

Evaluation of the Enterprise Adviser Network



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1 Introduction

The Enterprise Adviser Network is designed to strengthen the links between education and employers to inspire and prepare young people for the world of work.

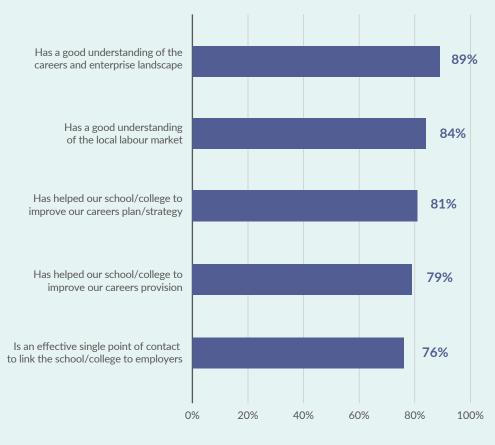
Through the network, schools and colleges receive support from Enterprise Advisers (senior business volunteers) and locally based Enterprise Coordinators, and can access a range of tools and resources to help them meet the requirements set out in the government's Careers Strategy and to track their progress.

The Enterprise Adviser Network was launched in 2015. By summer 2017, 2,000 schools and colleges had joined the network, rising to 2,500 a year later. In summer 2018, The Careers & Enterprise Company surveyed the schools and colleges in the network to highlight the aspects of the network that are working well and the challenges that need addressing. This report presents the headlines from the survey. A total of 559 schools and colleges took part in the survey, which is 22 per cent of all those in the network at the time. The survey will be repeated in summer 2019.



2 | Satisfaction with the Enterprise Adviser Network

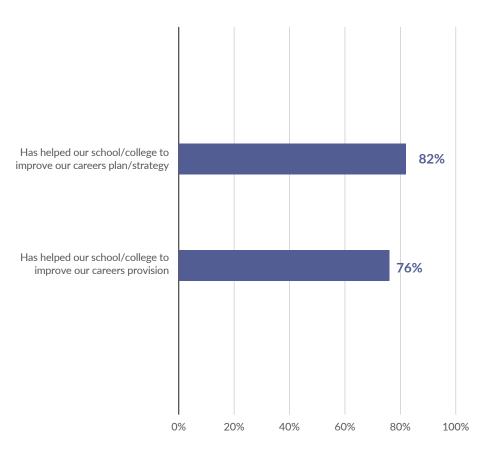
How Enterprise Coordinators support schools and colleges



% agreeing with statement

Schools and colleges were positive about the contribution of Enterprise Coordinators. The vast majority reported that they brought a good understanding of the careers and enterprise landscape and local labour market. Around four-fifths thought that Enterprise Coordinators helped with strategic planning and provision.

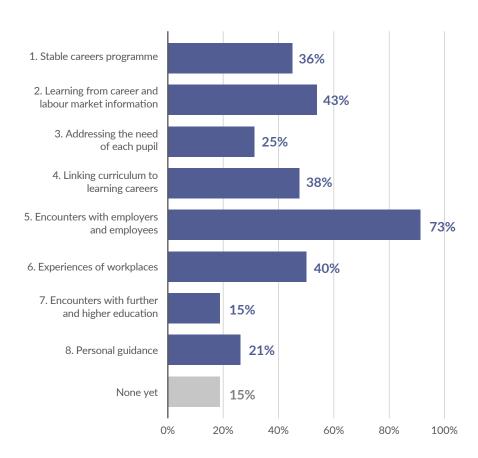
How Enterprise Advisers support schools and colleges



% agreeing with statement

Schools and colleges were also positive about the contribution of Enterprise Advisers to strategic planning and careers provision.

