

Who we are and what we do - School Information

We have over 30 years' experience and we know what works.

We deliver programmes to engage students within middle and secondary schools across Worcestershire to strengthen links between education and business. Activities are mapped to meet The Gatsby benchmarks, a set of 8 careers and skills focussed benchmarks that all educational establishments have to achieve under the Department of Education Careers Strategy

1. A stable careers programme	2. Learning from career & labour market info	3. Addressing the needs of each student	4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
Every school and college should have an embedded programme of career education and guidance that is known and understood by pupils, parents, teachers and employers.	Every pupil, and their parents, should have access to good-quality information about future study options and labour market opportunities. They will need the support of an informed adviser to make best use of available information	Pupils have different career guidance needs at different stages. Opportunities for advice and support need to be tailored to the needs of each pupil. A school's careers programme should embed equality and diversity considerations throughout.	All teachers should link curriculum learning with careers. For example, STEM subject teachers should highlight the relevance of STEM subjects for a wide range of future career paths.
5. Encounters with employers and employees	6. Experiences of workplaces	7. Encounters with Fe & HE	8. Personal guidance
Every pupil should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.	Every pupil 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 expand their networks.	All pupils 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, uni's and in the workplace.	Every pupil should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a career adviser, who could be internal or external provided they are trained to an appropriate level. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made.

EBP deliver a wide range of activities to support schools with meeting the Gatsby benchmarks and strengthening their business links

Work Experience

Work experience is one of the most important links between employers and schools/colleges. It provides an opportunity for young people to experience first-hand (and often for the first time) what happens in a working environment.

Our dedicated team work closely with schools and employers to ensure a comprehensive database of work experience opportunities are available for selection on the portal. We manage all aspects of the work experience placement process to make it very simple for businesses, of any size, in any sector to provide a placement for a

young person. From pre-placement health and safety visits to preparing placement descriptions for students, we'll guide you every step of the way to set the placement up for success.

Benefits to young people include:

- Increased motivation, confidence, communication and social skills
- Career inspiration
- Awareness of the working environment
- Organisational skills
- Possibility of a part-time job or apprenticeship
- Development of positive attitudes to work

EBP source placements for students in year 10 upwards with a wide range of interests who are studying a variety of courses/subjects. Placements range in length from a week block placement to extended placements over a longer period. We therefore look for suitable placements across all sectors throughout the year.

Employer volunteers

Our employer volunteers are **fundamental to our success**, we would not be able to achieve what we do without the invaluable expertise and experience our volunteers provide.

Business professionals volunteer with us across a wide variety of programmes and initiatives we organise with our schools. Volunteers can support anything from interview and CV preparation sessions, financial awareness workshops, industry sector talks and workshops, supporting mock interviews, delivering employability workshops and attending careers fairs.

Mock Interviews

EBP can organise for Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations to support mock interview sessions, share their expertise and enable students to take part in practice interviews. These interviews give students the chance to put their new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Business volunteers give students constructive feedback and discuss ways to improve further.

Company Industry visits

EBP organise for groups of up to 20 students to visit employer premises to find out about industry sectors, job roles, qualification requirements for career progressions and what employer expectations are, to gain a useful insight into the 'real' world of work

Industry talks and Industry specific workshops

Industry talks and/or industry specific workshops give students the opportunity to spend time gaining an insight into a specific business sector and the possible career paths within it, for example; Engineering/Construction, Healthcare/Science, Technology/IT, Business Services, Creative Industries/the Arts.

Schools/colleges are able to select the sector they wish to focus on and we organise for an employer who can talk to them about routes into the sector and their experiences.

Sector interactive workshops tend to be more hands-on activities which give the students the opportunity to talk to and complete hands on, inspiring, practical challenges with the business.

Females into STEM

Traditionally many girls do not consider entering high technology business sectors, even though they have the skills and qualities that are needed. The Females into STEM workshop aims to address this by giving females the opportunity to experience the types of roles that are available in the STEM sector, raise **self-confidence** and **awareness of career opportunities** as well as significantly **raising students' aspirations**.

Career Fairs

EBP can engage local employers to support school Careers Fairs. This provides the perfect opportunity for businesses to raise their profile, inform young people about the opportunities within the organisation and showcase the different routes available. These events enable young people to **gain invaluable real-life interactions** with businesses. They **inspire and motivate** as well as show the immense diversity of jobs and career paths available to them.

Apprenticeship Talks and workshops

EBP in partnership with the Worcestershire Apprenticeship Hub deliver impartial information advice and guidance to students to enable them to have a clear understanding of what is involved in an Apprenticeship programme and the opportunities available locally.

- Increased awareness and understanding of the entry requirements for the Apprenticeship programme
- To understand everything there is to know about Apprenticeships and the different levels
- Progression opportunities and Higher & Degree level Apprenticeships
- Helping to prepare young people for the world of work and to enhance their employability skills by understanding the importance to employers of attitudes, reliability, qualifications and skills.
- To understand how to apply for vacancies and set up alerts

EBP also encourage current and ex apprentices to attend talks to students in school, to share their experience and to tell their story.

Employability Workshop

A range of one-to-one or group workshops in schools and colleges to help ensure that students have the knowledge and resources they need to find employment, including CV writing, interview techniques and skills required for effective job searching.

The workshop will include the local labour market, what types of jobs are available, different career pathways, examples of case studies and local businesses and jobs of the future.

For further information please contact enquiries@webp.org.uk