

## Careers Education and IAG Update for Leeds high schools, SILCs and PRUs

The way young people in schools access careers guidance services is changing. This update outlines the main changes and gives some information about how Leeds City Council will support schools to prepare for the change.

### 1. National policy and legislative change

- Schools' (including academies, PRUs and SILCs) new statutory duties will take effect from September 2012. This includes duties to secure careers guidance and provide information to pupils on all post 16 options. Schools are expected to purchase guidance services from careers providers (see Approved Provider List), and deliver careers education, although this will no longer be statutory.
- A new **Destination Measure** will measure how well schools help pupils progress to post 16 and post 19 destinations from 2012 (for 2011 leavers). The DfE states the aim as being to provide information to parents and pupils to help choose post 16 courses, making schools accountable for ensuring pupils take qualifications that will allow them to progress, and provide evidence of support to prepare for and complete the transition. Information is on the teacher / professional area of Leeds Pathways
- Funding for the local authority to deliver universal Connexions services has now ended. The **universal Connexions service delivered by Prospects will end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012**. Leeds City Council will continue to provide targeted services to support progression and participation for vulnerable young people, Post 16 NEET services and services to support the progression and transition of young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

### 2. Approved Provider List for Careers Guidance and Careers Education

- Leeds City Council will **launch the Approved List of Careers Guidance Providers** to help schools procure careers guidance services at a meeting on **7<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30 – 4.30pm at Derek Fatchett Centre**. The session will explain how to use the list and how to contract with providers. Email [Amrat.soor@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Amrat.soor@leeds.gov.uk) to book a place.
- Schools (including academies and SILCs) will receive around £1,000 to spend on careers guidance and related activities from this approved list. Contact [andrea.cowans@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:andrea.cowans@leeds.gov.uk) for details.

### 3. Ofsted

- The Ofsted Thematic Survey of careers guidance starts in January 2012 and will run to March/April 2013 with view to publishing a report in July 2013. The focus will be on careers guidance in schools to support option choices pre-16 and progression post-16. This will provide education and careers guidance professionals with important feedback on the effectiveness of their current arrangements and may inform the direction of future policy.
- Schools that are inspected under the 2012 Ofsted framework should note that in evaluating the overall effectiveness of the school, inspectors must consider the extent to which the needs of the range of pupils at the school have been met 'taking into account the progression and destination of pupils when they leave school.' Inspectors must also consider wide-ranging evidence of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development to include how well pupils are 'gaining a well informed understanding of the options and challenges facing them as they move through the school and on to the next stage of their education and training.'

### 4. Young People's Voice

- The Youth Council have identified 'Careers' as one of their 10 priorities for making Leeds a Child Friendly City. These are the pledges they made which they feel will make a difference
  1. Campaign to start careers education earlier e.g. year 7.
  2. Campaign to improve PSHE and careers guidance in schools.
  3. Campaign schools to get better at linking knowledge and skills developed in lessons to how they can be used in work / living independently.

4. Ask schools to organise talks/ visits from A-level students/ university students for younger pupils.
  5. Help schools to understand day to day experiences and pressures of being a young person and difficulties they experience in planning a life path and their future.
- We will continue to listen to young people and help them to deliver their pledges as part of the Leeds Youth Offer. If you would like to help young people in your school make a difference to the careers education and guidance they receive, contact Andrea Cowans.
  - **Young people in year 7 and 8 told us they no longer aspire to higher education because their families can't afford the cost.** They said this would make them less likely to choose A levels in sixth form. To debunk the student finance myths, watch this short animation which is easily accessible to pupils and parents [The facts about tuition fees](#). You could send the link home in an email or show it at a year 8 or 9 parents' event.

## 5. [Leeds Pathways](#) Update

- Leeds Pathways is well used by young people and schools, 60% of year 11s had applied online by the end of January. The website had over 3 million hits last year!
- **UCAS** are redesigning their software this year and we will go live in September with an improved 'Search and Apply' product. Details of the transition and the improvements will be communicated from February half term. Make sure you know who receives Leeds Pathways news in your school.
- Leeds City Council will continue to support and develop Leeds Pathways as part of our services to young people and our support offer to schools. A development plan is in place that will see a number of changes and improvements to information on the site over the coming months with the launch of '**Local Jobs and Careers**' in March.
- **U-explore** will continue to be available to schools and colleges until October 2012. Contact [Sheila.duxbury@prospects.co.uk](mailto:Sheila.duxbury@prospects.co.uk) to organise training and for any other Leeds Pathways news

## 6. Careers Education

- Although careers education will no longer be statutory, there is an expectation from ministers that schools continue to deliver high quality careers education to young people.
- A new framework which draws together careers education and work related learning is being developed by the Association for Careers Education (ACEG). A draft is available on Leeds Pathways [teacher and professional area](#) (see January Careers Network notes). It includes a useful tool to audit delivery across school.
- A national kitemark for careers education and guidance quality standards will be launched in Spring.

## 7. Careers Network

- The careers network has delivered a number of interesting and well-attended sessions since September including how to identify learners' careers guidance needs, the careers education curriculum, using Careers Information: online, telephone and printed resources
- The final session 'How parents can help with career choice: involve them in young people's career planning' is on 8<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm. Contact [Rachel.catton@prospects.co.uk](mailto:Rachel.catton@prospects.co.uk) for details.
- Resources from the events and 'Spotlight on...' handouts are available on [Leeds Pathways](#)
- The careers network will continue to meet after April. We will circulate the meetings around schools. Let Andrea Cowans know if you wish to host.

## 8. Professional development for school colleagues

- The workforce development project will go ahead developing an online resources for non-IAG specialists who may be expected to answer questions about progression, transition and career planning.
- Signposting for Progression will include face to face training for groups of staff and use of online resources. We will talk to schools about what content to include and plan for the materials to be ready in the Autumn.