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Career Connect Impact Report **2018/19**



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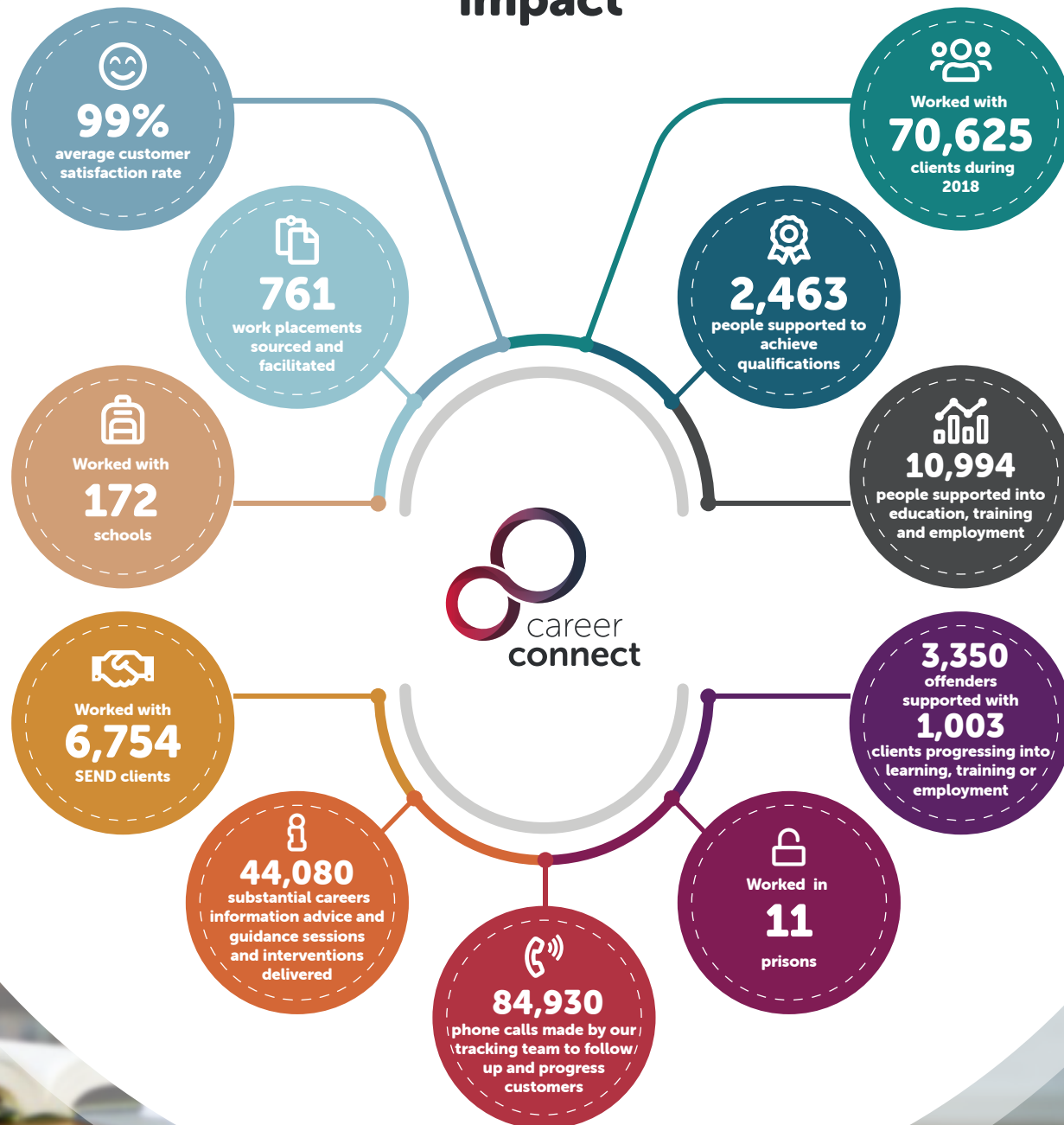
Get in touch



Career Connect is a charity who are passionate about providing high quality independent careers advice, bridging the gap to learning and employment and better life chances for young people and adults.



Careers Connect's impact



Highlights and achievements of 2018/19



Our Regional footprint and services

Young people we support

Primary school aged, secondary school aged, NEET (Not in Employment Education or Training), at risk of NEET, looked after young people and care leavers, SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabled), young offenders, teenage parents, those facing mental health and wellbeing issues.

Adults we support

Low skilled (without a Level 2 qualification), with SEND and health issues, 50+ who are unemployed or at risk of redundancy, single parents, long term unemployed (for 12 months+), offenders including female offenders and older offenders, refugees and asylum seekers, those at risk of or facing redundancy and anyone aged 19+.

