

WHAT SCHOOL CAREERS LEADERS ARE SAYING?



NOVEMBER 14, 2019

THE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

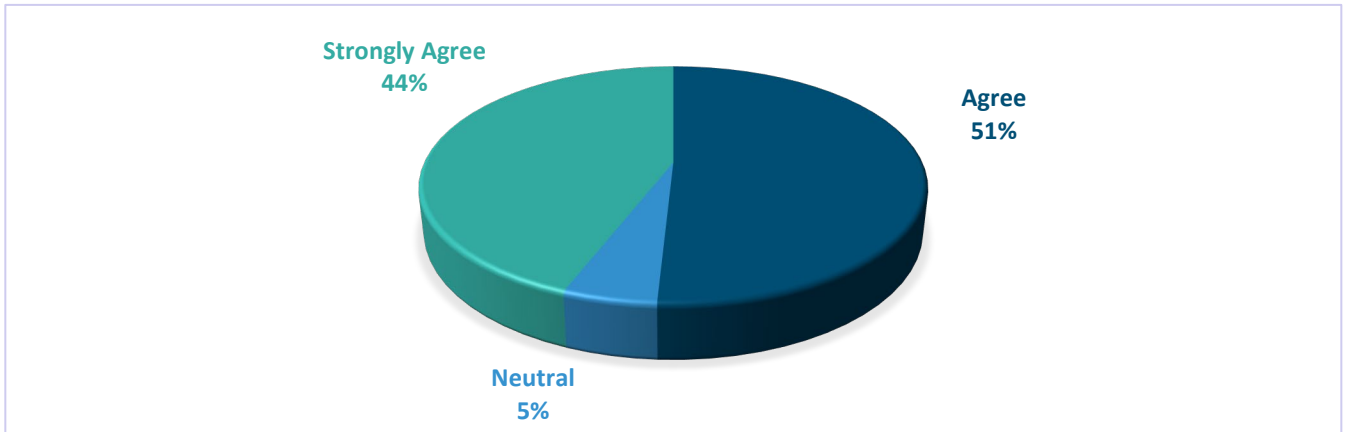
Our Research:

This year we asked School careers leaders to share their thoughts and feelings on how easy it is to connect with their local employers to create high quality and informative placements for their students in industries tailored to student’s needs, wants and ambitions.

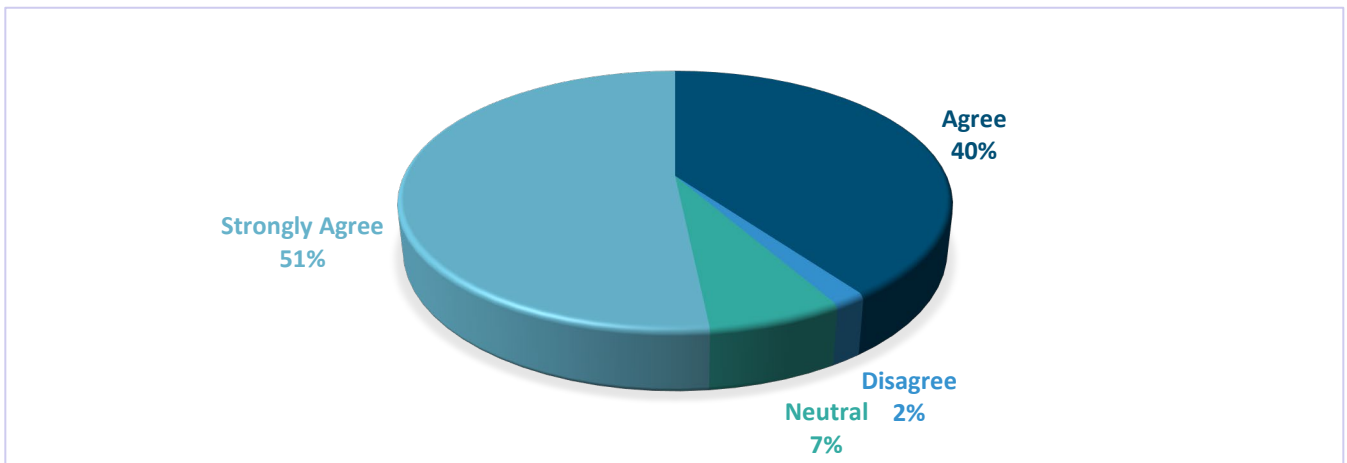
With this data, we hoped to establish whether there is an increasing need for greater engagement to create better opportunities for student work placements, careers guidance and highlight career pathways to specific industries.

