The Trafalgar School AT DOWNTON











Destinations Data Strategy
2026/27

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OVERVIEW

Gatsby Benchmark 3 states that ***'Schools should collect, maintain and use accurate data for each learner on their aspirations, intended and immediate education, and training or employment destinations, to inform personalised support.'***

It goes on to say ***'Schools should use sustained and longer term destination data as part of their evaluation process and use alumni to support their careers programme.'***

At The Trafalgar School at Downton, we believe that the accurate collection of destinations data from our current and past students will enable us to better support our students on their chosen post-16 pathway and allow continuous targeted improvement of our Careers Strategy and Programme. We are committed to maintaining accurate records of destinations data for our pupils whilst they are in Year 11 and one year after they have left The Trafalgar School at Downton.

The collection of destinations data schedule will be as follows:

School Year	Collection Month	Collection Method	Retention Period
Year 11 - Intended	January April	In-person (1:1 with Careers Coordinator)	3 years
Year 12 - Actual	September	Google Form via email (Parents and Students)	3 years
Year 12 - Sustained	April	Google Form via email (Parents and Students)	3 years

Intended Destinations are those destinations that students, whilst at school, ***intend*** to go on to.
Actual Destinations are those destinations that students, once they have left our school, have ***actually*** gone to.
Sustained Destinations are those actual destinations that students have ***remained*** in for 6 months+.

Support for decision-making, applications and preparation for Further Education and Training will be given to all students by the Careers Lead, Careers Coordinator, Independent Careers Advisor, Tutors, Heads of Year and all associated staff to ensure that all students secure a positive intended destination.

HOW WE WILL COLLECT DESTINATIONS DATA

Collecting Intended Destinations

Intended Destinations Data will be collected at 2 separate points during Year 11; January and April. This data will be collected by the Careers Coordinator during 'The Great Big Plan' and/or tutor time on a 1:1 basis with each student.

Prior to the data collection, students will be asked to read and sign a 'Data Consent Form' (see Appendix 1). By giving their consent, students are confirming that they are happy for us to contact them to collect their destinations data for their actual and sustained destination in Year 12 (see 'Collecting Actual and Sustained Destinations'). This data will also be shared with the Local Authority and post-16 education and training providers as necessary (in compliance with GDPR). We will also seek their consent to be contacted for future Alumni engagement and events.

Data collected will include:

- Student Name
- Tutor Group
- Date of birth
- Student's personal email address
- Student's personal mobile number
- Intended Destination (FE College/Apprenticeship/Sports Scholarship, etc.)
- Status of their application (Applied/Place Offered, etc.)
- Type of Course (A Level/Vocational/Apprenticeship, etc.)
- Level of Course (Level 1/2/3)
- Subjects to be studied (English/Sport/ICT/etc.)
- Industry of interest
- Job role of interest
- Alumni Contact Request

We will also hold Legal Sex and Pupil Premium Status data to allow us to filter the data appropriately and tailor any changes to the careers programme in accordance with trends found in these categories.

At each stage of Intended Destinations Data collection, 'at risk' students will be identified. 'At risk' criteria includes students without an intended destination (unsure/no application yet submitted) and/or students who are at risk of becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training). These students will be highlighted as 'at risk' to SLT and their tutors, and they will also be referred for a 1:1 Careers Guidance appointment with our Independent Careers Advisor.

Students who fall into the 'at risk' category and are school non-attenders will be contacted by the Careers Lead or Careers Coordinator to set up a bespoke support plan, which can include a home visit by our Independent Careers Advisor.

Collected data will be uploaded to our Careers IT programme, Compass+.

Collecting Actual and Sustained Destinations

Actual and Sustained Destinations Data will be collected at 2 separate points during Year 12, (the first year after the student has left The Trafalgar School at Downton) – see Table in 'Overview'.

Actual Destinations are those destinations that students, once they have left our school, have **actually** gone to.

Sustained Destinations are those actual destinations that students have **remained in for 6 months+.**

Actual Destinations Data will be collected during September and Sustained Destinations Data will be collected in April. By collecting Destination Data at these 2 points in the year, we can confirm a sustained education (and employment) period of 6 months.

Actual and Sustained Destinations Data will be collected by the Careers Coordinator in the following ways (any combination of the below may occur):

- A Google form which has been emailed to students via their personal email address provided on the Data Consent Form.
- Telephone those who do not respond to the above using the personal mobile number provided on the Data Consent Form.
- Through a data sharing agreement with the local Further Education providers.
- Through a data sharing agreement with the Local Authority.
- Through contact with their parents.

Data collected will include:

- Student name
- Date of birth
- Year left school
- Personal email address
- Personal mobile number
- Actual Destination (All that apply: FE College/HE Provider/Employer, etc.)
- Type of Course (A Level/Vocational/Apprenticeship, etc.)
- Level of Course (Level 1/2/3)
- Subjects to be studied (English/Sport/ICT/etc.)
- Industry of interest
- Job role of interest
- Alumni Contact Request

We will also hold Legal Sex and Pupil Premium Status data to allow us to filter the data appropriately and tailor any changes to the careers programme in accordance with trends found in these categories.

