



Information, Advice and Guidance Offer (HE and Careers)

Aim

To provide high quality careers/HE education and guidance to all students and prospective students of Itchen College which:

- Is integral to students' learning experience whilst at college
- Contributes to the raising of student participation, achievement and progression.
- Is focussed on raising aspirations and increasing social mobility

The offer is designed and delivered in line with guidance and requirements provided by:

[The Education Inspection Framework](#)

[DFES national Framework for Careers Education and Guidance](#)

[Gatsby benchmarks](#)

IAG Offer

Curriculum Intent:

Itchen Sixth Form College is committed to improving the life chances of every student through the development of skills and knowledge enabling ambitious progression as aspirational, confident and resilient individuals.

Careers and Progression Intent:

Proactive strategic approach to engage students with a broad programme of aspirational and ambitious careers and higher education opportunities.

Recognise not all will engage with experiences but aim to expose all students to full range.

Aware of the diversity of experience students bring to college and the importance of ensuring consistent opportunities to engage whilst at college.

Diversity of starting points for individual students should not diminish opportunities to engage in aspirational progression. Engagement with Higher Education and Employers to build connections to provide beneficial opportunities and support for all students including those who are yet to engage with positive career progression.

Everything outlined below is in addition to the standard 1:1 Careers Interviews offered, 1:1 Tutor guidance and support and access to resources to aid decisions around progression.

Every student will:

- Follow the Tutorial programme focused on developing and achieving Vision.
- Receive 1:1 Tutor guidance and support
- Access resources through Student Support and the Course Curriculum to support decisions
- Be offered a 1:1 Careers interview

Tutorial & Progression Focus

The Tutor programme is designed to develop student vision, disseminate messages and expose students to opportunities. Messages are also disseminated via TV screens across the college.

Careers week

In class talks from a range of Employers and HE providers. Speakers are hosted in lessons making use of relevant links to curriculum but students can sign up to talks to access when in other lessons. There is also a Careers fair on the first day of the week to host employers, apprenticeship providers and HE institutions to enable students to engage in conversations and seek guidance from relevant agencies.

Progression/ Skills week

Guidance/talks/workshops hosted in lesson time and tutorial sessions, specifically targeting different student needs (across different levels).

- Yr1 = understanding and developing skills required for the workplace or continuing education
- Yr2 Uni applicants = talks regarding Student Finance etc.
- YR2 Non-uni = CV workshops/Interview skills workshop/ personal statements/ job searches etc.

Apprenticeship week

Talks provided in addition to those provided during Careers Week.

Work Experience week

The aim is for all year 1 students to have some form of work experience during year

1. Some courses have integrated WEX opportunities. For those that fall outside of this, we have a dedicated WEX week each year. Year two students that have not completed any work experience will have the opportunity to do so in year two.

Unifrog

Unifrog is an application that acts as both Careers Guidance, skills development and a continuing education adviser. It is utilized throughout the Tutor programme to enable students to own their own career development and exploration of further progression opportunities.

Identifying and working with disadvantaged students (SUN)

This is achieved through the college's dedicated SUN mentor, SUN is part of the OfS Uniconnect programme, and is responsible for maintaining close relationships with universities and taking advantage of their outreach programmes and offers. All of the above trips are promoted to those who are identified as Uniconnect/disadvantaged via the SUN Mentor. Additional subject university trips are also organised through the SUN programme, plus 1:1 careers mentoring/progression discussions/UCAS support. SUN has the responsibility for engaging the presence of universities during cross college events such as Careers Week and Next Steps week. The SUN programme also includes a host of workshops to deliver in groups to provide information to students on all options at level 4.

Higher Education trips and visits

We encourage students to attend open days, but realise that there can be barriers to even thinking about University. We arrange trips to open days but have successfully started a new collaboration with University of Southampton and Solent University for a bespoke open day- where up to 200 students can experience campus life and seek guidance on the opportunities that going to university may provide.

Curriculum Focus

Embedded work experience

Directly linked to course programmes in most Vocational courses including Sport, Uniformed Protective Services, Travel and Tourism and Care Courses. Care has a dedicated Placement Coordinator to support work placement for the license to practice element of the course. Travel and Tourism maintains strong links with the Cruise industry. Sport has developed links with local schools and gyms to support

opportunities for sports leadership and coaching courses. The Work Experience Coordinator supports embedded work experience opportunities.

Workshops, Guest Speakers, Trips- provided throughout the year.

These are arranged by Faculties and Student Support taking place in line with curriculum needs. There is a vast array of activities that take place throughout the year to enhance the learning experience and provide valuable insight in to industries and practices relevant to individuals.

Additional course and enrichment programmes

STEM Club, HSLA, EPQ, High Performance Programme plus the iEnrich programme of enrichment activities (over 50).

SEND Focus

EHCP annual review process in which we focus on Preparation for Adulthood.

We secure positive destinations for learners - liaise with partner colleges for courses which build on skills/ experience; higher education; apprenticeships or employment.

We are part of Southampton City Council forum to develop supported internships throughout the city.

Mayfield bespoke volunteering Programme

Embed employability skills into entry/ level 1 programmes

Rich tutorial programme

Developing Pathways course for Entry/ level 1 & 2 which focuses on a day work experience a week

Adult and Community Focus

Sector based work academies (SWAP'S)

Run across a variety of sectors, SWAP's consist of three key elements; pre- employment sector specific training, employer input and guaranteed interviews. Work with JCP has grown over 3 years. We are already looking at emerging sectors such as Net Zero as well as sectors with skills gaps e.g. social care, child care, IT, customer service, business admin and support work in schools.

Job Clubs

Running across the county for learners to meet and engage with local Employers. Learners are supported to job search, create up to date and relevant CV's and practice for interviews.

National Careers Service

Strong links with NCS who come into employability courses to offer support and guidance on CV's, interview skills and careers.

Skills Boot Camps

Skills Bootcamps in Health and Social Care and Early Years designed with Employers to support people into employment in the sector. These intensive courses give learners the skills, knowledge and behaviours they need with guaranteed interviews and support for up to 6 months to gain employment.

Employer and Partnership Engagement

Established and trusted partnerships across a wide and diverse sector; DWP, Employers, Skills Zones, Probation, Wellbeing, Family Support Services, Housing Associations Disability Services, Crisis Centres, NCS, Adult Health Care Services, Seetec, Palladium, Princes Trust and BAME groups.

Engagement with our wide and diverse partnership base including employers, meetings with LA, LEP, DWP & a wider network of external stakeholders means provision is aligned with LEP priorities & LA strategic plans to raise aspiration, close skills gaps & increase employment. These partnerships keep us current in relation to LMI & employment opportunities.

We have strong relationships with Princes Trust, Sure Start, Mind & community groups who work in communities we want to reach; BAME & learners from disadvantaged backgrounds. We actively engage new employers & offer SWAP's as a pipeline to meet workforce demand.

Equality impact and monitoring the policy and procedure

In monitoring the impact of this policy and procedure, the College will have due regard to its Equality and Diversity & Inclusion Policy and the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). It will consider any concerns raised or complaints received, based on student and staff data, feedback, surveys and/or professional judgement. If you have a question or a suggestion to improve the policy, please contact the Vice Principal.