In our research, we asked Careers Leaders to tell us how much they agreed with the following statements and questions:

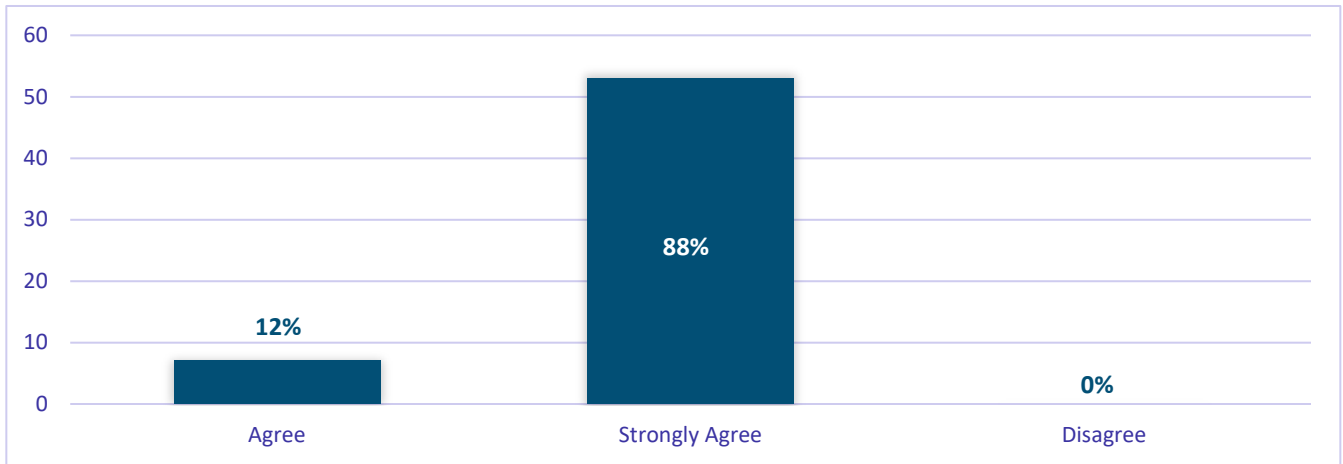
1. My role as a Careers Leader has a positive impact on young people’s career and education outcomes?



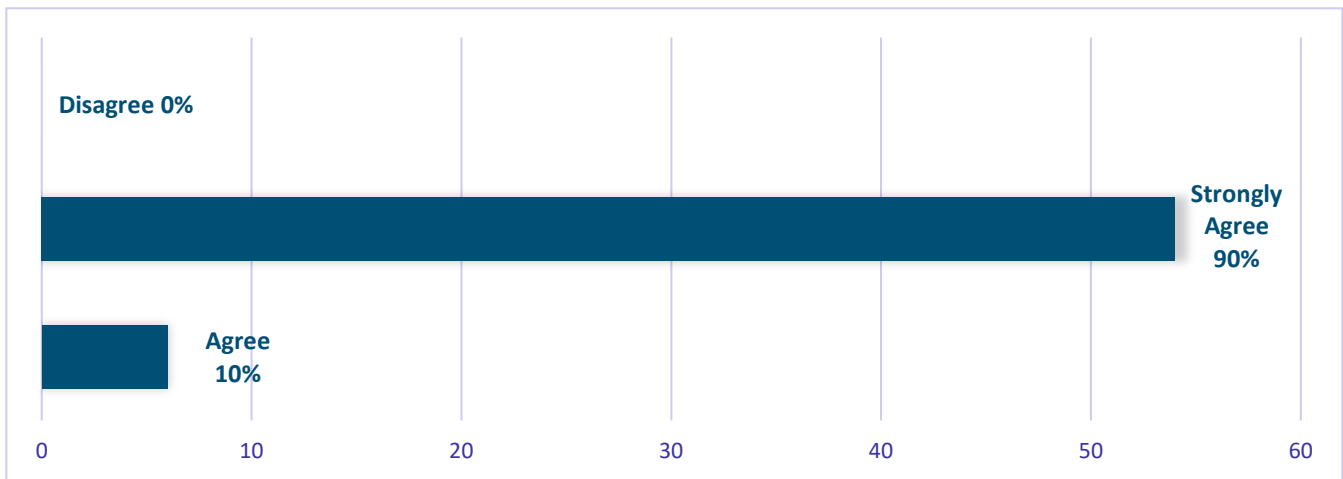
2. I feel positive about the future of the career’s guidance provision in my school?



