

Compass Learning Centre

Careers Policy inc Provider Access Policy 2025-26

Statutory Policy: YES	Governor Action: NO			
Governors' Committee Responsible:	Teaching & Learning Committee			
Link Governor:	Chair of Committee			
Link SLT:	Deputy Head			
Person Responsible:	Careers Co-ordinator			
Date Reviewed:	October 2025			
Next Review Date:	October 2026			
Key Link Policies / Documents: <i>This list is not exhaustive and further policies / documents may also need to be consulted in addition to these dependent on circumstances</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Careers Guidance and access for Education and Training Providers (May 2025)• Section 42B of the Education Act 1997• Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy• Data Protection Policy• Pupil Premium Policy• Work Experience Policy			
Policy Suite:				
HR	Curriculum	Student Behaviour & Welfare	Finance	Premises & Health & Safety
	✓	✓		

Inspire, Transform, Excel and Succeed

Signed: *Alison Glazier*

Headteacher

Date: 18/10/25

Signed: *CM Rev*

Link Governor

Date: 27/11/25

Equality Impact Assessment – initial screening record

What area of work is being considered?	Careers Policy inc Provider Access Policy																																						
Upon whom will this impact?	Students																																						
How would the work impact upon groups, are they included and considered?																																							
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>The Equality Strands</th> <th>Negative Impact</th> <th>Positive Impact</th> <th>No impact</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>Minority ethnic groups</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Gender</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Disability</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Religion, Faith or Belief</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Sexual Orientation</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Transgender</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Age</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Rurality</td><td></td><td>√</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	The Equality Strands	Negative Impact	Positive Impact	No impact	Minority ethnic groups		√		Gender		√		Disability		√		Religion, Faith or Belief		√		Sexual Orientation		√		Transgender		√		Age		√		Rurality		√				
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Does the initial screening highlight potential issues that may be illegal? No																																							
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; min-height: 50px;"> Further comments:- </div>																																							
Do you consider that a full Equality Impact Assessment is required? No																																							
Initial screening carried out by																																							
Signed: <i>Mark Fisher</i>		Dated: 18/10/25																																					
Comment by Headteacher:																																							
Signed: <i>Alison Glazier</i>		Dated: 18/10/25																																					

1 SUMMARY

We recognise that effective careers guidance contributes to raising aspirations, improving motivation and overcoming barriers to success. As a school we have a responsibility to prepare students for the time they enter the wider community - either through further education or employment. A key element of this preparation must come through the delivery of a coherent Careers Education Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) Programme.

The careers programme at Compass is committed to delivering high quality CEIAG by ensuring students make effective and informed decisions about their future through greater self-awareness, career exploration and the development of employability skills. A vital part of this is contact with employers, training advisors and colleges. For this reason we have developed strong links with Dorset Careers Hub, Enterprise Adviser Network and Coastland College, and will continue to build relationships with external agencies that can support us in delivering an exciting and varied CEIAG Programme. From September 2022 our Yr10 PP students have been part of the Dorset Marvels project which supports students and tracks their career progress including the use of paid work experience. This will continue year on year while funding exists.

DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION (DfE) REQUIREMENTS

According to the Careers Guidance and Access for Education and Training Providers (May 2025)

High-quality careers guidance helps:

- young people make informed choices about their futures, so they can develop their interests and potential, and follow the path that is right for them to progress into work
- break down barriers to opportunity
- improve skills needed for success in work
- improve national productivity and grow the economy

The government's vision for careers guidance is to improve careers advice in schools and colleges and to guarantee 2 weeks' worth of work experience for every young person.

Statutory guidance has been restructured around the Gatsby Benchmarks, which have been updated for schools to start working towards in September 2025.

The Gatsby Benchmarks have a key role in:

- raising young people's aspirations and promoting access to all career pathways
- enabling all young people to develop the skills and outlook they need to achieve career wellbeing, including adaptability and resilience
- underpinning the Department for Education guidance to schools on meeting their statutory responsibility for careers guidance.

All schools should complete a self-evaluation tool against the Gatsby Benchmark once a term, and complete an internal leadership review.

Gatsby Benchmark

1. A Stable Careers Programme

Description (Condensed)

- Should have a stable and structured careers programme, tailored towards the needs of the young person
- Should be published on school website
- Programme should be regularly evaluated with feedback from pupils, parents and carers and teachers

2. Learning from career and labour market information

- All pupils, teachers and staff should have access to information about careers paths and the labour market, at each Key Stage
- Parents should be encouraged to access this information

3. Addressing the needs of each young person

- The programme should challenge stereotypical views and misconceptions
- Schools should keep systematic records of individual participation in the careers programme
- Schools should collect and maintain destination data

4. Linking curriculum learning to careers

- Every student should have the opportunity to learn how different STEM subjects help post 16/18

5. Encounters with employers and employees

- Pupils should participate in at least one meaningful encounter with an employer every year

6. Experiences of Workplaces

- By the age of 16 every pupil should have had at least one experience of a workplace

7. Encounters with further education

- By the age of 16, every student should have a meaningful encounter with providers

8. Personal Guidance

- Every pupil should have at least one careers interview by the age of 16

2 DfE OVERVIEW OF REQUIREMENTS

WHAT IS CEIAG?

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) has four essential and interlinked principles

- Careers Education -a planned programme in the curriculum that gives students the knowledge and skills for planning and managing their careers.
- Careers Information includes learning options, labour market information, skills, occupations, and progression routes.
- Careers Advice and Guidance- Personalised help- a specialised advisor helps to identify long term goals and plan steps to attain them. The advisor must be appropriately qualified (see footnote for this provision 2021-22.¹)
- Work related learning- experiences within and outside of the curriculum that help students learn about economic well-being, careers and enterprise.

