

Careers Strategy

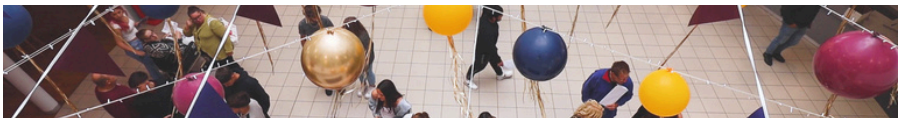
2025-26

Careers Programme Information

This page sets out how Macclesfield College delivers careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) in line with statutory guidance and the updated Gatsby Benchmarks for Good Career Guidance (2024).

At a Glance: Careers at Macclesfield College

- A planned and published careers programme for all students
- Access to impartial, one to one careers guidance from qualified advisers
- Careers learning embedded across all curriculum areas
- Regular employer engagement and meaningful work-related experiences
- Clear use of labour market information to support decision-making
- Targeted and inclusive support for all learners, including SEND and vulnerable groups
- Robust evaluation using destination data, Compass and quality assurance processes



Macclesfield College Careers Programme 2025–2026

Careers Lead and Contact Details

Careers Lead: Seb Catania

Careers Link Governor: Rachael Charlton

Contact Email: info@macclesfield.ac.uk

Summary of Our Careers Programme

Macclesfield College is committed to delivering a stable, high quality and inclusive careers programme that supports all students to achieve positive progression outcomes into employment, apprenticeships, further or higher education or training.

The Careers Programme is designed in line with the updated Gatsby Benchmarks for Good Career Guidance (2024) and is underpinned by the College's Matrix-accredited CEIAG service. Careers education is embedded as a core element of every learner's journey, regardless of programme, level or starting point.

Key features of the programme include:

- A planned and published careers programme accessible to students, parents/carers, staff and employers
- Access to impartial, one to one careers guidance from suitably qualified advisers
- Embedded careers learning within curriculum areas
- Regular employer engagement and meaningful encounters with workplaces
- Use of current Labour Market Information (LMI) to inform decision making
- Targeted support for vulnerable learners and those with SEND

The programme supports students to: -

- Understand their skills, strengths and aspirations
 - Explore a wide range of progression pathways
 - Develop employability skills valued by employers
 - Make informed and realistic career decisions
-

How to Access the Careers Programme

The Careers Programme is accessible through multiple channels:

Students

- Careers education embedded in curriculum delivery
- Tutorials and Progress and Study Success programme (PASS)
- One to one careers guidance appointments
- Careers events, employer talks and progression activities

Parents and Carers

- Information shared at enrolment, open events and parents' evenings
- Access to careers information via the College website
- Opportunities to engage with careers staff at key transition points

Staff

- Curriculum resources linking learning to careers
- Access to LMI and progression information
- Staff development focused on careers education and Gatsby Benchmarks

The Careers Programme is published on the College website and reviewed annually to ensure accuracy and relevance.

Alignment with the Updated Gatsby Benchmarks (2024)

Macclesfield College's Careers Programme aligns fully with the eight updated Gatsby Benchmarks:

A Stable Careers Programme

A structured and well-communicated programme, supported by senior leaders and governors, with clear learning outcomes and regular evaluation.

Learning from Career and Labour Market Information

Learners, parents/carers and staff have access to up to date LMI to support informed career choices.

Addressing the Needs of Each Young Person

Careers provision is personalised and inclusive, using aspiration and destination data to target support, particularly for vulnerable learners and those with SEND.

Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers

Curriculum teams embed careers learning and highlight progression routes within schemes of work

Encounters with Employers and Employees

Learners experience multiple, meaningful employer encounters each year, planned and reflected upon.

Alignment with the Updated Gatsby Benchmarks (2024)

Experiences of Workplaces

Learners participate in work experience, industry visits, live briefs or simulated work environments.

Encounters with Further and Higher Education

Learners engage with FE, HE, apprenticeship and training providers to understand all progression routes.

Personal Guidance

All learners can access impartial guidance from a qualified careers adviser at key decision points.



Measuring and Assessing Impact

The impact of the Careers Programme is measured through a robust quality assurance framework, including:

- Analysis of student destination and progression data
- Achievement and retention data
- Termly Compass self-evaluation against Gatsby Benchmarks
- Curriculum CEIAG audits
- Learner, parent/carer and employer feedback
- Monitoring through Matrix Standard compliance

Success is defined by sustained positive destinations for students and improved confidence, preparedness and career readiness.



Review, Evaluation and Continuous Improvement

The Careers Programme is formally reviewed:

- Termly through CEIAG audits and Compass evaluation
- Annually as part of the College self-assessment and quality improvement cycle

Next scheduled annual review date: July 2026

Findings from reviews inform continuous improvement and ensure the programme remains responsive to learner needs and labour market changes.

This Careers Programme is approved by Senior Leadership and Governors and is published in line with statutory guidance for colleges. It supports Macclesfield College's commitment to high quality, impartial careers education for all learners.



01625 410000

macclesfield.ac.uk

info@macclesfield.ac.uk
