

## How does New College Pontefract Measure up Against 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 8 key benchmarks with which to measure good careers guidance.

Here is a summary of how we match ourselves against the 8 key benchmarks:

- 1 A STABLE CAREERS PROGRAMME**

The College has a Careers Leader who oversees the Careers Programme. Students, parents, College staff and external providers are encouraged to provide feedback about any aspect of the Careers Programme. This programme is reviewed and updated annually, and is available via our website.
- 2 LEARNING FROM CAREER AND LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION**

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 Leeds LEP. Students and parents can access labour market information via our website, our Virtual Learning Environment and through tutorials and events.
- 3 ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF EACH STUDENT**

Students have regular contact with Progress Tutors, and students are actively encouraged to consider their next steps beyond college. Careers advisors are on hand to provide advice and guidance to all students. As a college we monitor and support all student progress towards their own future goals, regardless of their circumstances, and we look to break down stereotypes.
- 4 LINKING CURRICULUM LEARNING TO CAREERS**

Careers support staff and progress tutors have close links with teaching staff and departments. Many career related activities that take place in college are driven by subject areas, linking learning to career progression.
- 5 ENCOUNTERS WITH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES**

Our Careers & HE Progression Day includes talks from over 80 speakers from a wide range of backgrounds. Throughout the year students are able to attend talks from leading businesses and employers promoting School Leaver Programmes and opportunities outside of college.
- 6 EXPERIENCES OF WORKPLACES**

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 ENCOUNTERS WITH FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

Universities and colleges attend regularly in college for students to ask questions and gather information; from regular stands in the Students Union, to a full programme of Spring Talks, to the Careers & HE Progression Day in the summer.
- 8 PERSONAL GUIDANCE**

All students have the opportunity to book an interview with a careers advisor in college. All students have regular contact with their Progress Tutors who use key resources to discover and explore progression options beyond college.