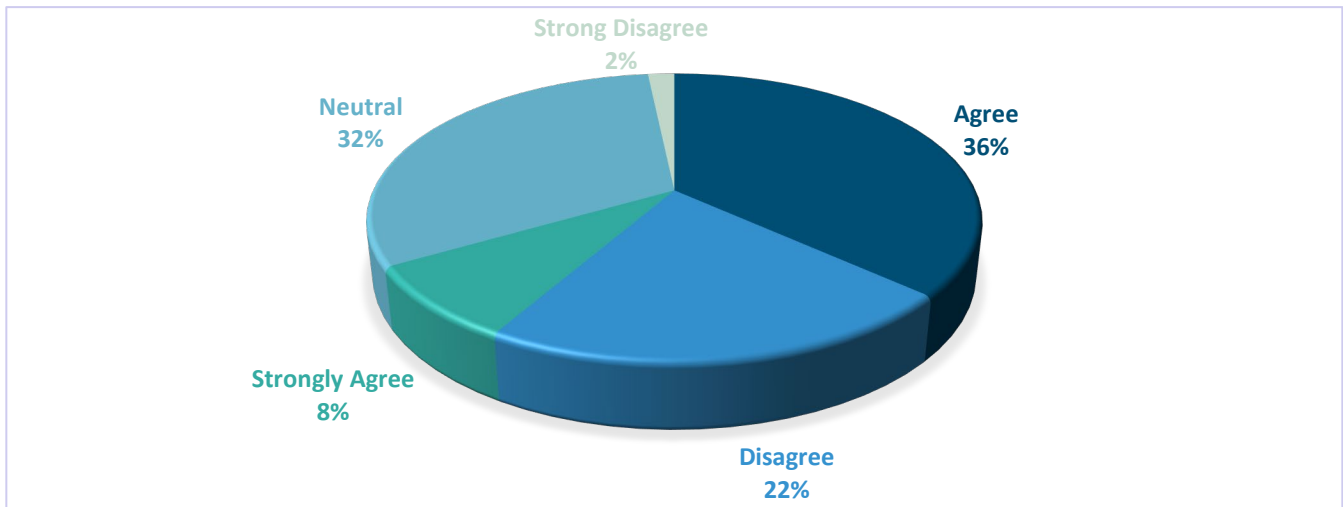
3. Every student should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities and to expand their networks?



