

Vision for Future Steps 2021-2024

Vision Statement:

To provide exceptional Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance to all our students, whatever their background or abilities, which enables them to take control of their own path and provides the awareness, skills and resilience to adapt to the changing future world of work. All students will be supported and encouraged to raise their aspirations, challenge perceptions and improve social mobility to enable them to reach their full potential.

Priority Benchmarks

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Future Steps Strategic Objectives 2020-2024

Strategic Objective 1:

Increase student engagement in 1:1 appointments, drop-in sessions and events

1. Develop a faculty-based service with a Future Steps Link Adviser for each faculty
2. Plan targeted events which take into account the time of year and faculty needs and publish a programme which meets the needs of their students
3. Provide support at strategic times for vulnerable students in consultation with tutors and Student Welfare Leader

Strategic Objective 2:

Develop meaningful partnerships with local employers, apprenticeship providers and HE providers

1. Establish links with Business Solutions to provide employer engagement and skills activities within faculties
2. Provide cross-college opportunities for engagement with key sectors to highlight growth areas of the local, regional, national and international economies
3. Support curriculum to link with key providers and employers both locally and nationally and draw on LMI to inform decisions

Strategic Objective 3:

Provide students with the skills they need to take control of their future steps

1. Improve student engagement with Personal Development Plan to ensure tracking of needs and a proactive approach to guidance and events
2. Support curriculum to include further opportunities to allow students to take responsibility for their future steps
3. Developing clear evaluation processes for all aspects of our provision to ensure students are progressing their skills and understanding

Strategy for Feedback, Evaluation and measuring Impact

- The Future Steps Team is committed to the Ofsted requirements for providing high quality careers guidance and recognises the need to build on this for continual quality improvement
- The Future Steps Team is committed to the Gatsby Good Career Guidance Benchmarks and the use of the Compass tools and NSSW networks to assist with their delivery
- The quality of Careers Advice and Guidance will be reviewed, developed and monitored annually and improvements built in to future plans and the strategic direction
- The Future Steps Team will use student intervention data, UCAS data, student feedback, online surveys, questionnaires and focus groups to monitor the effectiveness of the Future Steps Strategic Objectives
- The College holds the Matrix quality standard successfully re-accredited in May 2021
- This Careers Strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Future Steps Manager and the Director of Student Experience and will provide a summary report to the Senior Leadership Team and the Board of Governors.

Context for the setting of strategic objectives

The vision for Future Steps at Exeter College has been developed by the Future Steps team to be in place from September 2021 to guide the development and growth of the team. The objectives are a working document which will be reviewed annually and are initially based on the Compass toolkit and a series of reviews conducted with Faculty Leads, Tutor Leads and other key staff.

In what is hoped to be a post-lockdown era and with new leadership, the Future Steps team is taking the opportunity to redefine and build the provision for our students and work towards an exceptional service which equips our students with the skills to face the changing future world of work.

The Future Steps Vision and Strategic Objectives will inform the planning and development of the Future Steps Programme which will be fully available for staff, students and parents/carers and be publicised in an accessible manner on the Exeter College website, the Parent Portal and the Future Steps web pages.