



# City of Doncaster Council

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Date: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Careers Hub Partners,

**Subject: South Yorkshire Careers Hub Update - Start**

As members and partners of the South Yorkshire Careers Hub, you will be aware of an agreement that has been in place across South Yorkshire with the Careers platform, Start. The Start platform has provided a student-facing portal to enable students to access and complete records about their own careers and enterprise experiences, in support of Gatsby Benchmark 3. The platform has included further features such as personalised Labour Market Information (LMI) for the city and a SEND-friendly version of the platform to support learners with additional needs.

The agreement is due to expire at the end of August 2024 and whilst schools and colleges in the city can opt to fund their own licenses for Start, there will be no subsidiary funding from the Careers Hub, SYMCA or Local Authorities moving forward.

The Local Authorities have secured a month's extension to the agreement to ensure that this does not mean that schools and colleges start to the new academic year without use of a Careers platform.

We encourage that you use this month's extension to source an alternative Careers platform which allows students to access and record their own careers and enterprise experiences. There are many Careers platforms including Xello, UniFrog and Morrisby, which include additional features such as Work Place Experience Planners and the Doncaster Careers Consultants would be happy to support your school or college in sourcing an alternative platform to Start. The free Compass+ Career Leader Dashboard is also a useful tool for Career Leaders and wider staff (such as Heads of Departments) to keep systematic records on each pupil's experience of careers and enterprise activity.

Please reach out to your Careers Consultant (Sonia or Danielle), using the above contact details, should you require any support.



Yours sincerely

**South Yorkshire Careers Hub**

Sonia Hardwick

Danielle Timms

Doncaster Careers Consultants