Collected data will be uploaded to our Careers IT programme, Compass+ and saved to each student's SIMS profile.

At the end of the destinations data collection cycle in Year 12, no further contact will be made unless students have opted-in to The Trafalgar School at Downton's Alumni.

(See Appendix 2 – 'Destinations Data Collection Timeline' for a summary of the destinations data collection process.)

DATA RECORDING

All intended, actual and sustained destination data that has been collected is recorded and stored in the following ways:

- Spreadsheet (standalone)
- Spreadsheet (shared/cloud based)
- IT System – Compass +
- MIS System - SIMS
- Word documents
- Paper copies (Data Consent Forms)

DATA USAGE

Destinations Data is used to:

- Identify students who are unsure of their destinations so that further support can be provided.
- Analyse the range of intended destinations and the number of students choosing each destination.
- Analyse the range of actual destinations and the number of students choosing each destination.
- Analyse the range of sustained destinations and the number of students choosing each destination.
- Compare the data to local, regional and national trends.
- Identify trends/anomalies in intended, actual and sustained destinations.
- Inform adjustments to our Careers Strategy and Programme, as appropriate, guided by the above analyses.

Destinations Data will be anonymised, summarised and posted on the 'Careers Education & Post-16' section of The Trafalgar School at Downton's website. Data will also be presented to SLT and Governors at relevant times, and will be used to evaluate and develop the school's Careers Strategy and Programme.

Trends in Destination Data will be examined closely by the Careers Lead and Careers Coordinator and will be used to inform the Careers provision. This includes close examination of:

- Proportions of students in different providers of post-16 education and training, e.g. sixth form, colleges, apprenticeships, etc.
- Proportion of students who progress to Level 3 study, including A Levels and Advanced Vocational courses.
- Proportion of students who progress to Apprenticeships.
- This data will be analysed in groups; whole cohort, pupil premium, girls and boys.

DATA SHARING

Local Authorities have to record student destinations and track and support all 16- and 17-year-olds in their area. This statutory duty extends to young people with special educational needs and disabilities up to the age of 25. As such, we have a statutory duty to provide this data to our Local Authority to support these duties.

Our intended destinations data for Year 11 is submitted to the Local Authority annually in June.

SUPPORT FOR FORMER STUDENTS

Former students will be able to access careers information, advice and guidance, with priority given to those who do not have a positive post-16 destination. This support will be available via the Careers Lead, Careers Coordinator and Independent Careers Advisor.

A student requesting help and support will never be turned away, no matter how long ago they left our school.

The Trafalgar School at Downton website also contains links to external agencies that can provide support in the 'Useful Links' section of the 'Careers Education & Post-16' web page.

APPENDIX 1 – DATA CONSENT FORM

DESTINATIONS DATA CONSENT FORM

In order to check how you are getting on after you leave Trafalgar, we need your agreement to share information that identifies you and what you have gone on to do. We already do this as a requirement of the Education and Skills Act 2008, until you are aged 16. We need to check that you are happy for us to continue for 1 year after your leavers date (Year 12).

Data collected by your school and the Local Authority, will be stored by your school so that they can evaluate the careers support that they provide and make improvements. See our 'Destination Data Strategy' for more information.

The data we collect will be: Student name; Date of birth; Tutor Group; Year left school; Personal email address; Personal mobile number; Intended/Actual Destination; Status of application; Type of course; Level of course; Subjects to be studied; Industry of interest; Job role of interest; Alumni contact.

Your Data will be kept in strictest confidence in accordance with GDPR regulations. It will only be published in an anonymized format so your personal details will remain private.

STUDENT NAME		
TUTOR GROUP		
DATE OF BIRTH		
PERSONAL EMAIL ADDRESS		
PERSONAL MOBILE NUMBER		
INTENDED DESTINATION		
STATUS OF APPLICATION		
TYPE OF COURSE		
LEVEL OF COURSE		
SUBJECT/S		
INDUSTRY OF INTEREST		
JOB ROLE OF INTEREST		
CONTACT FOR ALUMNI?	YES	NO

I consent to the data above being shared between the school and the Local Authority in order to review my progress and improve careers guidance and support, and to being contacted by the school for 1 year after my leavers date (Year 12) for the reasons set out above.

YES / NO

SIGNATURE	
DATE	

APPENDIX 2 - DESTINATIONS DATA COLLECTION TIMELINE

STATUS	YEAR	TERM	ACTION
The Trafalgar School at Downton	Year 11	Term 1 - 4	1:1 Careers Advice with Independent Careers Advisor
		Term 3	Intended Destinations Data 1 + Data Consent Form – Targeted support
		Term 5	Intended Destinations Data 2 – Targeted support
The Trafalgar School at Downton **Leaver**	Year 12	September	Actual destinations data collection
		April	Sustained destinations data collection