

# Business Engagement

Why are we asking business to engage with schools and colleges?

- ▶ Research shows young people who have **four or more encounters** with the world of work during their time at school or college are **86% less likely to become NEET** (not in education, employment or training) and have higher earning potential.
- ▶ By offering your support through SEMLEP we will ensure your **time and resources are directed to where they're needed most**. Together we can ensure every young person gets an inspirational and aspiration raising careers education while in education.
- ▶ We are particularly keen to engage with the local Growth Sectors which are;
  - High Performance Technology (automotive vehicle and component manufacturing, automotive research, motorsport and research)
  - Advanced Manufacturing (food and drink production, packaging, automation, mechatronics, robotics, additive manufacturing (3D printing))
  - Logistics & Supply Chain (storage and warehousing, road freight transport, rail freight terminals, Luton Airport)
  - Cultural & Creative (digital creative industries, leisure and tourism, performing arts, sport)
  - Health and Social Care (medical professionals, nursing, care & home care, nursery care)
  - Education (teaching, education support, early years support)
  - Construction (trade professions, civil engineering, architects)
  - Retail/Wholesale (including vehicle maintenance & repair, pharmacy)
  - Business & Financial (sales & marketing, accountancy, human resources)
  - Accommodation & Food (restaurants, hotels, hospitality)

**GIVE AN  
HOUR**  
**...MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

## How can you get involved?

Type of activity	Description	Key details including length of commitment, where activity takes place, how long activity takes
<b>Talks</b>	One-hour sessions/talks on career opportunities in your sector.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivered in a school or college, these sessions last the length of a class and you can either develop the session yourself or use one of our template lesson plans which are facilitated by the teacher</li> </ul>
<b>Workplace/Site Visits</b>	<p>Host a group of pupils at your workplace.</p> <p>Whilst on the workplace visit students could work on a project in your office, meet your staff and find out about their job roles, have a tour of your office or factory. The aim is to show students what you do, how you do it and how they could do it too.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can be a one off ½ day activity or repeated throughout the year depending on your capacity</li> <li>Activity takes place at your workplace with as many students you're able to host</li> <li>You'll be supported by your local Enterprise Coordinator to plan an activity that works for you and the needs of the local students</li> </ul>
<b>Employability "Taster" sessions</b>	Interactive sessions which give young people an idea of the types of jobs, and skills required, in different work environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typically, a 1-2-hour activity delivered to a class of young people, which brings to life an element of your work.</li> <li>Session can take place either in a school or college or at your work place</li> <li>Could include CV writing and interviews</li> </ul>
<b>Mentoring</b>	Work with individual pupils over an extended period to support them through their education journey and career aspirations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you'd like to support a young person on a regular, long term basis through mentoring then we'll introduce you to a local mentoring organisation who will match your requirements with the needs of local young people</li> </ul>
<b>Experience of the workplace</b>	Opportunities for individual or small groups of students to come into your business and spend a period of time with you, getting to know what you do, seeing first-hand how your business operates and perhaps taking on tasks that support your business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Could either be a one-off insight day, a week-long placement or one day a week over a few weeks</li> <li>Work shadowing for 13-15-year olds, work experience is for 16-19-year-old students</li> <li>To find out more about experience in the workplace you can visit BITC's Work Inspiration toolkit - <a href="https://www.bitc.org.uk/resources-training/toolkits/work-inspiration-toolkit">https://www.bitc.org.uk/resources-training/toolkits/work-inspiration-toolkit</a></li> </ul>

<b>Enterprise Adviser</b>	<p>Use your knowledge of the local business landscape to support the headteacher and/or careers team at a specific schools and with the careers plan.</p> <p>You'll create opportunities from your business contacts in the area to support their students</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volunteers are matched with a school or college in their area (either close to work or home, whichever is most suitable)</li> <li>• Volunteers are provided with training and supported locally by a full-time Enterprise Coordinator</li> </ul>
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## Support Contacts

### Milton Keynes

Deb Foster      T: 07712 673318      E: [deborah.foster@semlep.com](mailto:deborah.foster@semlep.com)

### Northamptonshire

Vikki Morton      T: 07568 428162      E: [vikki.morton@semlep.com](mailto:vikki.morton@semlep.com)

### Luton

Sajda Rauf      T: 01582 548258      E: [Sajda.Rauf@luton.gov.uk](mailto:Sajda.Rauf@luton.gov.uk)

### Bedford and Central Bedfordshire

Peter Rayner      T: 07568 428159      E: [peter.rayner@semlep.com](mailto:peter.rayner@semlep.com)

### Independent Schools

Paul Thompson      T: 07989 401108      E: [paul.thompson@semlep.com](mailto:paul.thompson@semlep.com)