

Compass and Compass+ are free digital products that feature the **Compass evaluation**. Complete a Compass evaluation every term to quickly and easily evaluate your careers provision against the eight Gatsby Benchmarks.

Further guidance on completing Compass evaluations can be found in our Help Centre, categorized by institution type : [Compass Help Centre](#)

Additional questions in the Compass evaluation June & July 2024

As part of your termly or quarterly Compass evaluation, this summer we are asking some questions to help us understand practice in relation to personal guidance and workplace experiences .

We previously added questions relating to encounters with further and higher education. We now want to draw on your expert insight to understand current practice on the ground in some additional areas. Questions were added on personal guidance in June 2024 and we have added questions on workplace experiences in July.

Designed to be answered in just 5-10 minutes, these additional questions will give us more granular insight to compare with national data from Compass evaluations. Some questions might require estimation if you do not already collect this data.

The data is developmental, separate from Compass evaluation and not linked to performance or school/college/training provider level achievement of the Gatsby Benchmarks.

This data needs to be collected this summer. It forms a baseline and some of the data may be collected again next year.

We do acknowledge that Independent Training Providers don't work to academic years however, we would encourage ITPs to complete a Compass evaluation by 19th July to align with this timeframe.

Thank you for your ongoing support – it is really appreciated.

Additional Compass evaluation questions – Post 16 version

Part A: Workplace experiences

Workplace experiences encompass a wide range of experiences. It includes industry visits, short work experience placements (i.e. less than 1 week), longer work experience placements (i.e. more than 1 week or day release), job shadowing, workplace tours, live briefs (outside of the classroom), and other models (including hybrid and virtual) which enable young people to experience the workplace. It does not include simulated vocational learning environments.

Question 1

What are the <u>top three methods</u> you use to organise workplace experiences?	
Embedded in specific programmes/interventions by curriculum/teaching staff	
Employers cold contacting the college/training provider	
Learners self-organise	
Parental support to organise/source opportunities	
Personal contacts from staff	
College/training provider cold-contacting employers	
College/training provider's own network/internal database of employers	
Via charged-for brokerage services	
Via free brokerage services	
Via local business communities (e.g. chambers of commerce)	
Via online databases	
Other (please specify)	

Question 2

What different group sizes do you commonly use for workplace experiences on vocational and technical courses? (e.g. BTEC, City and Guilds Technical or T Level) (tick all that apply)	
Single learner	
Small learner groups (e.g. roughly 2-8)	
Medium-sized learner groups (e.g. roughly 8-20)	
Whole subject group	
Whole cohort	
None of the above	

Question 3

What different group sizes do you commonly use for workplace experiences for A Level or combined route (e.g. A Level with BTEC or project) learners? (tick all that apply)	
Single learner	
Small learner groups (e.g. roughly 2-8)	
Medium-sized learner groups (e.g. roughly 8-20)	
Whole subject group	
Whole cohort	
None of the above	

Question 4

How many hours (on average) do you estimate a learner would have of workplace experiences on a typical vocational or technical programme, excluding T levels (e.g. BTEC, City and Guilds Technical)?	
100 or more	
50-99 (equivalent of 2-4 weeks)	
40-49	

26-39	
25 (equivalent of a week)	
Fewer than 25	
Don't know	

Question 5

How many hours (on average) do you estimate a learner would have of workplace experiences on an A Level or combined programme (e.g. A Level combined with BTEC or project)?	
100 or more	
50-99 (equivalent of 2-4 weeks)	
40-49	
26-39	
25 (equivalent of a week)	
Fewer than 25	
Don't know	

Question 6

Which sectors/subject areas (if any) do you/your learners struggle to find relevant and meaningful workplace experiences (tick all that apply)	
Health, Public Services and Care	
Science and Mathematics	
Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care	
Engineering & Manufacturing Technologies	
Construction, Planning & the Built Environment	
Information & Communication Technology	
Retail & Commercial Enterprises	
Leisure Travel and Tourism	

Arts, Media & Publishing	
History, Philosophy & Theology	
Social Sciences	
Languages, Literature & Culture	
Education & Training	
Preparation for Work & Life	
Business, Administration & Law	
Other (please specify)	
We do not struggle finding relevant and meaningful workplace experiences	

Question 7

What do you perceive are the main challenges to securing relevant and meaningful workplace experiences for your learners? (tick up to three that apply most frequently to learners having workplace experiences)	
Learner transport / travel / location	
Lack of employer willingness to offer opportunities	
Insufficient supply for experiences required to meet demand	
Constraints on time within study programme.	
Relevance of experiences to pathways / sector subjects	
Lack of support from college/training provider to prepare/accompany SEND learners	
Learner willingness/engagement	
The requirements of the qualification	
Other (please specify)	
We have no challenges securing relevant and meaningful workplace experiences	

Part B : Personal guidance

Question 1

Are your careers advisers? (tick all that apply)	
Internally employed	
Externally contracted (freelancer)	
Externally contracted (via an organisation managing multiple careers advisers)	
Other (please specify)	

Question 2

What levels of qualifications specifically in career guidance do your careers advisers have? (tick all that apply, e.g. in the case of multiple individuals delivering formal personal or group guidance sessions)	
Level 3 ('A' level equivalent)	
Level 4-5	
Level 6 (Undergraduate degree)	
Level 7+	
Working towards level 4	
Working towards level 6	
Don't know	
None of the above	

Question 3

Does your Careers Leader deliver formal personal guidance sessions to learners?	Yes / No / Don't know
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Question 4

Do you base the length of an initial guidance interview on assessment of learner need?	Yes / No / Don't know
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Question 5

Do you base the number of follow-up interviews on an assessment of learner need?	Yes / No / Don't know
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Question 6

How long do personal guidance interviews typically take per learner (interviews Post 16)?	
Less than 20 minutes	
20-35 minutes	
36-45 minutes	
46-60 minutes	
Over an hour	