



The Quality in Careers Standard >>>>

NEWS:

QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD HOLDERS AND COMPASS RESULTS

“March 2023 analysis shows impact of achieving the Quality Standard as well as joining careers hubs”

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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 2022.

This enabled the Careers & Enterprise Company to match (via Unique Reference Numbers) the Compass data held for schools and colleges across England which had achieved the Standard – and to compare them with the full cohort of institutions nationwide.

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 the Consortium the analysis of the data matched for the schools and colleges holding the Standard. **A copy of the analysis is attached to this news item.**

The headline outcome shows that ***“Education institutions accredited under the Quality in Careers Standard achieved an average of 5.6 Gatsby Benchmarks in 2021/22. This is one benchmark higher than the previous year.”***

¹ [Careers guidance and access for education and training providers - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) January 2023.

4. Commentary from the Quality in Careers Consortium Board

Dr Barrie Hopson, Chairman of the Quality in Careers Consortium Board, publishing this analysis today, said:

“This is the second year in which we have received this form of detailed analysis from the Careers and Enterprise Company. The analysis covers the period of the on-going COVID 19 pandemic. It confirms the commitment of schools and colleges to high quality-assured careers education and guidance for students facing the most challenging of circumstances.

We are again grateful to the research team at the Careers & Enterprise Company for their work undertaking the analysis and providing us with the results.

The analysis demonstrates the importance of schools and colleges joining Careers Hubs and working towards achieving the [Quality in Careers Standard](#). By doing so, the clear evidence is that schools and colleges increase their achievement in respect of the Gatsby Benchmarks – achieving the highest Compass scores in the country - and therefore provide better careers education and guidance for their pupils and students.

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

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

Dr Hopson added:

*“We invite all schools and colleges not yet engaged with the Quality in Careers Standard to view our **2023 Virtual Event** on our website² – which provides testimonials from schools and colleges holding the Standard alongside video introductions to our Awarding Bodies.*

This year we’ve added a downloadable PowerPoint about the Standard so that busy Career Leaders have a resource they can use to present Quality in Careers to SLTs and Governors.

All of the testimonies from schools and colleges emphasise that true commitment to achieving the highest quality careers provision, despite the difficulties created by the pandemic, brings real benefits for their students.

No-one’s pretending it’s easy in these still challenging times - but we hope that these 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 2023 analysis, is that by doing so schools and colleges achieve the highest 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 [2023 Virtual Event - Quality in Careers](#)