

Gatsby Benchmark 7 – Encounters with Further and Higher Education

Desired Outcomes

- All students should understand the full range of pathways and learning opportunities available to them. This includes academic, vocational and apprenticeship routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and the workplace.
- By the age of 16, every pupil should have had a meaningful encounter with providers covering the full range of learning opportunities.
- By the age of 18, all students who are considering applying for university should have had at least two visits to universities to meet staff and students.

In Practice

- All partners – schools, colleges, universities, local authorities, careers guidance providers, parents/carers, employers and the wider community – have a common understanding of local employer needs and opportunities.
- Schools ensure students are well-supported to choose pathways they value post-18. This work starts in year 7 through raising aspirations and inspiration.
- The school acts in the best interests of the students, not the school.
- The school organises suspended timetable days for different year groups, such as careers and higher education preparation days for year 12s in the summer term.
- The school ensures encounters with further and higher education are part of an overall approach that encompasses:
 - personalised and small-group information, advice and guidance
 - selected sources of information, which are promoted through the school's website, newsletter and social media
 - a planned programme of on-site and off-site encounters with apprenticeship providers, further and higher education to strengthen accessibility, outreach and transition preparedness for targeted groups, such as Pupil Premium, gifted and talented and students with special educational needs and disabilities
 - close co-operation with parents, families and carers in recognition of their key influence on children's thinking and decision-making.

The Baker Clause

The Baker Clause, an amendment to the Technical and Further Education Act, came into force on 2/1/18, and requires all schools to publish a policy statement on their websites. Under the rules, every school is obliged to give training providers access to every pupil between years 8 and 13, so they can find out about non-academic pathways.

DfE statutory guidance states that schools need to publish “a policy statement setting out their arrangements for provider access”. This should be made available on the school website and must explain how to arrange access, which premises, or facilities can be used, and the grounds for granting or refusing requests.

[Statutory Guidance with the Provider Access Policy \(Annex A\).](#)

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SEMLEP suggests – Encounters with Further and Higher Education

Inspiration and Raising Aspirations

- Break down stereotypical thinking
- Focus on years 7 to 9, year 8 being a priority
- Facilitate through
 - Role models
 - Talks
 - Video
 - Events
 - NCOP activity
 - Alumni
 - Labour Market Information
- Include parents/guardians as part of the campaign through newsletters and parents evenings

Legal Obligation

- The Baker Clause
- Publish policy statement on website setting arrangements for provider access for promotion of all pathways, academic, technical and apprenticeships

Promotion of Pathways

- Further Education Colleges
- Universities
- NCOP activity
- Training Providers
- Apprenticeships
 - Amazing Apprenticeships
 - Work Pays
 - Young Apprenticeship Ambassadors
- Attending Events
 - Big Bang
 - National Apprenticeship Show
 - WorldSkills UK Live (The Skills Show)
- Job Centre Plus activity in schools
- SEMLEP LMI presentations years 7 to 9
- Arrange an evening event for training providers, FE, and HE to promote pathways to both students and parents
- Use school newsletters and social media to promote pathways and opportunities

Feedback & Review

Resources

Inspiration and Raising Aspirations	
Speakers for Schools	A charity helping provide young people with inspiration through free talks
Founders4Schools	Provider of employer engagement through various activities including talks and site visits
Future First	Service that helps schools develop sustainable alumni communities
Inspiring the Future	Provider that gives young people the opportunity to meet role models
STEM Ambassadors	Volunteers who offer their time to demonstrate the value of STEM in life and careers
Women in Science and Engineering	Aims to increase the participation and success of women in STEM
icould	Career videos from role models
Careers Box	Inspirational careers videos
Big Bang Fair	Inspirational STEM based fairs
WorldSkills UK Live	The UK's largest skills, apprenticeships and careers event

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Further Education	
Barnfield College	http://www.barnfield.ac.uk/
Bedford College	https://www.bedford.ac.uk/
Central Bedfordshire College	http://www.centralbeds.ac.uk/
Milton Keynes College	https://www.mkcollege.ac.uk/
Moulton College	http://www.moulton.ac.uk/
Northampton College	https://www.northamptoncollege.ac.uk/
Tresham College	https://www.tresham.ac.uk/
Luton Sixth Form College	https://www.lutonsfc.ac.uk/
Kimberley College	https://www.kimberleycollege.co.uk/
Barnfield College	http://www.barnfield.ac.uk/
Higher Education	
University of Bedfordshire	https://www.beds.ac.uk/
University of Buckingham	https://www.buckingham.ac.uk/
University of Northampton	https://www.northampton.ac.uk/
The Open University	http://www.open.ac.uk/#
National Collaborative Outreach Programme (NCOP) - programmes around the country and the local programmes are:	Programme aims to rapidly increase the number of young people from underrepresented groups who go into higher education.
Bedfordshire and Luton	Aspire Higher
Northamptonshire	Pathways
Milton Keynes	Study Higher
Office for Students	Site to inform and help young people to get into and succeed in higher education
Whatuni?	Student led website to help look for a university
The Complete University Guide	A guide to universities with information on many aspects of studying at university
Bestcourse4me	An independent, free website that shows the link between what is studied, what can be earned, and the jobs people get
Unistats	Includes data for undergraduate courses on each university and college's satisfaction scores in the National Student Survey, jobs and salaries after study and other information for prospective students.
The Student Room	Helpful website for students searching for courses
UCAS	Website to explore options and apply to a university

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Apprenticeships	
Workpays	Part of national ASK programme to drive apprenticeship awareness. Presentations to students, teachers and parents.
Apprenticeships – Fire it Up	Introduction to apprenticeships
Amazing Apprenticeships	Resources to support the understanding of apprenticeships
National Apprenticeship Show	Employers/providers highlighting pathways/benefits
Parents' Guide to Apprenticeships	Information for parents about the benefits of apprenticeships
Other Resources	
Training Providers – websites to contact training providers	Association of Employment and Learning Providers Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Provider Network UK Register of Learning Providers
Job Centre Plus Beds/Luton/Milton Keynes Northamptonshire	Work with pre-NEET and disengaged students. Flexible workshops, looking at subjects from body language to interview skills.
Access to Higher Education	A qualification which prepares people without traditional qualifications for study at university, delivered by colleges.
Get My First Job	Search tool for apprenticeships and opportunities
Not Going to Uni	Website demonstrating options outside of going to university

How can an Enterprise Adviser Network Help?

Your Enterprise Coordinator from SEMLEP will help and support you in ideas for addressing Benchmark 7 including employer engagement and make introductions to FE and HE.

The Enterprise Adviser can assist and add value through:

- Helping with the planning and driving employer engagement to the school/college.
- Relating their own experience of the pathway(s) they have taken for their career(s).

Contacts

Bedford and Central Bedfordshire

Peter Rayner T: 07568 428159 E: peter.rayner@semlep.com

Careers Hub Luton

Sajda Rauf T: 01582 548258 E: Sajda.Rauf@luton.gov.uk

Milton Keynes and SEND/Alternative Provision

Deb Foster T: 07712 673318 E: deborah.foster@semlep.com

Northamptonshire (Daventry/Northampton/South Northamptonshire)

Vikki Morton T: 07568 428162 E: vikki.morton@semlep.com

Northamptonshire (Corby/East Northamptonshire/Kettering/Wellingborough)

Alexis Mcleod T: 07784 358762 E: alexis.mcleod@semlep.com

Independent Schools

Paul Thompson T: 07989 401108 E: paul.thompson@semlep.com