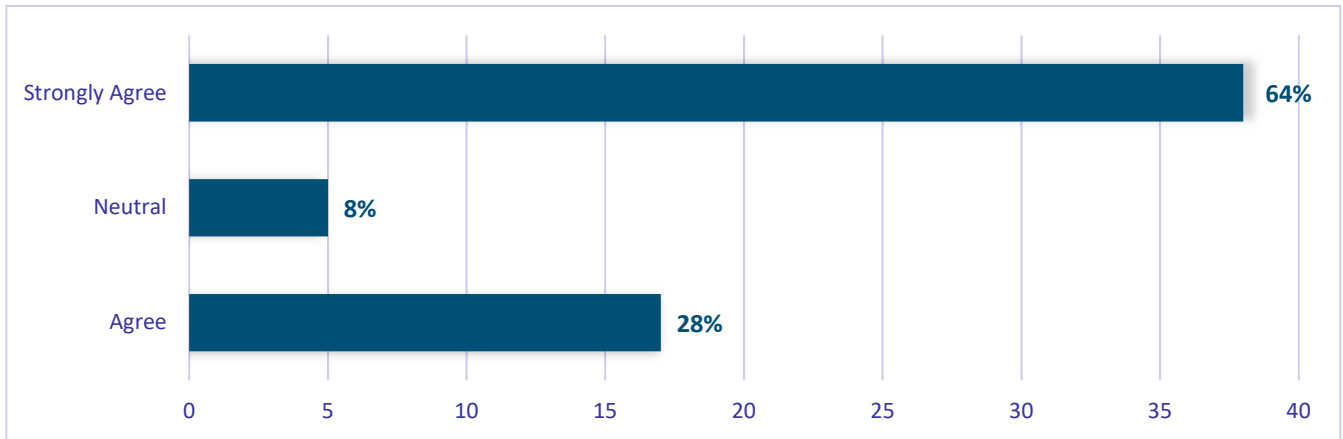
4. Making new connections with local employers to support your career guidance programme is important?



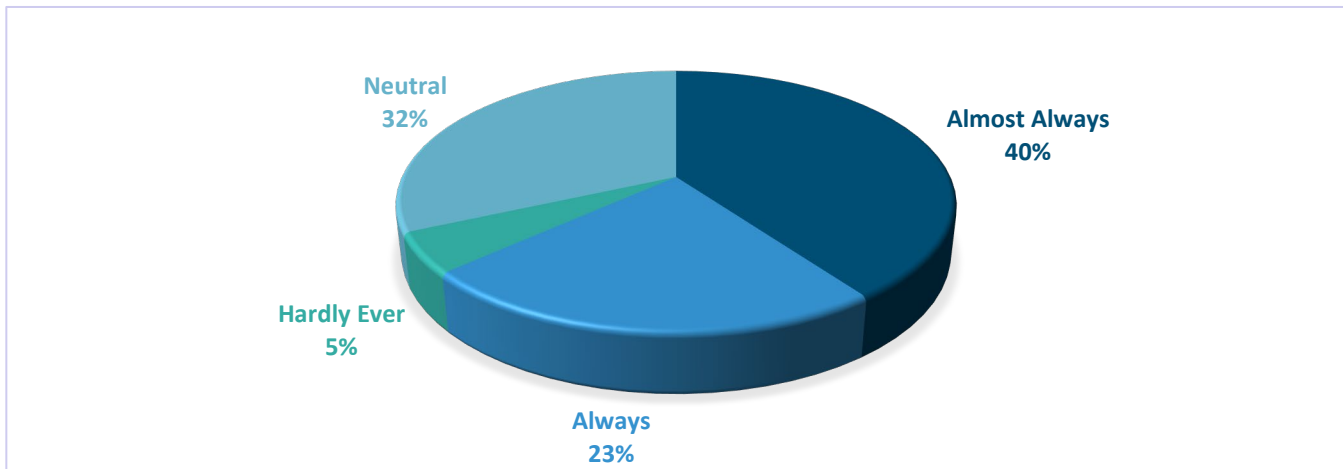
5. It is easy for me to establish and develop links with local employers



