

# **Post 16 options 2018 – 2019**

## **A guide for Parent and Carers**

## **Guide for Parent and Carers to Post 16 Options**

The options available after Year 11 can be sometimes confusing for students and parent/carers. There are many different routes and pathways that young people can take and choices have to be carefully made. This guide will give you an overview of different post 16 routes.

### **Raising of the Participation Age**

From September 2015 the participation age was increased until the young person's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. This does not mean staying in school, your child can opt to study or train in any of the following ways;

- Studying full time in school, college or with any training provider
- Working or volunteering, combined with a part-time education or training
- Apprenticeship, traineeship or study programme

The government have decided to do this because it is widely recognised that if a young person stays in education or training they will have better career prospects.

### **Information, advice and guidance**

Learners at The Link School Sunderland are entitled to independent and impartial careers information, advice and guidance on a full range of post 16 options. Learners will receive CIAG through interviews arranged in school. CIAG will be with Richard Allnutt who is the school's independent careers advisor and another member of the careers team.

## **Careers Entitlement Statement**

All students are entitled to independent and impartial external careers guidance and, in school, we will provide you with opportunities to achieve your aspirations. Students need to reflect and evaluate their goals and use information obtained to help make decisions about your career pathways. Lessons and events will help support the entitlement statements below.

### **It is your future so you have a responsibility to:**

- Make the most of the opportunities offered to you
- Research your options
- Have 'post-16' career meetings with your school's visiting Careers Adviser
- Be prepared to be realistic when looking at post-16 opportunities
- Be prepared to work hard in order to reach your full potential

### **While at school as a minimum we will support you with:**

- The opportunity to access independent and impartial careers guidance
- The opportunity to meet with different industries/employers
- The opportunity to learn about the world of work
- Be treated with appropriate confidentiality

### **Key Stage 2 and 3 our aim is to support you with:**

- Developing confidence in yourself and your abilities
- Focusing on your strengths and what skills will help you achieve your goal
- Your aspirations and what you would like to achieve when you leave school

### **Key Stage 4 our aim is to support you with:**

- Access to information regarding different college courses and understand Post-16 options
- Using 1:1 independent and impartial careers guidance
- Use different resources to provide relevant and helpful information
- Identifying your skills and strengths needed to achieve your desired careers choice
- Identifying your future goals

### **Parent/Carers entitlement:**

Parent/Carers can access careers support for their child in a variety of ways including:

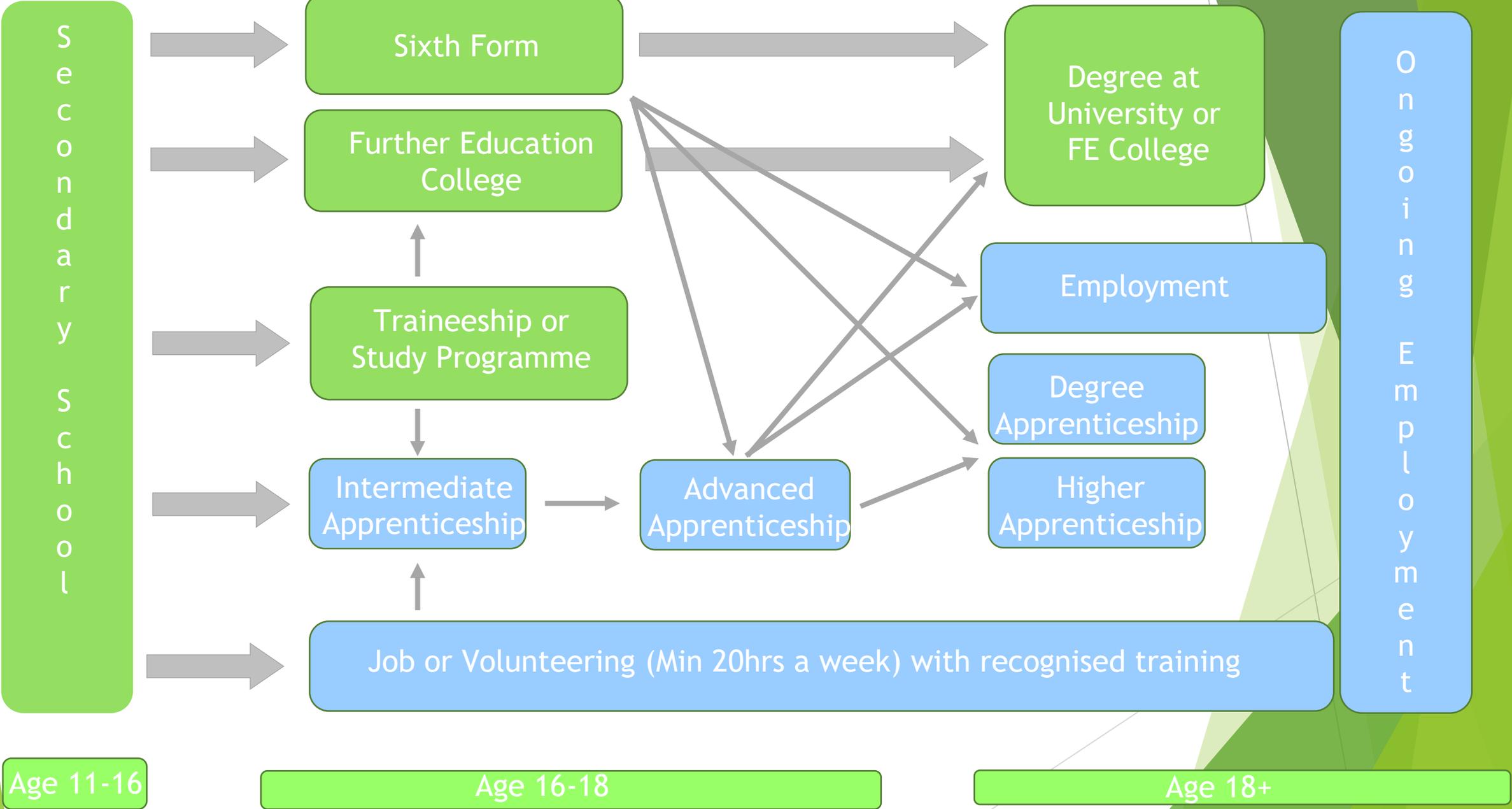
- Careers information on the school website
- Access to computer based careers programmes such as START.
- The opportunity to arrange a meeting with our Careers Adviser

