**Early career development for SEND young people in Mainstream needs to**

1. Start early
2. Raise aspirations of everyone involved
3. Extend over a long period of time
4. Be unbroken
5. Include extensive support
6. Factor in time for preparation of everyone involved
7. Bring families/ corporate parent into the process early, sustain and support them
8. Enable employers to appreciate the starting points of these young people and the journey they need to travel
9. Be badged with the word ‘more’

**Young people with SEND face huge barriers to achieving optimum career outcomes**. Young people with SEND / disabilities or who are vulnerable are: Less likely to achieve qualifications , More likely to be NEET, More likely to suffer from mental health problems, More likely to be homeless and More likely to be represented in the criminal justice system

There are 1.2 million young people with SEND/nearly 15% of all young people and 250,000 have an EHC plan. **Most are in mainstream schools**. Young people with SEND need help to make the difficult transition from school to the professional world. **In the 2019-20 financial year, 5.6% of adults with learning disabilities aged 18-64 who were receiving support from social services were in paid employment**, compared to 5.9% in the previous year. The employment rate for disabled people is 49.2% and 80.6% for the rest of the population not classed as having a disability. This is a shockingly low statistic and one that highlights **the challenges young students with SEND face as they transition from education into employment.** These statistics alone provide a compelling reason for wanting to improve the careers education for young people with SEND.

***USE THIS DOCUMENT TO AUDIT YOUR SEND CAREER PROVISION (CAREER LEADER AND SENCO TOGETHER)*** Logo

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**Step 1:** First Crucial Steps

**Step 2** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 1 A Stable Careers Programme

**Step 3** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 2 Learning from Career and Labour Market Information

**Step 5** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 4 Linking Curriculum learning to careers

**Step 6** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 5 Encounters with employers and Employees

**Step 4** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 3 Addressing the needs of each pupil

**Step 8** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 7 Encounters with Further and Higher Education

**Step 9** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 8 Personal Guidance

**Step 7** Relates to Gatsby Benchmark 6 Experience of the workplace