

Enterprise Adviser Profile

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WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME AN ENTERPRISE ADVISER?

Having worked in the Financial Services sector for many years and also volunteered with schools on educational projects I wanted to use my spare time to ensure students were more ready for the workplace than I was. I saw an article about Enterprise Advisors written by the CIPD and thought I would explore this further. The rest, as they say, is history.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY ABOUT BEING AN ENTERPRISE ADVISER?

I enjoy working with the school to identify interactions that benefit students in their future career choice. With this information I use my knowledge, experience, and more importantly my network, to arrange the best way to provide practical information to the students.

The enjoyment and satisfaction comes from seeing students engaged and having more information about different careers, some of which they may never have heard of.

WHAT HAVE YOU ACHIEVED IN YOUR SCHOOL?

Visits arranged so far have been from Rolls Royce and Fujitsu and gave an insight into different careers available and what skills and knowledge can be developed. I have also arranged for a visit to a local specialist hospital to show how a career in engineering can be used to develop prosthetics to help people lead a normal life. Hopefully all these encounters have sparked an interest in the many and diverse careers available.

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT PLANNED WITH YOUR SCHOOL?

I am currently planning a careers / Interview day for students. I will get details of some real jobs and students will go through a mock interview and get feedback from real employers.

TOP TIPS FOR OTHER ENTERPRISE ADVISERS?

Use your knowledge of the business community to illustrate different career paths. Have an open mind about different sectors. For example Engineering in the NHS. Being a nurse for an Insurance company. Being a chef in a Pharmaceutical organisation.

Further education is not just about going to university. Apprenticeships offer an equal route into many organisations.

ABOUT THE ENTERPRISE ADVISER NETWORK:

The Enterprise Adviser Network is a national Career & Enterprise Company programme that pairs volunteers from local businesses, known as Enterprise Advisers, with schools, to help them expand their careers provision and engage more widely with local employers. The programme is delivered locally by Hertfordshire LEP and YC Hertfordshire, with 102 local schools and 84 Enterprise Advisers currently signed up.

If you would like to become an Enterprise Adviser for a school in Hertfordshire please contact:
Gareth.dace@hertfordshirelep.co.uk



BECOMING AN ENTERPRISE ADVISER - FAQs

WHO CAN BECOME AN ENTERPRISE ADVISER?

EAs can be employees of an organisation or individuals who are self-employed or retired. You must have a 'can-do' attitude; ultimately we are looking for people who have a passion for developing young people's aspirations and their understanding of the world of work and the opportunities available to them.

WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

We will work around your availability and capacity. We would expect to schedule at least one meeting per term between you and your school (i.e. 3 times per year) and there are likely to be action points arising which may result in you attending other events at the school. We hope to match EAs with schools for a minimum period of 12 months.

WHAT WILL I ACTUALLY DO?

It is expected that an EAs will work with their school to help develop a strategy to enhance it's Careers Programme. Your specific input will depend on your own skills, experience and resources but you will be guided throughout by your Enterprise Co-ordinator (EC) who will attend all meetings with you.

WHAT WILL OUR FOCUS BE ON?

All schools are working towards a framework within their Careers Education known as **The Gatsby Benchmarks**. These are the 8 benchmarks schools should be looking to meet by August 2020 (as directed by the Department for Education), which have been adopted by the Careers and Enterprise Company.

All schools have completed an online self-assessment (Compass) which maps their progress against each of the 8 benchmarks and this provides a very clear focus for the areas they require support with. Your EC will have a copy of your school's Compass Report and can discuss this with you in advance of your initial school meeting.

WILL MY COMPANY BE EXPECTED TO OFFER WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS?

No, although any work experience placements, workplace visits or greater employer engagement your company can offer (where appropriate) would be welcome.

WHO WILL I BE MEETING WITH AT THE SCHOOL?

As part of Government's Careers Strategy (December 2017) and subsequent statutory guidelines for Careers Education, all schools must have a designated Careers Leader. This is the individual we will try to schedule meetings with. Ideally a member of the school's senior leadership team will also be present, or at least made aware of progress. Your EC will discuss the particular situation at your school prior to your first meeting.

DO I NEED TO COMPLETE A DBS CHECK?

Yes—to enhanced level. This will be processed and paid for by Hertfordshire County Council.

