

Taskforce NEWS

The newsletter of the Education and Employers Taskforce

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Education
AND
Employers
TASKFORCE

inspiring
the
future

Inspiring the Future Launch Special



New national initiative revolutionises access for state school pupils to gain insights into jobs and careers

Inspiring the Future was launched on the 2 July in London with other regional events across the country.

Inspiring the Future is a new free initiative which will see employees from all sectors and professions volunteering to go into state secondary schools and colleges to talk about their jobs, careers, and the education routes they took. It aims to give pupils at state schools the same opportunities as those at independent schools to meet employers and get career insights into the range of jobs and careers and find out about the different routes into them.

To mark the launch scores of leading employers took part in a careers networking event at Bishop Challoner School in Tower Hamlets.

Speakers included:

Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg; Sir Roger Carr, President of the CBI and Chairman of Centrica; Brian Lightman, General Secretary of the Association of School and College Leaders and actor Joanna Lumley. The school pupils had the chance to talk to over 100 different leading employers face-to-face.

The ask of volunteers is very simple – would they agree to visit a school near to where they live or work once a year and spend an hour talking with young people about their job.

Everyone from CEOs to apprentices and new recruits can volunteer for *Inspiring the Future*. Registration is free for both volunteers and state Schools/colleges: www.inspiringthefuture.org

Extensive Media Coverage

The launch received extensive media coverage including...

BBC News online: www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-18676635

ITV News: www.itv.com/news/story/2012-07-02/clegg-backs-careers-drive/

BBC 1's Newsround: www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/18690496

The Telegraph: www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/jobs/9365973/Workers-urged-to-volunteer-careers-advice-in-schools.html

To see further media coverage:

<http://bit.ly/OMQN5P>

To find out more and see who took part visit our *Inspiring the Future* launch event page:

www.educationandemployers.org/news-and-events/inspiring-the-future-launch/

View photographs of the Careers Marketplace where there was a very wide array of employers taking part: www.flickr.com/photos/edu_employers/sets/72157630526657924/show/

Inspiring the Future is the sister programme of *Speakers for Schools*, which in January 2012 arranged a talk by Bill Gates in a state school in Deptford, south London. Both are administered by the small charity the Education and Employers Taskforce.



What People Said...

Nick Clegg, Deputy Prime Minister said: "Too many young people get the message that the best jobs are not for them. *Inspiring the Future* will give state school students the chance to see, hear and make a connection with someone in a career or job they might not have thought about. We're calling on doctors, nurses, lawyers, builders, civil servants, farmers, mechanics, engineers and other working people to give up just an hour of their time to talk to students in their local state school about how they got where they are today. The power of making connections that inspire young people is immeasurable and can be life-changing – the difference between going on to fulfil your potential, and languishing on the scrapheap."



Sir Roger Carr, President, CBI says: "*Inspiring the Future* has the strong support of the CBI because it is a primary means of giving young people real insight into the growing range of jobs which are available and how they can best prepare themselves for them. *Inspiring the Future* is free, easy and, for the first time, allows national volunteering schemes with education. The business case is strong, and I would urge all employers to sign up and encourage their staff to volunteer."



Prime Minister, David Cameron, said: "We need to get more of our business leaders and entrepreneurs into our schools to help inspire young people. I'm hugely enthusiastic about this programme. We need employers from a broad variety of sectors - from construction to catering, from retail to real estate - to get involved and help young people to realise their potential and give them the drive to succeed. Youth unemployment has held our country back for far too long, and this is a vitally important area we cannot afford to ignore. We need to help young people get the jobs on which their future, and ours, depends - not only to help get the country's economy back on track, but to change the lives of these youngsters who have so much potential. By placing professionals from all sectors in state schools and colleges, *Inspiring the Future* is doing just that. "

Who took part

Over 100 employers took part in the *Inspiring the Future* launch event Careers Marketplace. To see full list of organisations/employers please follow the link www.educationandemployers.org/media/16534/enemployer_list_for_itf_website.pdf

98% teachers say pupils should meet employers

A new survey published by the TES shows that 98% of classroom teachers in state schools think it important (80% saying very important) for young people to meet employers to talk about jobs and careers, but many do not currently have the opportunity to do this. *Inspiring the Future* will help meet this need by connecting schools with volunteers from all walks of life, for free. The ambition is to recruit 100,000 volunteers, which equates to 30-40 people (covering a range of jobs/backgrounds) for each of our around 3,000 state secondary schools.

Inspiring the Future uses an online platform, the first of its type, (developed specially by Deloitte with financial support from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation) to connect volunteers to schools. It is a free service endorsed by Government (with cross-party support), the UK's main teacher and employer organisations and many leading employers.

TES/Education and Employers Taskforce Teacher Survey (spring 2012), to download:

[www.educationandemployers.org/media/16378/tes_teachers_survey_descriptive_stats_summary .pdf](http://www.educationandemployers.org/media/16378/tes_teachers_survey_descriptive_stats_summary.pdf)

Inspiring the Future Special



Practical Guide for schools and colleges

We have produced a 'Practical Guide to Inspiring the Future' for state schools and colleges to make the best use of employee volunteers. It explains how the online matching process works, how schools contact volunteers and creative ideas for helping young people with careers choices.

Download the Guide: http://www.educationandemployers.org/media/16409/itf_guide.pdf

Employer Engagement at English Independent Schools - new research out

To coincide with the launch of *Inspiring the Future*, a new report looks for the first time at independent schools and how they routinely bring employers to support the career aspirations of pupils. Independent school students are far more likely to get the opportunity to talk to employers than those at state schools.

Education and Employers Taskforce research shows:

- 100% of the highest performing independent schools have programmes that bring employers and eminent speakers to talk to their pupils.
- Young adults (aged 19-24) who previously attended independent schools are 30% more likely to have had careers talks from employers whilst at school than peers who attended non-selective state schools.

Read the full 'Employer Engagement at English Independent Schools' report:

www.educationandemployers.org/media/16387/employer_engagement_in_english_independent_schools_july_2012.pdf

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