two categories for achievement: 'Achieving the standard: making good progress towards fully meeting criteria' and 'Achieving the Standard: fully meeting the national criteria'. Fully achieving the Quality in Careers Standard depends on full achievement of all Gatsby Benchmarks. Of the award holders, 29.8% (N=197) fully achieved all 8 benchmarks, equating to fully achieving the Quality in Careers Standard. The remaining 70.2% (N=463) were making good progress toward fully meeting the criteria of the Quality in Careers Standard.

Education institutions accredited under the Quality in Careers Standard achieved an average of 6.1 Gatsby Benchmarks in 2022/23. This is half a benchmark higher than the previous year (up from 5.6 benchmarks), similar to the proportional increase of all schools and colleges in England since 2021/22.²

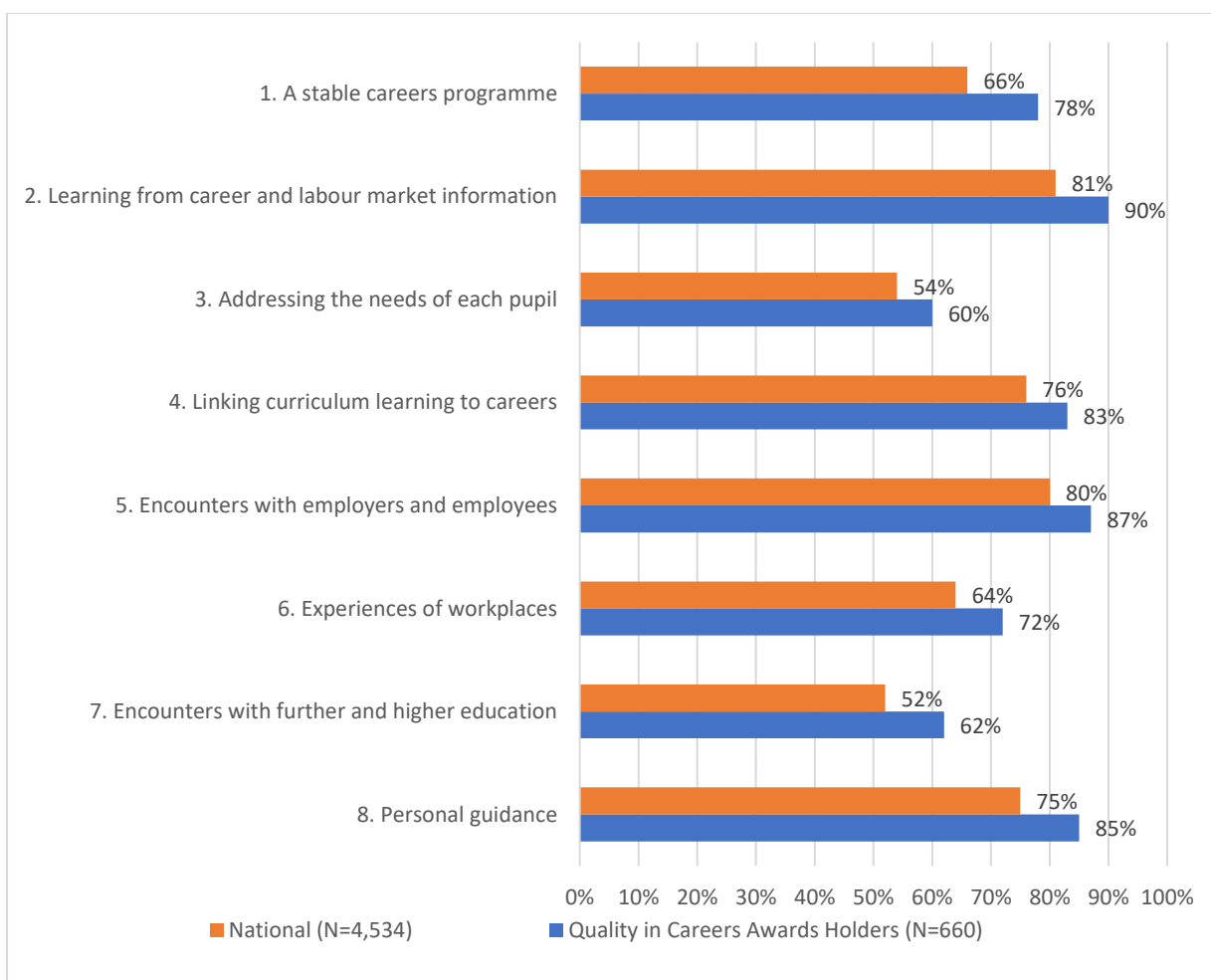
¹ [The Careers & Enterprise Company \(2023\). Insight briefing - Gatsby Benchmark results 2022 / 2023. London: The Careers & Enterprise Company.](#)

² [The Careers & Enterprise Company \(2023\). Compass results for the secondary schools and colleges in England with the Quality in Careers Standard 2022. London: The Careers & Enterprise Company.](#)

Table 1. Average number of Gatsby Benchmarks fully achieved in 2022/23

	Average number of GBs fully achieved	Number schools and colleges
Schools accredited through Quality in Careers Standard	6.1	660
All state-funded schools and colleges in England completing Compass	5.5	4,534

Fig. 1 Percentage of schools and colleges achieving each Benchmark in 2022/23



Source: CEC Gatsby Benchmark data, end of July 2023