Pupil Entitlement:

All pupils Yr 7 - Yr 11 are entitled to:

- Access and inclusion in a stable careers programme providing information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point, including opportunity to find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities.
- To meet and listen to a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education & apprenticeships – this may be via events organised in school, FE/ HE visits, assemblies, group discussions and taster events.

Careers Guidance:

- Careers Guidance will focus on the specific needs of each individual student, promoting self-awareness and personal development. Each student will receive current and relevant information to enable informed decisions and future choices. All information will be delivered by qualified professionals, impartially and differentiated to suite specific needs. Each student will also have access to confidential, personalised careers guidance (Again, see footnote 1 above)

The Compass will promote the following to all students:

- Self-development through employability and enterprise education – planning & managing own future
- Raising aspirations and awareness of all available options at each transitional point
- Learning about careers and the world of work
- Developing career management, employability and enterprise skills
- Promoting equality, diversity, social mobility and challenging stereotypes

3 The role of Parents and Carers

Parents are an essential part of the careers and employability strategy which is why it is paramount that they are just as informed as their child. The Compass aims to increase parental engagement and knowledge by:

- Providing all parents with access to Parentmail containing news of upcoming events
- Updating The Compass website with careers dates
- Regularly reviewing student progress and aspirations with members of the pastoral team
- Providing Annual Reviews for students with EHCPs

Provider Access Policy

¹ This guidance has been given by Ansbury in the past, but this is no longer available. The Headteacher is currently in talks with other Learning Centres to see how this can be provided within our setting. Ansbury also dealt with our student destinations. This will hopefully be taken on as a project with the Careers Enterprise Company and the Dorset Careers Hub

1. Aims

This policy statement aims to set out The Compass' arrangements for managing the access of education and training providers to students for the purpose of giving them information about their offer. This complies with the school's legal obligations under Section 42B of the Education Act 1997. It sets out:

- Procedures in relation to requests for access
- The grounds for granting and refusing requests for access
- Details of premises or facilities to be provided to a person who is given access.

2. Statutory requirements

Schools are required to ensure that there is an opportunity for a range of education and training providers to access students in Years 7 to 11 for the purposes of informing them about approved technical education, qualifications or apprenticeships. Schools must also have a policy statement that outlines the circumstances in which education and training providers will be given access to these students. This policy shows how our school complies with these requirements.

3. Student entitlement

All students in Years 7 to 11 at Compass are entitled to:

- find out about technical education qualifications and apprenticeship opportunities, as part of our careers programme which provides information on the full range of education and training options available at each transition point
- hear from a range of local providers about the opportunities they offer, including technical education and apprenticeships
- Understand how to make applications for the full range of academic and technical courses

4. Management of provider access requests

4.1 Opportunities for access

A number of events, integrated into our careers programme offer providers an opportunity to come into school to speak to students and/or their parents/carers throughout the school year. Please see the programme of events for dates.

4.2 Granting and refusing access

Access will be granted to all recognised approved providers. There may be occasions when the Headteacher will refuse access.

4.3 Safeguarding

Our safeguarding/child protection policy outlines the school's procedure for checking the identity and suitability of visitors. Education and training providers will be expected to adhere to this policy.

5. Links to other policies

This policy and its accompanying policy in practice are underpinned and shaped by the relevant legislation and guidance including:

- Section 42B of the Education Act 1997
- Safeguarding/child protection policy

- Data protection policy
- Pupil Premium policy
- Work Experience Policy

APPENDIX – 03.02.23

Addition to Compass Learning Centre Careers Policy (January 2023)

This addition is made in response to the DfE's paper 'Careers Guidance and Access for Education and Training Providers' January 2023

Provider Access Policy

3. Pupil Entitlement to Education and Training Providers

Compass Learning Centre will ensure there are 6 provider encounters offered to our students.

There will be a minimum of 2 encounters for students during the 'first key phase' (year 8-9) and 2 encounters for students during the 'second key phase' (year 10-11)

These provider encounters will be scheduled during the main school hours and the provider will be given a reasonable amount of time to

- Share information about the provider and the approved technical education qualification and apprenticeships that the provider offers.
- Explain what career routes those options could lead to.
- Provide insights into what it might be like to learn or train with that provider (including the opportunity to meet staff and students from the provider).

Meaningful encounters

One encounter is defined as one meeting / session between students and one provider. We are committed to providing meaningful encounters to all pupils and use the Making it Meaningful CEC checklist for each encounter.

We are open to providers that are able to provide online engagement with our students.

Previous providers

In previous years we have invited the following providers from the local area to speak to our students:

- Weymouth College
- Kingston Maurward College
- SWRAC
- Ask Apprenticeships
- NHS Apprenticeships

Destinations of our students

Last year our year 11 students moved to a range of providers in the local area:

10 to Weymouth College (3 of these to courses with apprenticeships)
 1 to Yeovil College
 1 to Salisbury college
 1 to Harbour School
 1 to Bournemouth and Poole College
 1 to Kingston Maurward College

Management of Provider Access Requests

A provider wishing to request access should contact Kate Jennings (Life Skills Teacher and Careers Lead) by email: office@compass.dorset.sch.uk

Premises and Facilities

The school will make a classroom or private meeting room available for discussions between the provider and students as appropriate to the activity. The school will also make available equipment to support provider presentations. This will need to be discussed and agreed in advance of the visit with the Careers Lead.

Complaints

Any complaints with regards to provider access can be raised following the school complaints procedure or directly with The Careers and Enterprise Company via provideraccess@careersandenterprise.co.uk.

Careers Programme

Please see the Careers Programme 2025 / 2026 (on our website) for details on how we propose to fulfil these requirements.