

Information for Partners



Career Champions

The Career Champions Programme gives businesses the opportunity to engage with young people and increase their employability skills.

Businesses who take the pledge to become Career Champions will also get publicity to promote their work with young people to the local business community and beyond!

“ Being a Career Champion has certainly helped with our business. As a small company it's hard to invest in the big schemes that our competitors do. Career Champions help us to help young people, and have the evidence of social responsibility we need when we tender for work.
Business Owner

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Why Career Champions?

Businesses in Mansfield and Ashfield want to support young people, but many businesses don't know where to start.

The right person to contact in a school can be hard to find, and businesses don't always have the resources to offer work experience. Additional concerns raised by businesses include worries about insurance, who is responsible for what and how to go about giving students something that is really useful.

In addition, local research shows that students want careers related advice and guidance from employers, and national surveys show that more than 50% of young people would like to have a career in business.

Schools and students want to work with local businesses, but it's often difficult for them to know how to engage with the needs of businesses, and something is needed to bridge the gap.

The Solution

The Mansfield Area Partnership has been working with local businesses for a number of years to give young people the opportunity to improve their skills and raise aspirations. Working with A-Star Media Ltd and Mansfield 2020 the MLP has created 'Career Champions'.

By becoming a Career Champion a business will be taking a pledge to commit to undertaking at least one activity each academic year which will support the employability skills of students within the Mansfield Area Partnership. Activities include:

- Providing a work experience placement
- Leading a student Master Class
- Mentoring students
- Sponsoring an event
- Giving a motivational speech
- Sponsoring a student to attend a Mansfield 2020 Breakfast Meeting
- Providing career based top tips for the Mansfield Learning Partnership website

Businesses who sign up to the Career Champions Pledge will be part of the Career Champions Hall of fame for that academic year, benefitting from publicity along with an accreditation to support corporate social responsibility policies.

“It's good that businesses help young people, because it's hard to meet with business people if they aren't in your family, or friends with your mum and dad! I think Career Champions is really great, I had no idea how many businesses were around until I went to a Mansfield 2020 Breakfast.

Student

Businesses who take the pledge will have the opportunity to use the Career Champion logo for that year on their corporate materials, along with a Career Champions certificate.

“This is a great scheme for our students, they come back from Master Classes really enthusiastic and full of ideas. The events that businesses take part in with students offer them brilliant opportunities and help with skills like confidence and communication that will help them through life.

Teacher

What's in it for me?

There are numerous benefits to businesses, schools and young people thanks to Career Champions, and the key benefits are outlined below:

Businesses

- Raising profile of your business
- Evidence of Corporate Social Responsibility
- Support from Mansfield Learning Partnership
- Opportunity to spot local talent

Schools

- Engaging with business community
- Opportunity for students to develop skills

Young People

- Engaging with potential employers
- Developing confidence and employability skills
- Chance to be motivated and inspired.

To get more information on Career Champions contact Berni Dickinson, Director of Marketing and Enterprise at the Evolve Trust bdickinson@evolvetrust.org