



## North East Ambition: Careers Hubs Background information

*“To strengthen local community involvement, and build on the pilot done in the North East, Government will test Careers Hubs in 20 areas, linking together schools, colleges, universities and other local organisations.”*

*Careers and Enterprise Company, Careers Hub Prospectus 2018*

Following the launch of the new [National Careers Strategy](#) (December 2017), the updated [Statutory Guidance for Schools and Colleges](#) (Jan 2018) and the launch of the [Careers Strategy Implementation Plan](#) (April 2018), the Careers and Enterprise Company have released a prospectus for the development of 20 ‘Career Hubs’ across the country.

Acting on behalf of schools, colleges and businesses in the region it is our intention to bid for and lead a careers hub in the North East LEP area. The ‘North East Ambition: Careers Hub’ will form part of the support that the North East LEP currently provides as part of our North East Ambition Strategy, which is a core component of the region’s Strategic Economic Plan.

### What is a Careers Hub?

A Careers Hub is a group of between 20 and 40 schools and colleges located in the same geographic area, working with universities, other education and training providers, employers and career professionals to ensure the Gatsby Benchmarks are delivered in each school and college and that careers outcomes are improved for all young people.

Schools and colleges within a Hub should have a shared vision of how they will work together to improve outcomes for the young people in their area.

### Who are we targeting?

The Careers and Enterprise Company have outlined in their Careers Hub Prospectus that the main target is *“mainstream secondary schools and colleges, although we also welcome the inclusion of special schools and pupil referral units in bids. The target pupils are in years 7-13. Independent schools are not eligible to be part of the 20-40 schools/colleges.”*

### How do I apply to become part of the North East Ambition: Careers Hub?

Those mainstream schools, colleges, special schools and pupil referral units who wish to apply to be part of the ‘North East Ambition: Careers Hub’ should do so by completing the **North East Ambition: Careers Hub – Expression of Interest Form**.

This form requires you to provide information about your school / college and produce a series of statements about your current careers provision and why you wish to be part of a careers hub.

The expression of interest requires approval from your Careers Leader, your Headteacher/Principal, and a Governor.





## Compass Tool

Compass is an online survey tool, produced by the Careers and Enterprise Company to help schools identify their starting points against the 8 benchmarks of good career guidance. Compass can be accessed [here](#)

To ensure that we have a range of starting points from schools and colleges (in relation to benchmark achievement) we require schools/colleges to provide, in their expression of interest form, their current Compass score (i.e. the number of benchmarks the school/college currently achieves).

## What are we looking for?

When selecting schools/colleges to be part of the careers hub, we are looking for a range of different starting points in relation to benchmark achievement. In the original national pilot of the benchmarks 50% of schools and colleges started by fully achieving 0 benchmarks. We are also looking for a range of different school / college types, Ofsted grading, socio-economic contexts and geographies.

The North East Ambition: Careers Hub will be a community of practice and reflect the North East LEP area's education landscape.

## What will you receive?

Each school/college in the hub will:

- Benefit from the support of a Hub Leader, who will support them to implement and achieve the benchmarks
- Be part of a community of Careers Leaders, developing a shared vision for achieving the benchmarks and improving outcomes for all young people
- Be allocated £1,000 to help initiate careers activity in your school/college and support the achievement of the benchmarks and the overall aims of the careers hub

In addition:

- The hub may have the opportunity to bid to receive 'virtual wallets' from the Careers and Enterprise Company 'Employer Encounters Fund'
- Some schools and colleges within the hub will receive Careers Leader Training bursaries

## What will be expected of you?

Each school and college will commit to:

- Naming a designated Careers Leader
- Signing an MOU that outlines expectations, roles and responsibilities.
- Be an active member of the Careers Hub; attending meetings, providing data, submitting case studies and working with evaluators
- Working closely with the Hub leader, Enterprise Coordinator and other Careers Leaders within the Careers Hub
- Sharing good practice with schools/colleges outside of the Careers Hub as part of North East Ambition



- Using Compass to assess starting points and chart progress throughout the duration of the two year pilot of the Career Hub and sharing this information with the Hub leader and Enterprise Coordinator
- Engage with businesses and enterprise advisers and use the Career and Enterprise Company 'Tracker' tool to record activity
- Begin Hub delivery work by September 2018.

### Lead schools/colleges

If you wish your school/college to be considered a 'lead' school/college within the North East Ambition: Careers Hub please also complete 'Lead School/College' section attached to Expression of Interest Form'. It is possible for a Careers Hub to have more than one lead school/college and we have specified what we will be looking for on the additional form.

### Deadline

Expression of Interest forms should be completed and submitted via email to the North East LEP via [goodcareers@nelep.co.uk](mailto:goodcareers@nelep.co.uk)

This Expression of Interest Form must be submitted by **12pm on Wednesday 9 May 2018**

### What happens next?

- The North East LEP will register the our region's interest in having a Careers Hub by Tuesday 24 April
- Schools / Colleges interested in being part of the North East Ambition: Careers Hub should return to their completed Expressions of Interest form to [goodcareers@nelep.co.uk](mailto:goodcareers@nelep.co.uk) at the North East LEP by **12pm on Wednesday 9 May 2018**
- Once Expressions of Interest have been received, the North East LEP will use this information to select schools / colleges who will form the North East Ambition Careers Hub. These schools / colleges will be named in the Careers Hub application that will be submitted to the Careers and Enterprise Company on **Friday 25 May 2018**
- Those schools / colleges who have been selected to be included in the North East Ambition: Careers Hub application will be notified, as will those schools/colleges that have not. Selection to be part of the North East Ambition: Careers Hub application does not reflect the quality of your careers provision, but ensures we have a diverse range of schools and colleges from a variety of locations, contexts and starting points
- As part of the selection process, the North East LEP and partners will be expected to attend a Careers Hub interview in London in **June 2018** to discuss the application



- We will be notified if the North East LEP area has been successful in securing a Careers Hub by **end of June 2018**. We will inform schools/colleges of the outcome at this point
- If successful, the North East Ambition: Careers Hub will be initiated from **September 2018**.

**What happens if my school/college is not part of a Careers Hub?**

All of the support that you currently receive through North East Ambition, for example the Regional Careers Leader Network Meetings, the Careers Directory, LMI Toolkit, Enterprise Adviser Initiative etc. will all still be available as it currently is. Schools/colleges within a Careers Hub will simply benefit from some additional focussed support.

