

Careers Programme Statement

September 2019

Northampton College's "Futures" careers team offer good quality, impartial Careers Education, Information, Advice & Guidance (CEIAG) to both students and the wider community. Northampton College has been awarded Matrix accreditation; the unique quality standard for organisations to assess and measure their advice and support services, which is a benchmark for effectiveness and high standards.

The CEIAG Policy and Careers Programme are designed and regularly reviewed to ensure they meet the Gatsby Benchmarks and the needs of students.

Futures

The Futures team offers these services:

1. Individual advice and guidance appointments for College applicants booked through the Enrolments team, or directly with the Futures team.
2. A drop-in service for advice and guidance for current students at our Booth Lane site, with the option to book an appointment at Daventry and Lower Mounts sites through the Student Services team. This could be support with employment, Higher Education choices and applications, progression options or general careers advice.
3. Tutorial sessions on a range of CEIAG topics at suitable points during the academic year.
4. Presentations and masterclasses from external guest speakers such as Higher Education institutions and employers.
5. An annual Careers Fair held at the Booth Lane site.
6. Trips to events such as UCAS exhibitions, university visits and employer visits to support students with their progression planning.
7. Parent engagement evenings on topics such as Higher Education and apprenticeships.
8. Employment fairs for seasonal part-time employment opportunities.
9. Support for curriculum areas with planning for industry weeks.
10. A jobs board located near the Work Experience office.
11. Links to access labour market information for IAG.
12. Engagement with local schools to promote post-16 options to their students.

Study Programmes

Full-time students will have study programmes comprising of:

- Core qualification – includes information about career paths, the labour market and future study options.
- Maths and English – essential skills to successfully progress into employment or higher education.
- Work Experience – a valuable insight into the world of work
- Enterprise and Employability – events and activities to develop relevant skills and experience in preparation for employment.
- Tutorials – regular contact with an Academic coach to support and monitor progress with referrals to the Futures team for IAG when required.

All students need a structured programme of activities to help them choose pathways that are right for them and to be able to manage their life choices and sustain employability throughout their lives. CEIAG is designed to meet the needs of the students at this college and those who are considering enrolling here. Staff ensure that curriculum learning is linked with careers, with CEIAG embedded in their teaching.

Work Experience

Work Experience is embedded into study programmes and students will also access specialist insight about their chosen vocational areas from their Course Tutors and Work Experience Co-ordinators. Students can visit the Enterprise Zone for information and advice on their work experience placements.

Students can gain employability skills from a wide range of activities and they should be open to experiencing and participating in all those available to enrich their studies and enhance their progression opportunities.

Careers Libraries

Libraries at all three College sites have a dedicated careers section offering open access to careers information such as university prospectuses and careers and employability reference books.

KUDOS is available for students to use, and Futures information leaflets are accessible in the careers sections of the library, as well as on the student intranet.

Students can access information regarding the Careers programme at these sites via their Personal Tutor, their Moodle learning platform or by visiting any of the Student Service offices. Parents and employers are encouraged to contact the named staff below for further information or to provide feedback.

Work-Based Learning

The Northampton College Business Centre team run a weekly apprenticeship drop-in session at the Lower Mounts site. Students or the wider community can access advice and guidance on apprenticeships, and support with applications for current vacancies.

The Business Centre team also have a drop in facility at various times from the Futures office at the Booth Lane site.

Employer Engagement

Employer insights are a key component of the programme and we work with an Enterprise Co-ordinator from SEMLEP/The Careers & Enterprise Company to ensure that what we offer is reflecting the needs of business. We welcome enquiries from Employers who would wish to advertise vacancies to students or visit us to present to students regarding opportunities and general pathways in your area of business.

Young people welcome learning about the world of work from professionals and research shows that this can be extremely beneficial for their employment outcomes so please do get in touch at the contact details below if you would like to discuss working with Northampton College.

Impact

The Careers programme at these sites is assessed for its quality and positive impact on students through a number of methods:

1. The destinations of students after leaving their courses. The College commissions research on the destinations of students and reports this to the DfE, Ofsted and local economic partners such as SEMLEP
2. The numbers of students accessing the services on offer.
3. Student feedback after 1:1 and tutorial sessions, trips, careers fair and through the student conference.
4. Curriculum planning and self-assessment reports monitored by the Senior Management Team.
5. Matrix Quality Standard re-evaluation and accreditation.

This Statement has been written with regard to

1. a) Northampton College Career Education, Information, Advice & Guidance Policy
2. b) Careers Guidance for Further Education & Sixth Form Colleges October 2018 – DfE

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3. c) Careers Strategy: Making the most of everyone's skills and talents December 2017 – DfE

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Review

This document will be reviewed in August 2020 and updated accordingly.

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