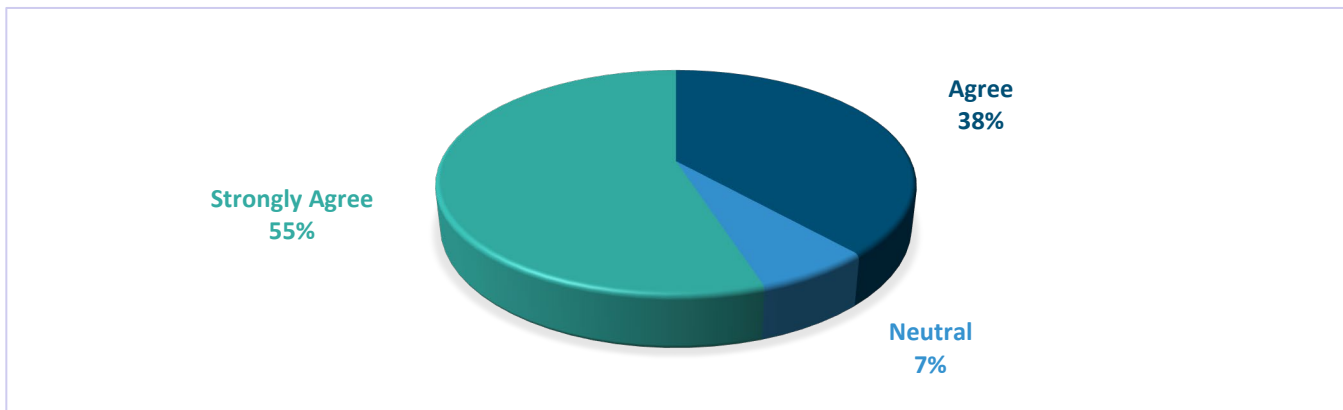
6. Would a simple communications resource, connecting you to local businesses willing to support your careers events, be of use to you?



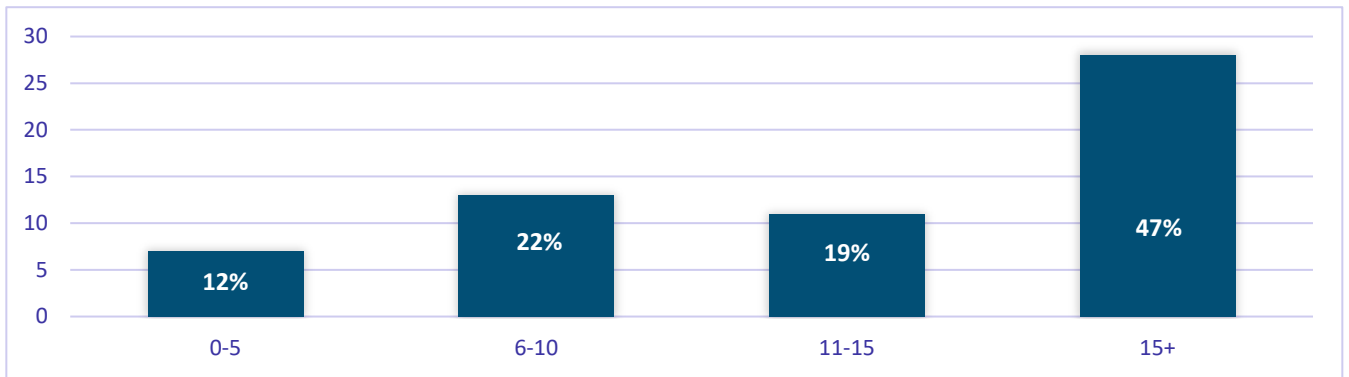
7. To what extent do you involve local business in providing vocational support for students - in particular, enrichment activities, including visiting speakers, mentoring etc...?



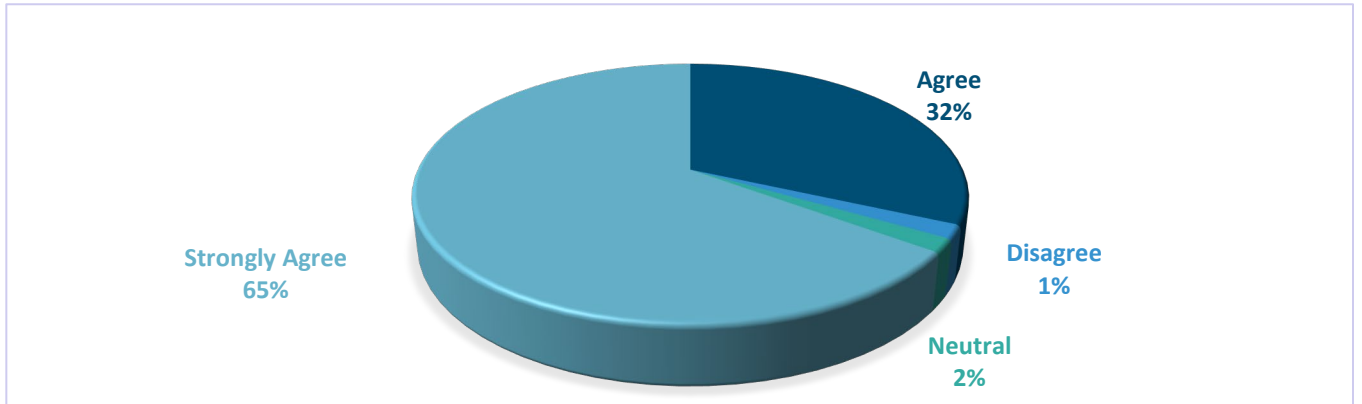
8. Would you see benefit in having a resource that enabled you to manage and place students with a particular type of local business that reflected the stated interest of the student?



