

Taskforce NEWS

The newsletter of the Education and Employers Taskforce

May 2012 - Issue 8

Education
AND
Employers
TASKFORCE

NEWS



STOP PRESS - National Launch 2 July

Inspiring the Future launches 2 July with series of regional events

We have been delighted by the high number of *Inspiring the Future* volunteers wanting to support state schools and now have volunteers in every local authority in England, with all sectors represented. We can therefore announce the switch on of volunteer and school/college matching in all the **London boroughs, Manchester/Salford, Birmingham and Surrey**. This represents Phase One of the rollout across the entire country, prior to full switching on 2 July. From today state secondary schools and colleges can find volunteers in these areas.

Our employee volunteers have offered to do 'Career Insight' talks responding to invitations from teaching staff to talk to young people about the jobs they do and the education routes they took. In addition, we are asking volunteers to flag if they have particular experience of apprenticeships, running their own enterprise (whether a business or social enterprise) or using modern foreign languages at work. This is to meet demand from schools for employee volunteers who can talk knowledgeably about these areas.

Volunteer Today!

State secondary schools, FE colleges and employee volunteers from all sectors can register for free at: www.inspiringthefuture.org

Including
updates on...

inspiring
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- *Inspiring the Future* launch on 2 July
- Manchester, Salford Birmingham and London boroughs to be switched on - in Phase One



- Update on latest talks
- Bill Gates talk at Deptford Green School
- *Speakers for Schools* launches in Scotland and Wales

Education
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RESEARCH

- New reports published
- Work Experience Impact and Delivery
- It's who you meet that stops you being NEET

NEWS

Work Experience: impact and delivery' new research published

New research identifies a clear link between work-experience at school and job prospects in later life. The quality of teenagers' work experience is strongly linked to future careers, however, it must rely on more than just their parents' connections, a report by the Education and Employers Taskforce says.

[Read the full report](#)

The research report received extensive **media coverage**, including a **BBC News article**: [Work experience 'needs more than parent networking'](#) and in the **Financial Times**: [Why no British Staff at Pret A Manger](#)



It's who you meet, that stops you being NEET

The Education and Employers Taskforce's groundbreaking '*It's who you meet that stops you being NEET*' research report has already had 2,300 downloads. The new research, published in 2012, showed a significant link between young people's experience of the world of work while at school and the chances of them successfully avoiding becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) as young adults. Those who recalled four or more employer contacts while in education are five times less likely to be NEET than those who had no involvement.

[Read the report and watch the video](#)



Apprentices aspire to inspire

The Taskforce is working with employer bodies such as NHS Employers and the National Apprenticeship Service to encourage past and present apprentices to volunteer with *Inspiring the Future*. Evidence suggests that teachers, young people and parents would like to know more about apprenticeships as an option and *Inspiring the Future* offers a free and easy way for industries and sectors to secure their talent pipeline.



[New Ofsted report Apprenticeships for young people published](#)

NEWS

Speakers for Schools update

The *Speakers for Schools* team has been busy matching schools with speakers since its launch in October and there are now approximately 400 talks in diaries. There have been 90 talks, with another 170 organised for the coming months and a further 180 in the planning stage. Speakers this year so far have included household names such as; Lord Adebawale (Turning Point), George Alagiah (BBC News), Dame Helen Alexander (CBI), Bill Gates (Microsoft), Mishal Husain (BBC News), David Morrissey (actor), Adele Parks (author), Dan Snow (historian and presenter) and from the world of government and politics: Dr Vince Cable, David Miliband and Baroness Warsi.



Eminent speakers pledged to give a free talk in a state school now total around 800, with applications from state secondary schools and colleges across England are up to 1,290. With some speakers have volunteered to do several talks per year, *Speakers for Schools* has been investing in new technology to increase the pace of matching.

Feedback from schools and colleges has been very positive. For example, earlier this week, Mr Chris Seward, Headteacher of Davenant Foundation School in Loughton, commented on their talk from Lord (Victor) Adebawale that focused on the parliamentary system and importance of social initiatives. He says: "The whole talk was incredibly interesting - Sixth Form students in particular responded well. Victor Adebawale had a fantastic rapport with the students and engaged two groups over two hours effortlessly! The word most frequently heard from students was 'inspiring'."

Speakers giving talks in just the last month have come from organisations as diverse as; the BBC, Citi Group, Carphone Warehouse, Financial Times, Ministry of Justice, HSBC, Stagereel Films, Logica, The Philosopher's Magazine, University of Cambridge and Rothschild.

On 18 April *Metro* newspaper carried a double page spread on *Speakers for Schools* and *Inspiring the Future*, [read the full piece](#)



NEWS

Scottish and Welsh launches

Speakers for Schools will launch in Scotland the week of 24–28 September with a series of talks across the country and in Wales on 26 November to tie in with the Association of Schools and College Leaders (ASCL) Welsh conference. More information coming soon.



ASCL headteachers conference

Robert Peston, founder of *Speakers for Schools*, talks about its objectives and the wide range of speakers at the Association of School and College Leaders (ASCL) annual conference of 1,000 head teachers in Birmingham in March.

[Watch the video](#)

BIS's Social Mobility Toolkit

Inspiring the Future was given as a positive practical example of how to create social mobility in the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) Social Mobility Toolkit for the professions.

[Read the full document](#)

Toolkit to promote nursing to youngsters launched

International Nurses Day is on the 12 May so to celebrate and help promote this global event NHS Employers has produced a free Toolkit for promoting the nursing profession. The aim is to empower nurses to actively promote the jobs they do. The Taskforce's *Inspiring the Future* is recommended as a free and effective means to reach young people aged 11-19.



[See the toolkit](#)

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www.inspiringthefuture.org



www.speakers4schools.org

Research forthcoming events

Free research seminars - reserve your place

Julian Stanley, Centre for Education & Industry, University of Warwick
'The Experiences of Vocational Learners in Seven EU Countries'
Where: Education and Employers Taskforce offices in Holborn, London
When: 12:30pm – 1:30pm on 21 June.

Professor Alison Wolf, King's College London
'School to Work Transitions in a Liberal Economy'
Where: Education and Employers Taskforce offices in Holborn, London
When: 12:30pm – 1:30pm on 19 September.

If you would like to reserve a place at one of the above seminars then please email James Dawkins
James.Dawkins@educationandemployers.org

Or if you would like more information then please visit our [Research Homepage](#)



Take part in our survey

Educators survey

Are you a teacher with views about how employers can best support pupil learning and progression? If so, why not take a few minutes to share your views and have a chance to win a Kindle.

[Take part here](#)

Employers and employees survey

Share your thoughts about how schools and employers can best work together to help young people prepare well for the working world. Take a few minutes to share your views and have a chance to win a Kindle.

[Take part here](#)