Commissioners

The services we provide are funded by: Schools; 8 Local Authorities; European Social Fund; Careers & Enterprise Company; Big Lottery; The Growth Company; Education & Skills Funding Agency; Department of Work & Pensions; National Probation Services; HMPPS; Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP); Universities and Colleges.



Case studies



Joanna

Joanna, a 17-year-old Looked After Young Person, had not attended school since year 9 and had no qualifications. Career Connect supported her to enrol on a Functional Skills qualification and work towards a qualification in Health & Social Care.

Following this, Joanna and her Careers Adviser worked together to prepare her for finding a job which was achieved within one month of searching. Upon completion of the course, Joanna worked with her adviser to explore options, explaining she was keen to work in childcare. Within a month of job searching, Joanna was offered a job and is enjoying her role and has received excellent feedback from her manager.

Andrew

Andrew was a vulnerable young offender on a Youth Rehabilitation Order. He had moved schools several times and had no qualifications. He realised that he needed an opportunity to take him away from his local area and showed an interest in gaining qualifications to provide structure to his life. He was supported to develop resilience; specifically his confidence, self-control, commitment and how to deal with challenges. His journey started with developing a routine of setting an alarm to get up, checking bus routes to enable him to get to appointments on time, and making plans to see family. Andrew has now settled into a college course and feels he has more control of his life as he plans towards a career in joinery.



Danielle

Danielle was an unemployed adult struggling to find work, so she contacted the National Careers Service and was made an appointment with a Career Connect adviser for help. Danielle met with an adviser who completed a Skills Health Check and advised her to create a CV using the digital CV builder tool. Once Danielle had completed her new CV she began applying for jobs and soon secured employment in the service industry. Danielle says her confidence has improved as result of working with her adviser and she aspires to a career path leading to a management position.



Kevin

Kevin had been serving in the army when he was convicted of an offence. Once he reached an open prison he enrolled on to our Achieve (CFO3) programme and began to consider what he needed to do to be able to secure employment upon release. After working intensively with his Case Manager, he decided he wanted to become a tree surgeon. Kevin's Case Manager successfully applied for funding from the British Legion and the CFO3 Discretionary Access Fund to pay for the relevant training. Kevin was granted permission to undertake a work placement with a local tree surgeon, sourced through his Case Manager. Impressed with Kevin's work, the tree surgeon was willing to provide a reference for employment. Equipped with the relevant qualifications and work experience upon release and with the support of his Case Manager, Kevin soon secured employment as a tree surgeon.

Sami

Sami was a qualified and experienced Mechanical Engineer who had come to the UK with his family from Syria. Wanting to better his situation but struggling to find out what he needed to do to work in the UK, Sami met with a specialist Career Connect Adviser (as part of the National Careers Service contract) who had experience of supporting refugee and asylum-seeking clients. Sami's adviser helped him find out what qualifications and training he would need to complete to work in engineering and sourced an ILETS course to improve his English. With the support of his adviser Sami has sourced funding from his Housing Association to pay for the training. Sami is soon to complete the qualifications he needs to work in the UK.





Get in touch

Maintaining existing business relationships and building new ones by reaching out to like-minded organisations is important for our future. We will seek to collaborate, co-locate where this works well, and establish enduring networks that amplify our skills and resources as well as attract new business.

Kieran Gordon CEO

The past eight years have been the most challenging for most, if not all, not-for-profit organisations and the immediate to medium term future looks to be more of the same. Career Connect has learned to adapt by being agile and responsive to commissioner and beneficiary needs as well as by carefully managing costs and growing the business where opportunity arises. I am extremely proud of the team here and what they have achieved in the most difficult of circumstances. I believe that we will continue to be an important factor in bridging the gaps between people's potential and the opportunities the economy has for the emerging and existing wealth of talent that goes untapped. This will be realised through our commitment to improving people's life chances and engaging them in professional and supportive relationships.

The key to our success has been our agility and our resilience - the way we seek new opportunities, deal with setbacks and grow our business so it is kept relevant to the needs of the people we work on behalf of. We are redefining what careers and wider support look like in a vastly changing and dynamic world of education, skills and work. Wellbeing - feeling good and functioning well - is vital to the way in which the help we provide enables individuals to plan and manage their careers, taking one step at a time where necessary. It is critical also for the way Career Connect, as an employer, enables its people to enjoy their work and feel fulfilled.

There are several ways you can get in touch

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To contact our head office call:

0151 600 7700

Email enquiries: info@careerconnect.org.uk

Further information about the organisation and where you can access our services is available on our website:

www.careerconnect.org.uk

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