9. On Average how many local businesses do you invite to attend your careers event at school?



10. Would you see a benefit in having access to a resource that enabled any department in your school to reach out to a local business to ask for support?



Our Analysis:

From this data, we can see that when it comes to Career opportunities for students.

- **88% of Careers Leaders strongly agree it is important that every student should have first-hand experience of the workplace.**
- **22% stated that currently it is not easy to establish and develop links with local employers and a further 32% were undecided if this was easy or uneasy.**
- **97% of Careers Leaders stated that they could see the benefit in having a resource that enabled them to manage and place students with a particular local business' that reflected the stated interest of the student.**

Careers Leaders were also offered the chance to make any other additional comments and these included:

- *"We have maintained a work experience programme for students however this year I am finding it very difficult to place students in businesses that are STEM related!"*
- *"We would like more local businesses to offer WEX placements from different sectors."*
- *"Securing placements is a huge barrier. First-hand experience of the work place is vital & we always work hard to ensure every student in the relevant year groups access it but any support to make this easier would be welcomed."*
- *"It would be helpful to work with employers relating to STEM subjects."*
- *"Any help would be much appreciated, as I value industry/ employer links so highly"*
- *"It would be great to have a centrally organised database with details of businesses, the things they can offer, and dates etc."*
- *"I am looking to develop stronger connections with the local business community, which will help my students to gain work experience and a better understanding of different careers available in their local area. Any help to achieve this goal would be much appreciated."*



Work experience and career guidance is a great way of introducing young students to the world of work and helps them explore different career options. Finding and arranging high quality work placements and real life interactions for both student and business, however, can be a time-consuming process. The challenge for schools is to efficiently find out which businesses are happy to offer work experience placements.

What do schools need?

The Government's careers strategy sets out that every school and academy providing secondary education should use the Gatsby Charitable Foundation's Benchmarks to develop and improve their careers provision.

Every student should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace.

From the age of 11, pupils should participate in at least one meaningful encounter with an employer every year. A 'meaningful encounter' is one in which the student has an opportunity to learn about what work is like or what it takes to be successful in the workplace.

Teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of future career paths.

By age 14, every pupil should have had the opportunity to learn how the different STEM subjects help people to gain entry to, and be more effective workers within, a wide range of careers.

All students should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. This includes both academic and vocational routes and learning in schools, colleges, universities and in the workplace.

What does this mean for employers?

We are connecting businesses with schools to enable them to promote their company's latest innovation, directly offer work experience placements, careers advice, outreach volunteers, industry specific resources and much more.

- *Make connections with the teachers, parents and young people in your local area.*
- *Raise your company profile.*
- *Give something back to the community.*
- *Increase your reputation.*
- *Present yourself as an employer of choice in the community.*
- *Recruit motivated, high quality future employees.*
- *Help tackle the UK STEM skills shortage.*
- *Build a diverse workforce.*
- *Give your employees new experiences and development opportunities.*
- *Involve your employees in life changing work.*
- *Inspire the next generation.*
- *Dendrite Schools Connect enables you to work towards CSR Accreditation.*



For further details:

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