Gatsby Benchmarks at Swanwick School and Sports College

Benchmark	Notes	Comments
A Stable Careers Programme	Every school & college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by pupils, parents, teachers, governors and employers	Students in years 10 & 11 work towards Aim Awards in vocational skills and through the career programme. The curriculum planning incorporates ideas for and in the interests of the students. KS4 option choices are sent home to parents for them to help their child choose the most appropriate options and a year 9 option evening is offered to all parents and carers.
Learning from Career & Labour Market Information	Every pupil and their parents should have access to good quality information about future study options. They will need the support of an informed adviser to make best use of available information.	Annual reviews are attended by, our local SEND officer from year 9 upwards. They can offer advice and give information to both the school and parents/carers on future study options. Students also look into the different options available to them through the Careers programme, with lessons tailored around this, especially in Years 10 & 11. A year 11 parents evening is held to inform parents/carers of the options open to their child after leaving SSSC.
Addressing The Needs Of Each Pupil	Pupils have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each pupil. A school's careers programme should be embed equality and diversity considerations throughout.	Each student has career advice and support throughout their school life which at key stage 3 and below is embed through PSHE and the life skills programme.
Linking Curriculum Learning To Careers	All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of stem subjects for a wide range of future careers paths.	Plans for linking career objectives to all planning are being developed. Throughout the school the PSHE and life skills curriculum has specific targets preparing the students for adulthood and to be able to live as independently as possible.
Encounters with Employers and Employees	Every pupil 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.	Students have the opportunity where appropriate to access a work experience placement and voluntary work through their chosen vocational options.

Experiences Of Workplaces	Every pupil should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.	Work experience and volunteering is offered on an individualised curriculum basis dependent on vocational options chosen. Students have the opportunity where appropriate to access a work experience programme. Work experience may not be appropriate for all our students so work based activities in school and visits to places of work such as shops, cafes and factories may be a more appropriate starting point.
Encounters with Further Higher Education	All pupils should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, universities and in the work place.	Year 11 students take part in Sixth form, Independent providers and College visits at the start of a new academic year to develop an awareness of the different learning opportunities open to them after year 11. During the visits they have access to the different areas within College including using the canteen. Students also get the opportunity to attend taster days in a variety of vocational areas.
Personal Guidance	Every pupil should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a career adviser. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all pupils, but timed to meet their individual needs.	Students, are given appropriate guidance on the possibility of work, employment or volunteering through the careers programme, during their EHCP review by staff and SEND officers. All students and their families are, given honest advice on what their child will be able to achieve and the best routes to get them there. Guidance on further education is also honest and unfortunately, many places are linked to funding being available. Parents/Carers are fully supported with applying to the college that is their first choice as long as this is the most appropriate place for that student. Full support is also offered during each student's interview process and any further follow up visits that may be needed. Most students move on to a College after leaving SSSC as part of the requirement for staying in training or education until they are 18.