

Parent Feedback on Careers – You said, we did



Summer 2021

Parents consulted on	Response of parents was	What we did to address
Awareness of Careers Programme	Some parents were not aware of the Careers Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careers Policy is uploaded on website, mentioned in Parent Newsletter and we did a social media post with a link to it in April. • We will now email all parents a copy in Sept 2021
Access to 1:1 guidance	Some parents were not aware of how students could access careers guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to access careers advice is included in every parent newsletter and is in the Parent Handbook also. We also have careers times on college digital screens during Open and Parent evenings. • Career drop-in times and availability will now be emailed to parents at the start of each term, and include it on more regular Social Media posts also.
Awareness of parents re: their son/daughter accessing guidance	Some parents said they did not know if their son/daughter had received 1:1 guidance with Diane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every student is encouraged to share with parents what has been discussed in a careers interview. • The confidentiality statement allows for parents to have knowledge if their son/daughter attended a meeting (if parents ask) and details of what was discussed can be shared (with student consent). • New for 2021, all students accessing Careers will now be given a parent slip – to advise their son/daughter has been seen.
Suggestions for improving careers service	<p>Queries about the College Careers Adviser's qualification and training</p> <p>Diane should see more students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gatsby benchmarking requires all staff delivering guidance to be Level 6 qualified. Diane is qualified to level 7 (Postgraduate Diploma in Careers Guidance). • She has worked in the careers field for 22 years, the last 16 at the College. • Diane is registered with the CDI – Career Development Institute – which requires attendance at regular CPD sessions. • Diane sees 800 students annually. In the Autumn term, this averages at 15 students a day. • Diane is employed 25 hours a week and has responsibility for the guidance needs of 1200 students. • Guidance is self – referral, students are informed of this and tutors are aware of the referral system.

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<p>Suggestions for improving careers service cont.</p>	<p>Diane should see more students cont.</p> <p>Queries about Diane's understanding of vulnerable and anxious students</p> <p>Guidance is vague and not sufficiently subject based</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students also have access to the Careers VLE/Moodle, where there is a wealth of information. We will include a tutor session on this from Sept 2021, because it is under-utilised. • Diane advises the tutorial lead, Kris Lord, on careers content. Kris has offered for parents to contact him if they wish to know more. • A weekly careers newsletter is sent out to all students every Friday. We are looking at ways of increasing the engagement with this. • All EHCP students are identified and contacted by Careers. EHCP reviews are attended by Diane if requested also. Diane attends Endeavour Blue student tutor sessions from January, so she is available there in the room, understanding that some students would not venture up to her room to find her. Unfortunately this has not happened due to lockdown, but is the plan going forward. • Diane has a good understanding of anxiety– recently attended CPD sessions with CAHMS to improve her ways of working in this area. • Diane's role is about presenting differing options for the student, guiding choices and signposting to other professionals. Often young people are unsure and need time to take decisions. Diane's role is to support this process - the student may not be sorted after their first careers interaction. There is no limit to the number of times a student can access Careers. • Subject teachers are (quite rightly) very important and have amazing knowledge destinations from their subject –we encourage students to take advantage of this! Part of Sam's role is to liaise with subject departments to raise the profile of careers within their subject. Subjects are now required by Ofsted to include careers info within lessons. • We do have a 'Careers by Subject' VLE/Moodle site listing careers info for every college subject we offer. It is under-utilised by students, unfortunately. We have plans to include this in the tutorial programme in 2021/22.

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Suggestions for improving the Careers Service	<p>Parents need to be contacted more in relation to careers</p> <p>Over emphasis on University/HE over other career opportunities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was a theme last year also. In 2020/21 Diane wrote termly newsletters for parents. Only 11% of parents were aware of these newsletters. • It has been decided, therefore, that more regular career updates will be sent (in place of termly newsletters) and sent via email, not Parent Advantage. • Around 72% progress to University, but we recognise the need to widen guidance for other opportunities and are working hard to address it. We will increase our focus in this area. • A number of changes were made to the tutor programme for 2020/21 to cover a wider range of post college options. • We built a MS Team for all Y13 apprentice seekers and advertised around 60 degree apprentice opportunities plus virtual work experience • We also outline labour market trends every weekly newsletter. • All Y12s undertake a 2 week 'Employability' programme via the VLE after June half term – including recognising own skill set. • Progression Day (this year 22 June) allows students to choose from a variety of options (not just UCAS registering) to investigate and start progression thinking.
Parent Survey statistics	<p>Only 11% of parents were aware of, or had read, the termly parent Newsletters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most responses were that they had been unaware of careers info in a newsletter. • It has been agreed that instead of termly newsletters we are changing to 'Career announcements for Parents' – and these are to be sent via email rather than parent Advantage.