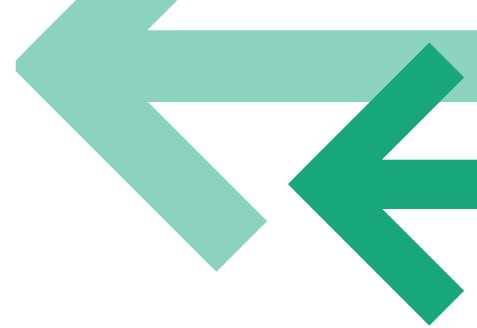


CONFIDENT CHOICES



JUNE 2020

NEWSLETTER

CONFIDENT CHOICES SOUTH KESTEVEN CLUSTER CAREERS FAIR

The effectiveness of cluster meetings often lies in the bringing together of local schools with their support partners. One of the first South Kesteven cluster meetings agreed that a joint careers fair was an effective collaboration.

Schools were able to focus on preparing the 1000 students who attended, whilst the organisation was a joint enterprise between Hannah Romain from LincHigher, Debbie Boon, the Enterprise Coordinator, and Jasmine Abeysekera of Grantham College.

Schools had a one-hour slot for students to visit 30 businesses, from sectors including engineering, agri-food, the technology and digital sectors, defence, supply chain, hospitality, tourism and health and care. A requirement was for all employers to include an interactive activity on their stands and to engage with suggested ideas for capturing student interest. This was supported by a 'treasure hunt' for students to complete. These suggestions made a big difference, with positive formal feedback from students and both exhibitors and teachers saying that engagement at this event was better than others they had attended.

Three focussed workshops on employability skills, apprenticeships and HE were very well attended.

The organisers and schools were grateful to LincHigher for funding and logistics.

Schools that attended were:

*King's Grammar School, Grantham
Walton Academy, Grantham
Bluecoat Meres Academy, Grantham
The Deepings School, Market Deeping
Priory Ruskin Academy, Grantham
Kesteven and Grantham Girls School, Grantham
Stamford Welland Academy
Grantham College*

CONFIDENT CHOICES UPDATE

We have recently distributed the May Update, which is both a summary of Confident Choices progress to date and an outline of suggested next steps.

Some headlines are:

- 45 secondary schools (out of 55) had attended at least one Confident Choices cluster meeting
- Three colleges have joined the local cluster
- A primary school project is about to be launched
- Partner collaboration is facilitating new approaches to support young people

We very much welcome feedback on our plans, so please read the Update and let Richard Hughes know what you think.

If you would like a copy of the Update, it is available from Emily Wilson.



WELCOME

This is our third Confident Choices newsletter and coincides with the first anniversary of our initial proposal to the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership from the Confident Choices partners.

Our vision then was to encourage effective collaboration in careers provision for young people across the county. We believe we have made good progress towards achieving this.

We continue to welcome news stories about successful collaboration, events and support. Please email Richard Hughes.

Our May 2020 Update, our framework document and previous newsletters are available from Emily Wilson.

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CONFIDENT CHOICES GOES ONLINE

The impact of Covid-19 has been keenly felt. Schools have had to manage uncertainty and devise new ways of working. With the cancellation of examinations and the recession affecting firms' ability and willingness to recruit, these are very difficult times for young people. Careers Advisers and Leaders are in the front line: reassuring, supporting, advising and directing. Confident Choices partners have wanted to continue to help and have gone online to do so.

An idea from Alex Nightingale, one of the Greater Lincolnshire LEP Enterprise Coordinators, led to fruitful conversations between partners about a series of online talks that would support those working in careers both in schools and colleges. The result was the Confident Choices webinar series, which is running from May to July, with the aspiration that it will return in September.

The series of 13 webinars has been mapped across the Gatsby benchmarks and delivered by experts in the different areas. Contributions from The LEP Enterprise Advisers, from LincHigher and from Complete Careers have been complemented by presentations from LORIC (The Lincolnshire Open Research and Innovation Centre), the Careers and Enterprise Company, BG Futures and PAN Associates. All webinars are free and interactive through a chat facility.



WEBINARS REMAINING: JUNE AND JULY

DATE AND TIME	TITLE	GATSBY BENCHMARK	HOST
Friday 5th June 2020 (10am)	Externally evidencing Gatsby and Embedding a Continuous Improvement Cycle – Stable Careers Programme	All benchmarks	Janet Hutchinson (Complete Careers)
Friday 5th June 2020 (11am)	Careers Link Governors – who, what, why and how?	All benchmarks	Rachel Green (Careers and Enterprise Company)
Friday 12th June 2020 (10am)	Work experience postponed/cancelled? – Challenges with GB6 and how can we overcome them.	6 – Experiences of the workplace	Alex Nightingale (Greater Lincolnshire LEP)
Friday 12th June 2020 (11am)	An exploration of gender and career choice	3 – Addressing the needs of each pupil	Allison Webb (BG Futures)
Friday 19th June 2020 (11am)	Careers and the whole curriculum	4 - Linking curriculum learning to careers	Jo Welch (Complete-Careers LLP)
Friday 26th June 2020 (11am)	Introduction to Compass +	All benchmarks	Alex Nightingale & Liz Draper-Smethurst (Greater Lincolnshire LEP)
Friday 3rd July 2020 (11am)	Approaches to personal guidance	8 - Personal guidance	John Ambrose (Complete-Careers LLP)
Friday 10th July 2020 (10am)	Exploring the gaps	3 – Addressing the needs of each pupil	Ellis Potter (LiNC Higher)
Friday 10th July 2020 (11am)	An Introduction to working with cultural minorities and EAL students	3 – Addressing the needs of each pupil	Kellie Noon (PAN Associates)

ONLINE RESOURCES

Confident Choices partners have also been busy producing lists of online resources which students can still use whilst at home.

An online compendium put together by Enterprise Adviser Alex Nightingale and Samantha Davis of Priory Academy LSST in Lincoln is complemented by the LincHigher resource list. Together they have been well-received by careers leaders and advisers.

CONFIDENT CHOICES

CONFIDENT CHOICES ON TWITTER

The need to communicate effectively via different media is recognised and as a quick way of sharing news and ideas, there is now a Confident Choices Twitter account @ConfidentChoic1. Please follow and retweet!