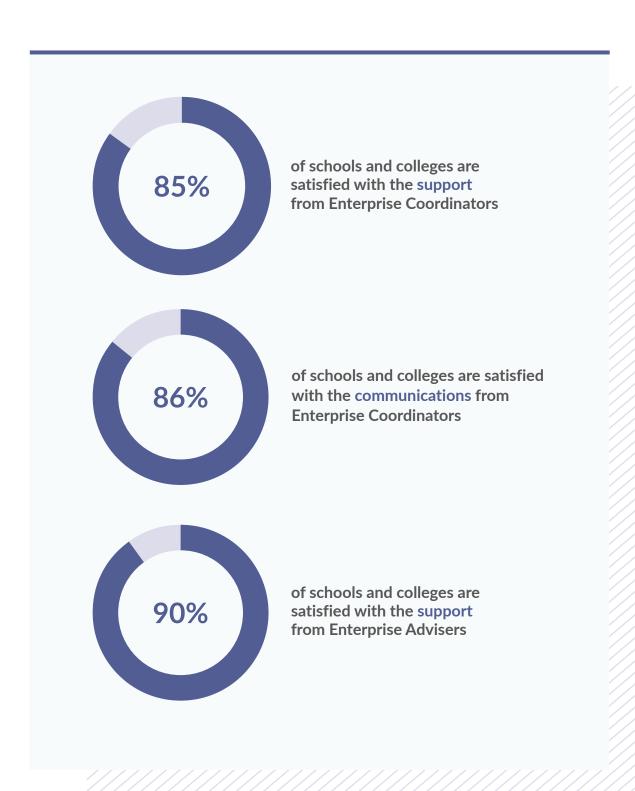
Gatsby Benchmarks that Enterprise Advisers have helped the school or college move forwards on



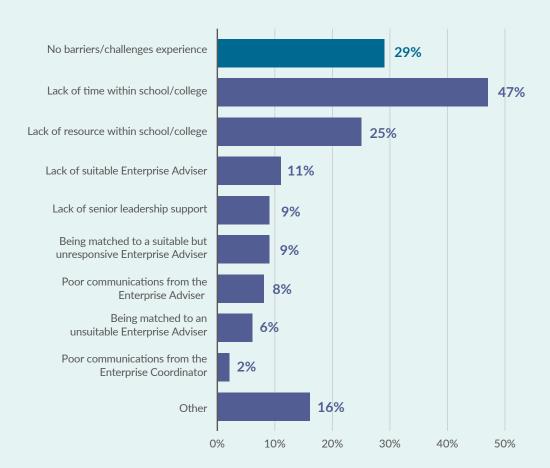
The perception of schools and colleges was that Enterprise Advisers had the greatest impact on Gatsby Benchmark 5 – encounters with employers and employees. A substantial minority also noted improvements across a range of other benchmarks as a result of the input from Enterprise Advisers.

Satisfaction with support from Enterprise Coordinators and Enterprise Advisers

Schools and colleges were highly satisfied with the support from Enterprise Coordinators and Enterprise Advisers.



3 Barriers to engaging with the Enterprise Adviser Network

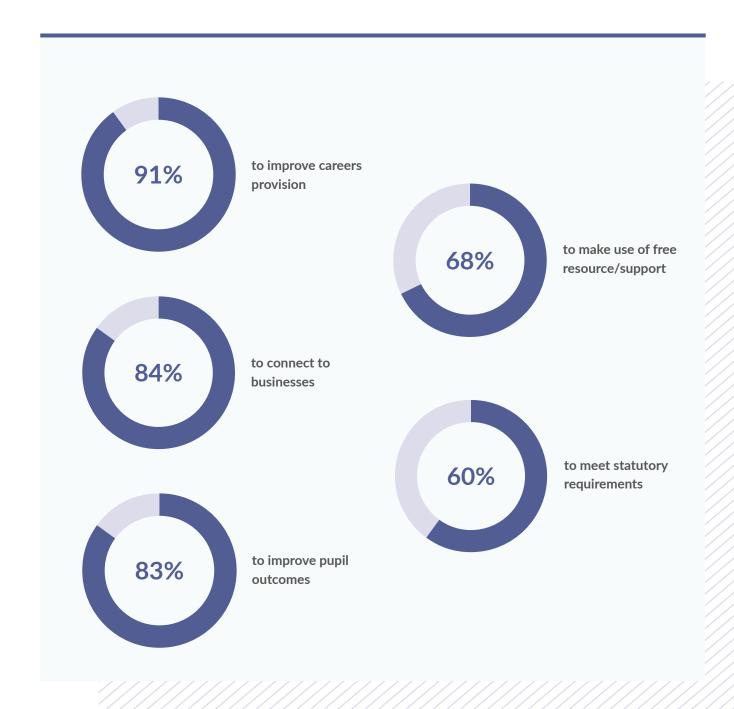


29% of schools and colleges had not experienced any barriers or challenges to working with the Enterprise Adviser Network. Where barriers were identified, the main ones were lack of time and resource within the school or college.

