

CAREERS, EDUCATION INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE (CEIAG)

Bridgwater and Taunton College (BTC) aims to offer a careers service that is accessible to everyone. We will seek to equip you with the skills and knowledge that will enable you to operate confidently, effectively and independently in life and work.

BTC will offer a programme of high quality impartial CEIAG that is stable, structured and delivered by staff equipped with the right qualifications, skills and experience. The College has a Careers Lead to ensure the best possible range of advice is provided.

BTC uses the 'Gatsby Careers Benchmarks' to measure the results and impact.

Gatsby Career Benchmarks

The Gatsby Benchmarks were developed on behalf of the Gatsby Foundation by Sir John Holman, which aimed to highlight what "good careers work" looked like. They provide us with a clear framework for organising our careers provision, and have been accepted as best practice by the Government.

Find out more about the Gatsby benchmarks [here](#).

Gatsby Career Benchmark	Brief description
1. A stable careers programme	Every College should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by students, parents/guardians, teachers, employers and other agencies
2. Learning from career and labour market information	Every student, and their parents/guardians (where appropriate) should have access to good quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities. They will need the support of an informed adviser to make best use of available information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil	Students have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each student. A College's careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers	All subject staff should link curriculum learning with careers, even on courses that are not specifically occupation-led. For example STEM subject staff should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of future career paths. Study programmes should also reflect the importance of maths and English as a key expectation from employers
5. Encounters with employers and employees	Every student should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career

	opportunities and expand their networks, this can include part-time work not related to their college course
6. Experiences of workplaces	Every student should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities and expand their networks
7. Encounters with further and higher education	All students should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are unavailable to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and in the workplace
8. Personal guidance	Every student should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a careers adviser, who could be internal (a member of college staff) or external, provided they are trained or training to an appropriate level. These should be available for all students whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all students but should be timed to meet individual needs

Students

All students will have several platforms to receive tailored support, especially disadvantaged students. These platforms can included

Induction and tutorial sessions

The CEIAG Team support your Tutorial Programme and provide relevant resources each term for students at all levels – from foundation through to Level 6.

Tutorial programme and themed events

The College organises a range of events, workshops and activities, either on-line or face-to-face, to help you understanding your options, take control and make informed decisions in terms of your career goals and aspirations. These include:

- Careers, employment and higher education fairs
- Talks from staff who are vocational specialists
- Educational and University visits
- UCAS workshops and surgeries
- CV and Personal statement workshops and surgeries
- Interview skills workshops
- Student Finance workshops
- Employer visits or Microsoft Teams presentations
- Job vacancies
- The BTC Advantage Careers SharePoint Resource

Work Experience

We will help you to find meaningful work placements or work experience to help develop the skills you need to enter the workplace and secure and sustain meaningful employment.

Access to the Careers, Education, Information Advice and Guidance Team

Access high quality, impartial careers information, advice and guidance with qualified staff for:

- Face to face appointments
- Phone, Teams or SharePoint appointments
- Microsoft SharePoint enquiries
- Website enquiries

Employability Skills Qualification

Doing a Full-time Study Programme with us? You will also gain an on-line Employability Skills Qualification.

Parents / Guardians

We continually develop and improve our careers provision. Our intention is to work towards the College's Strategic Plan whilst also maintaining the Gatsby Career Benchmark framework and the Matrix Standard that define the best careers provision in the College.

Employers, other providers and agencies

Bridgwater and Taunton College provides a number of qualifications to support all levels of academic ability, from foundation studies to degree courses. Students are able to engage with a number of different employers or work experiences from a vast range of industrial sectors. This engagement helps them to build upon new and existing skills and knowledge to support professional practice and industry expectation to support them for the world of work. The College works very closely with large and small employers in developing our qualifications ensuring the needs of the employer are met once students qualify.