



QUALITY IN CAREERS

CEIAG Case Study: **Batley Girls' High School**

The School

Batley Girls' High School is a single-sex 11-19 academy which was judged 'outstanding' by Ofsted in every category (Oct 2013). The school's key aim is to continue to achieve outstanding outcomes while working with its local community to ensure that its students have high aspirations and the skills and experience to make a positive economic and social contribution.

The local community has a high level of economic deprivation and many of its students and parents have a 'narrow' perspective of careers and employability. The key aim is to improve awareness and engagement.

Batley Girls' High School shares a profound commitment to the principles and ethos based on Achievement, Respect and Transformation.

Career Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG)

The school has a dedicated Pathways & Progression Co-ordinator who leads and develops careers strategy and works closely with the Deputy Head for Aspiration & Achievement, PHSCE Co-ordinator and the external Careers Practitioner (additionally bought-in).

Close links are maintained with employers, and higher education institutions. The school's careers and employability work with students is delivered at 'gold standard' level (C & K CEIAG Quality Standard) and has been recognised as outstanding by Ofsted (2013).

In the last 18 months the school has developed a series of whole-school careers initiatives involving 12 local HE partners and business and industry partners (RAF, Cummins Turbo Technologies, Kirklees Apprenticeship Hub, British Army and many more on request) with a strategic focus on STEM.

The school also has established a programme with our Parents' Forum group through a series of visits and parent-led 'Employability Roadshow' in order to promote careers opportunities for its young women students. This has provided an excellent platform – the school works diligently at raising aspirations of young women and opening horizons by engaging their parents directly in this process

Batley Girls' High School sees the strategic benefits of CEIAG as being:

- Direction for its whole-school strategy (SEF)
- An embedded relationship and deep appreciation of its community and challenges which help to shape and evaluate its Careers Development Plan
- Raised profile of the Careers Programme within the school curriculum, local community and Governors
- Reduction of NEET.

Key Stage 3

The CEIAG team works with key school and external partners to promote KS3 focus events. These are developed on a rolling programme with the aim of raising awareness of progression opportunities in specific sectors. These activities include parents' participation.

Developing Curriculum links

- The strategy has been to build in more CEIAG work in Key Stage 3 in order to embed our 'Pathways' approach.
- STEM Careers Event Years 7/8 – A wide range of companies is invited into school and they complete a carousel of practical activities to raise awareness of STEM related careers.
- Sport Careers Event Year 8 – Different occupations on sport related careers are explored and delivered through workshops. Inspirational speakers are invited to inspire students to look at different opportunities and pathways in careers.
- Art & Design – Careers Convention Focus on pathways in Art Design.
- Parents are invited to all these curriculum careers events.

Working with Parents

Key Stage 3: Good Practice Case Study (Ofsted 2015)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofsted-key-stage-3-curriculum-survey-2015-8-good-practice-case-studies>

The Parents' Forum is involved with numerous visits to local universities and businesses. This offers the experience of a typical university day and the opportunity to find out about funding at Higher Education.

- Parents and daughters visited the school's business partner, Cummins Turbo Technologies.
- Parents value the chance to be involved in the Careers Conventions and the STEM events and to be given a discussion point with their daughters about their futures.

CEIAG Quality Standard Award February 2016

Batley Girls' High School gained the C & K CEIAG Quality Standard for its CEIAG programme in 2016. The C & K Award was then nationally validated under the national scheme administered by the Quality in Careers Consortium. This C&K award is now replaced by the single national Quality in Careers Standard for which C&K Careers is one of the Licensed Awarding Bodies.

Batley Girls' is a larger than average single-sex 11-19 school and had continuously held the C&K CEIAG Quality Standard since 1999. It has therefore undergone a number of 3 yearly reviews. Each review has demonstrated that the school continues to see CEIAG as very important and is not content to rest upon its laurels but continuously strives to improve provision.

There is a real commitment from the Co-Heads to provide high quality CEIAG in school and this is reflected in the school's ethos and Charter: *'Every learner has the potential to excel and we work with all our young women to help them to realise their dreams and ambitions.'*

The school was showcased by Ofsted as a case study of good practice for their approach in Key Stage 3 to raise students' aspirations for the future. This includes the early focus on CEIAG, STEM events, access to the Careers Convention for students and parents and Key Stage 3 graduation.

This demonstrates an excellent and innovative approach.

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