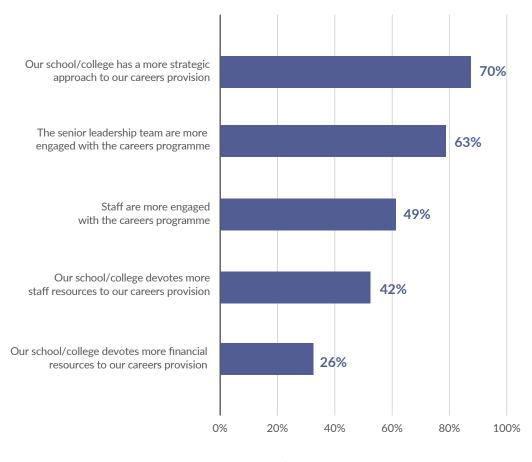
4 Impact of the Enterprise Adviser Network

Motivation for joining the Enterprise Adviser Network

Schools and colleges were motivated to join the Enterprise Adviser Network for a range of reasons with the desire to improve careers provision dominating the need to meet statutory requirements.



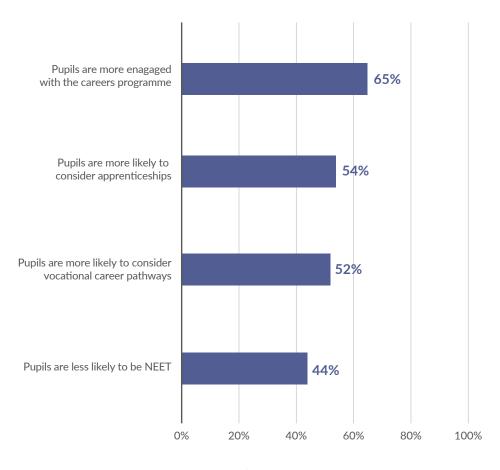
Impact of Enterprise Adviser Network on schools and colleges



% agreeing with statement

Over half of the schools and colleges identified an impact of the Enterprise Adviser Network on strategy and the engagement of the senior leadership team. Just under half observed greater engagement among staff and more resource devoted to careers provision. An increase in financial resource was noted in a quarter of schools and colleges.

Impact of Enterprise Adviser Network on pupils



% agreeing with statement

Schools and colleges reported that pupils were more engaged with the careers programme, more likely to consider apprenticeships and vocational pathways and less likely to be Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) as a result of the Enterprise Adviser Network.

Impact on pupils

Schools and colleges also observed improvements in pupils' personal attributes, particularly employability skills.



5 Response from The Careers & Enterprise Company

With the rapid growth in the Enterprise Adviser Network over recent years, it is encouraging to see the positive response from schools and colleges about how the network is supporting their careers provision.

Enterprise Coordinators are bringing valued knowledge of the careers landscape and local labour markets and helping schools and colleges to engage with employers. Enterprise Advisers (senior business volunteers) are helping the majority of schools and colleges with strategic planning and careers provision, supporting progress on Gatsby Benchmark 5 in particular (encounters with employers and employees).

As a result of being in the network, the majority of schools and colleges report being more strategic in their careers provision and greater involvement from the senior leadership team which are important building blocks for ongoing improvement. Most schools and colleges think that pupils are more engaged with the careers programme and have observed improvements in their personal skills.

The key challenge for schools in engaging with the network in 2018 was the lack of time and resource. Since then, the Careers Leader role has become established and in future surveys we will monitor the extent to which this helps schools and colleges to engage further with the support available through the network.





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