# The Gatsby Benchmarks

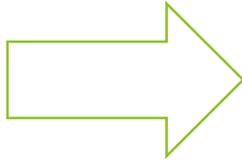
The Link School was part of the North East Pilot of testing The Gatsby Benchmarks. The pilot ran from September 2015 until July 2017. Over the two year period The Link School has successfully embedded all 8 benchmarks which will continue to be a part of the careers provision.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 1: A Stable Careers Programme</b></p> <p>Every school and college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by Students, parents, teachers, governors and employers.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 2: Learning from Career and Labour Market Information</b></p> <p>Every Student and their parents 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 the best use of available information</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 3: Addressing the Needs of Each Student</b></p> <p>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 school's careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 4: Linking Curriculum Learning to Careers</b></p> <p>All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of careers paths.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 5: Encounters with Employers and Employees</b></p> <p>Every Student should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 6: Experiences of Workplaces</b></p> <p>Every Student should have first-hand experience of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing, and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 7: Encounters with Further and Higher Education</b></p> <p>All Students should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and in the workplace.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benchmark 8: Personal Guidance</b></p> <p>Every Student should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a careers adviser, who could be internal (a member of school staff) or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all Students but should be timed to meet their individual needs.</p>

# Career Pathways

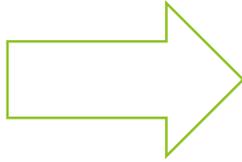


## How we do it?



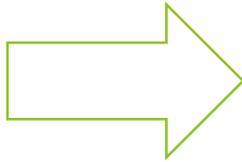
- CEIAG is led by a member of the senior leadership team
- In school support from all staff and KS4 Pastoral Lead
- Independent Careers Advisor in school regularly
- Regular school events / visits
- Coordinated activities to promote careers, employability skills and raise aspirations
- Personalised arrangements for students

## How do we measure the effectiveness?



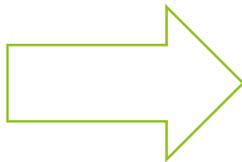
- Annual review of Careers Provision
- Destination Data
- Feedback from parent/carers, learners and staff
- Feedback from external agencies
- Achieving investors in careers award

## How can we make improvement?



- Increase engagement with employers
- Promote Careers within school
- Promote Careers to parent/carers on how to support their child in their post 16 options

## How can Parent /Carers help?



- Work in partnership with the school when requested
- Support your child in making key decisions
- Encourage your child to access all opportunities provided to them

# Destination Figures

## 2015 Leavers

## 2016 Leavers

## 2017 Leavers

	<u>Number of students 45</u>	<u>Number of students 43</u>	<u>Number of students 65</u>
College / Further Education	6	21	29
Training	9	12	15
Apprenticeship	2	1	9
Employment	1	2	6
NEET	27	7	6

**60% NEET 2015 - 9% NEET 2017**

### **Contact information**

If you would like to discuss your child's post 16 pathway or our careers provision then please contact Ron Cruikshanks Strategic Careers Lead or Rachel Reay KS4 Pastoral Lead on the below contact details:

Telephone: 01915623126

### **Useful website and links**

The Link School has a careers section on the school website where you can find useful resources and information about our careers provision.

<http://www.linkschool.org.uk/>