

SUMMARY OF PROVISION SUPPORTING STUDENT PROGRESSION

Curriculum

A mixed curriculum, based on the traditional sixth form college model but with a broader vocational offer and more extensive provision at levels 2 and 1. Students without C grades in Maths and English have had consolidation/progression options available in these subjects for many years.

- ❖ AS/A levels
- ❖ L3 vocational courses (but not covering 'hard' vocational areas such as construction trades, mechanics, catering etc.)
- ❖ GCSEs and L2 vocational courses
- ❖ L1 offer (based at John Pounds Centre)
- ❖ ESOL provision for 16-18 and 19+ students
- ❖ Embryonic but growing apprenticeship provision (5 pathways)
- ❖ Traineeships – being explored for future provision

Retention 2012/13 (Long courses, 16-18)

LEVEL	RETENTION RATE	NATIONAL BENCHMARK
All level 1	94.4%	88.4%
All level 2	92.3%	89.1%
All level 3	93.7%	90.6%
All 16-18	93.5%	89.9%

Three year improving trend at all levels.

School Liaison

Comprehensive process with a careers focus (as opposed to a marketing focus) led by Vice Principal and Head of Careers Guidance. Broadly, objectives are: to motivate students in years 9, 10 and 11 to undertake reflection and research, introduce them to research sources, introduce them to opportunities at Portsmouth College, motivate attendance at Open Evenings and other relevant events.

Three open evenings. Impartial careers guidance available throughout.

Transition support

- ❖ One-to-one initial interview with member of specialist team (nearly all of whom are teachers) who are required to attend annual, careers and IAG-focused training.
- ❖ Three evenings for parents of new students (with students) to prepare for transition and develop pre-enrolment relationship with parents (careers information packs provided for parents)
- ❖ Introduction Day event for all prospective new students. Students initiate relationship with personal tutor for forthcoming academic year, meet subject teachers, receive introduction to employability and enrichment programmes
- ❖ Enrolment. Ten day process with concentrated effort to encourage appropriate, realistic but ambitious course choices. All interviewing staff receive detailed curriculum and careers guidance training/support

Specialist programme, 'Aiming for Academic Excellence'.

Organised and hosted by College and supported by employers and universities. Objective to raise aspirations of academically able students (selected by partner schools) in years 10 and 11, motivate research, offer university trips, specialist speakers, speed networking etc.

On course support

- ❖ Traditional sixth form tutorial model. Careers/progression support delivered through tutorials. U-Explore software introduced in 2013/14 to supplement extensive, existing in-house intranet careers resource
- ❖ Booked appointments, help desk and drop-in systems for careers support
- ❖ Able and Talented Programme. Objectives similar to AFAE above but involving more precise support for students aiming for top professions, universities, higher apprenticeships etc.
- ❖ Focused L2 progression programme, Jan – March, culminating in application and interview process for prospective returners and support in process for those looking elsewhere.
- ❖ Equivalent L1 programme in May/June
- ❖ Employability and Enterprise Programme (detailed in prospectus and on website). Additional courses, competitions, enterprise groups and projects, volunteering, work experience, on-off events e.g. Creative Industries Day, Employment Skills Day. Issue is scale i.e. making opportunities available to the majority of students
- ❖ Employability and careers events e.g. part-time jobs and volunteering fair, Higher Education Fair, Apprenticeships Fair, gap Year Fair
- ❖ Traditional UCAS process and support for university research and applications (well supported by all local universities)
- ❖ Student Finance events (supported by University of Portsmouth)

Mentoring Schemes

- ❖ Peer mentoring i.e. year 2/3 students supporting new students
- ❖ Year 1 students supporting students in Y11 (currently one school, second to be added)
- ❖ BME mentoring project with University of Portsmouth

Post-college support

Flexible approach to provision of IAG for ex-students. Capacity is an issue here.

Issues/trends

- ❖ Declining proportion of students applying to university: 76% of completers in 2008, 59% in 2012
- ❖ Rising but still relatively low % progressing to Russell Group
- ❖ Trend towards local universities
- ❖ College responding to this changing world but journey continues
- ❖ 75% of university applicants are first generation → intensive support needs

- ❖ On-going and serious debate re curriculum offer and college objectives. 2015 changes looming.

- ❖ Capacity challenges throughout the process

Destinations Data (next page)

Destinations data 2012

1. LEVEL 3 COMPLETERS

UNIVERSITY / HE	59%
EMPLOYMENT	21%
UNKNOWN	7%
APPRENTICESHIP	4%
UNEMPLOYED	4%
FURTHER EDUCATION	2%
GAP YEAR	2%
BACK TO HOME COUNTRY	1%
UNAVAILABLE FOR WORK	1%

2. LEVEL 2 COMPLETERS

L3 AT PORTSMOUTH COLLEGE	38%
UNEMPLOYED	11%
L2 AT PORTSMOUTH COLLEGE	7%
OTHER FE (UNKNOWN)	7%
PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT	7%
FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT	7%
L2 OTHER COLLEGES	6%
UNABLE TO CONTACT	6%
UNAVAILABLE TO WORK	3%
L3 OTHER COLLEGES	3%
L1 OTHER COLLEGES	2%
L1 PORTSMOUTH COLLEGE	1%
VOLUNTEER WORK	1%

3. L1 COMPLETERS

PROGRESSED TO L2	49%
UNEMPLOYED	15%
EMPLOYED	12%
UNABLE TO CONTACT	12%
APPRENTICESHIPS	8%
UNAVAILABLE FOR WORK	4%