

# AUTUMN TERM 2023 NEWSLETTER



### **WELCOME TO AUTUMN!**

It is our pleasure to write to you at the start of the academic year and introduce you to some new and exciting developments but also provide some (hopefully) useful reminders and top tips for the coming term.



## **CRITICAL TIME**

You may be new to careers in your school or academy or equally you may have years of experience but I am hoping that together, we can work to support your students to make really great decisions about their next steps and inspire and enthuse them to be ambitious in their career planning.

You should, by now have had a meeting, or have a meeting scheduled, with your Regional Operations Manager to develop the partnership agreement for this year and set core priorities.

Contacts are on the back page if you need to reach out to anyone to get this arranged.

We know that time is scarce, and budgets are tight, but the fact that your school/academy have invested in your students careers provision is a massive step in the right direction and we are here to help and support wherever we can.

I can't wait to see and hear about all of the amazing things happening across all of our partnering schools and academies this year and look forward to meeting you when I visit throughout the year.

PAULA THOMPSON Managing Director



### **NEW LOOK POSTERS**

Based on feedback from a number of you on our existing posters being too 'word-heavy' we have refreshed and renewed our set of 'Did You Know' posters with condensed information and a new look. We have also filtered this through to regional LMI posters all of which will be available early within this first half term.



### **100% RECOMMENDATION**

Through our more regular feedback surveys, we are thrilled that last year 100% of those who returned their surveys, said that they would recommend us to other schools.

We have seen a number of enquiries through referrals and word of mouth which is testament to the high quality guidance and service that we deliver as an organisation. If you know a school that could benefit from our services, please feel free to pass on our contact details. The more young people that we can support with their next steps the better.

### **NEW SCHOOLS**

#### We are thrilled to announce that we are working with some new schools from this September.

We are now working with Brigshaw School, Cockburn John Charles, Hanson Academy, St.Wilfrids, Strive4Education and Dronfield Henry Fanshawe. We are extremely excited about working with students in all of these schools and working alongside their fantastic teams.

# **SOCIAL IMPACT**

It is really important to the entire team at Progress Careers that our work means something and our recent social accounting has certainly enabled us to see the direct impact that our work has had.



OF SOCIAL VALUE GENERATED

SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR EVERY £1 SPENT

# **NEW TO CAREERS?**

If you are new to careers, please do reach out and let us know.

We have a Career Leaders introduction booklet and can also signpost you to some great resources to get your head around things. There is a lot to understand in this area of work but remember that you are not alone. Collectively as a team we have 100's of years' experience in careers (that sounds like we are really old – we are not, there's a lot of us who have been in careers for a good few years.

### **KEY CONTACTS**

Paula Thompson – Managing Director paula.thompson@progress-careers.co.uk

**Mel Craven** – Operations Manager (North Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Tees Valley, North East & North West) mel.craven@progress-careers.co.uk

**Rachel Crowder** – Operations Manager (South Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire) rachel.crowder@progress-careers.co.uk

**Katie Tune** – Operations Manager (South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire, Lincolnshire & The Humber) katie.tune@progress-careers.co.uk

You can call us at any time on 0151 318 5514 – if we are not able to answer, please leave a message and we will call back as soon as we can!

### THE TERM AHEAD

The Autumn term is always a tricky one as the focus is on getting great interventions going with Year 11 students (and Y13 if you have a sixth form), tracking last years leavers and making sure no-one slips through the gaps.

Quite often we are establishing ways of working with new schools or with new career leads, planning careers fairs, creating a timetable for career cafes, making initial enquiries about National Apprenticeship Week and National Careers Week... the list goes on.

Things that we may ask for this term:

For all students to complete their careers questionnaire (if they didn't do this already in Y10). Ideally this should be done by student slogging into iProgress. Speak to your adviser for details of how to get students logged in to iProgress.

**Data sharing agreements.** We are here to support you to collect data on where last years leavers have enrolled. For this to happen data sharing agreements should exist between the school/academy and the college, training provider, sixth form etc.

Meetings with Heads of Year/ Learning Managers, SENDCo and other key personnel. We want to gather your intelligence on the year groups we are going to be working with and understand how we may need to differentiate our approach for certain students.

**Assembly slots!** We know they are really hard to get, but even if we just have 2 minutes with the key year groups to say who we are, where we are and how we can help, it can be extremely helpful in generating conversations.

**Your support.** We need whole school support for careers to work. All staff need to value the process and forget any negative experiences they had when meeting a careers adviser. Things have changed and moved on a lot – please encourage your teams to talk positively about careers and get students excited to attend their appointments with our team.