

## **Careers Strategy – Newcastle and Stafford College Group**

### **A Strategy for Careers Education and Information, Advice & Guidance**

**January 2021**

Young people need high quality careers guidance to inspire them in their career choices. Access to impartial careers education and guidance enables young people to make informed decisions and help them to progress to a successful working life.

Newcastle and Stafford College Group (NSCG) delivers Matrix accredited impartial careers education, information and advice & guidance (CEIAG), and by working with cross college teams and curriculum, it will implement the Gatsby Benchmarks to further enhance this. The Careers Leader is Lesley Morrey (Assistant Principal – Learner Engagement & Partnerships), who sits on the Strategic Management Team of the College.

Careers information, advice and guidance is available to students before and during their studies, as well as to former students. A careers adviser is available for advice and guidance at main college events such as open evenings and during enrolment. All students have access to high quality CEIAG from experienced staff to enable them to achieve their aims by understanding the options available to them and encouraging them to make informed decisions. NSCG also engages the services of EnTrust, a team of local impartial and independent careers advisers, to work with prospective and current students at key decision making periods. All requests for advice and guidance are treated in a supportive and confidential manner.

Advice and guidance is responsive and flexible and is offered through guidance appointments, a drop-in service, email, Microsoft Teams, and by telephone. CEIAG will be promoted at key times of the year to enhance support at crucial stages in a student's time at college.

The careers team, the apprenticeships team and the school liaison team all attend a wide range of external events forging links with schools, training and education companies, statutory agencies and partners. This enables us to make effective referrals to external institutions, schemes and agencies where appropriate.

The college organises a range of activities, events and workshops to help students achieve, including UCAS support, CV workshops, and HE events – the full careers activity programme is available below. Young people also have access to relevant work experience activities and the opportunity to develop their employability skills.

A referral process is in place between course teams and the careers team, for those at risk of being withdrawn from their college course, in order to aid retention. The college works with other providers to reduce instances of NEET, operating an appropriate referral process.

Students also have access to a number of careers resources such as Unifrog, and a whole bank of useful websites within the careers section of our iSite (Virtual Learning Environment).

The eight Gatsby benchmarks of Good Career Guidance are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information

3. Addressing the needs of each learner
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

Activity	Location	PreSummer/ Summer	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
<b>Introduction to College</b>					
School activities	Schools	✓	✓	✓	✓
Course Interviews	Curriculum		✓	✓	✓
Open Evenings	Cross College		✓	✓	✓
GCSE Results Guidance	College	✓			
Enrolment	College	✓	✓		
Drop in advice and Guidance	Careers	✓	✓	✓	✓
Induction	Cross College	✓	✓		
Love Us Don't Leave Us	Cross College/Careers	✓	✓		
<b>Employability</b>					
Work Placements	Curriculum	✓	✓	✓	✓
CV Workshops	The Apprenticeship Hub/Careers	✓	✓	✓	✓
Job Search	Cross College				✓
Trips, Visits, Speakers	Curriculum		✓	✓	✓
Skills Competitions	Curriculum		✓	✓	✓
Next Steps Fayre	Cross College				✓
<b>Preparation for Further Education</b>					
One to one tutorial meetings	Curriculum		✓	✓	✓
Drop In Advice and Guidance	Careers		✓	✓	✓
Course Interviews	Curriculum				✓
<b>Preparation for Higher Education</b>					
UCAS Research Sessions	Careers		✓		
UCAS Drop in Sessions	Careers	✓	✓	✓	✓

Personal Statement Workshops/Drop ins	Careers/Visiting Universities	✓	✓	✓	✓
Student Finance Talks	Careers			✓	✓
Next Steps Fayre	Cross College			✓	
University Visits	Curriculum	✓	✓	✓	✓
UCAS Event Visit	Staffordshire University				✓
A Level Results Day Guidance	Careers/Local Universities	✓			

If you are a parent or potential student with any queries relating to Careers Planning at NSCG please contact [info@nscg.ac.uk](mailto:info@nscg.ac.uk)

If you are an employer and would like to speak to someone regarding opportunities to engage in our Careers Programme at NSCG by providing work experience, placements or speakers, please contact [Andy.snape@nscg.ac.uk](mailto:Andy.snape@nscg.ac.uk)

If you are a school and you would like to work with us on Careers Activities please contact [Tara.capper@nscg.ac.uk](mailto:Tara.capper@nscg.ac.uk)

If you are a current NSCG student and have any questions about Careers please speak to your tutor.

To access impartial Careers support online please go to <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/>