



How PRIME work experience can contribute towards the Gatsby Benchmarks

The Gatsby Good Career Guidance Benchmarks provide a framework for schools' careers provision, ensuring young people can access high quality careers guidance so they can make informed decisions about their future. Embedded in the Department for Education Careers Strategy, the Benchmarks have been widely adopted by schools.

The Gatsby Benchmarks are:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

PRIME work experience can contribute towards schools' achievement of Benchmarks 5 and 6. Here's how:

Benchmark 5. Encounters with employers and employees

Every pupil should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.

PRIME offers **multiple opportunities** for work experience for students in Years 9 to 13 from lower socio-economic backgrounds through our 60 law firm members.

Our members commit to developing students' key personal and business **skills** such as team work, communication, presentation, negotiation, making and impact and networking. These are **skills that are valued in the workplace** and that are fundamental to a career in law.

Benchmark 6. Experiences of workplaces

Every pupil should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.

PRIME's mission is to provide access to work experience for young people who have least opportunity. We believe **every pupil** should have the opportunity to access legal work experience. To support this, our members provide refreshments and will reimburse reasonable travel expenses.



PRIME members commit to maintaining contact with students after their work experience, enabling them to **expand their networks**. That could be via email, a mentoring programme or an annual reunion event.

Our members commit to provide 30 to 35 hours' contact time. Usually that is by providing **work experience in the workplace**. Due to Covid, this is currently being delivered virtually where possible.

Our members give clear and honest information about the **career opportunities** in the legal profession (for lawyers and non-lawyers), the requirements for those careers, and the potential routes into them.