

CEIAG/IAG review of schools' careers service in response to Scrutiny Action Plan – Recommendation 7

The team invited all schools to have an individual review of their careers delivery. Forty two secondary schools took the opportunity. Key findings were:

- How will schools manage the new duty?

40 schools have a member of staff identified as responsible for commissioning and leading on careers guidance. 2 were reviewing who the person should be.

- How does careers guidance link to a schools development plan?

34 schools link their careers guidance delivery into the school development plan. One does not and 7 were uncertain of the process.

- Will schools commission face to face Guidance?

33 are or intend to commission face to face guidance. 8 are considering how to move forward and one is not commissioning. Also 33 schools will have a process so that students can self refer for careers guidance. 19 will target careers guidance on years 11-13

- From whom are schools commissioning face to face guidance?

The majority indicate they will be commissioning from CfBT Careers Services. Some are commissioning from other suppliers.

- Will schools deliver face to face guidance for statemented young people?

29 schools have decided to prioritise statemented young people with access to face to face careers guidance. 12 schools are reviewing how this will happen. 1 school is not prioritising face to face career guidance to their statemented young people

- Will schools now just deliver careers guidance (including careers education, information and advice) from Years 9-11?

Although the duty on schools is to deliver careers guidance from years 9-11, all schools are planning to continue with a planned careers education programme. 33 of these will run from Year 7 to 11/13.

- How will schools work with external providers who deliver post 16 courses?

30 schools responded that they give access to information on apprenticeships and a further 11 were considering how best to do this. Although 1 indicated they do not have access to apprenticeship information this was a special school working with young people with severe learning difficulties. Many reported that they have already worked with the apprenticeship champions.

Twenty one schools are inviting external providers to parents events, 11 do not and 10 are reviewing how the process should operate.

25 schools responded that they ensure impartiality of information and advice and 17 replied that they were working on how to ensure this.

On 27th November the Department for Education (DfE) reported that it had decided to extend its school careers guidance statutory duty down to Year 8 and into post16. This legislation which sees colleges incorporated into the act will take effect in September 2013. It is worth noting that DfE's definition of the term 'careers guidance' not only includes face to face guidance but also careers education, information and advice.

The government gave the following reasons for its decision:

- 'The raising of the participation age (RPA) to 17 by 2013 and to 18 by 2015.'
- 'Young people may have significant decisions to make at an earlier age, including whether to move to a different institution at age 14'
- 'All year 8 pupils should have access to information and advice about locally available opportunities such as University Technical Colleges and Studio Schools.'
- 'For sixth form students, access to independent and impartial careers guidance should focus strongly on post-18 options.'

DfE also stated that they would 'consult with the further education sector as we take this work forward'. An updated version of the statutory guidance on careers guidance will be published in March 2013.

As a result schools are currently being offered the opportunity to review their programmes in readiness for the September 2013 start of the legislation (see attached discussion paper for possible implications).

For the recommendation 12 of the scrutiny action plan the CEIAG team have worked with the work based academy to run training for schools on apprenticeships and passportfolio, an online career action planning tool. 49 schools have accessed this training.