

## Want to get involved?

Would you be willing to work in partnership with staff and pupils from Lenzie Academy?

Schools in East Dunbartonshire are working hard to prepare our young people for the world or work. Currently 14% of \$5/6 pupils are involved in our Senior Phase Partnership, attending college and work placements on a regular basis to develop their skills for learning, life and work. Working in partnership with your business would enhance the opportunities available to the pupils and staff in East Dunbartonshire as well ensuring that young people are industry aware and ready to meet the needs of our local businesses on leaving school.

'Your involvement with a school may be extensive or small. What matters is that it brings mutual benefit to your business and the young people who are the workforce of tomorrow.'

Education Scotland, Developing the Young Workforce



# School/Employer Partnerships

Developing the Young Workforce Report, encourages education and employers to work closely together to equip all young people with the skills and knowledge they will need to flourish in the workplace. Schools and employers must create meaningful and productive partnerships that build on good practice and existing links. They should bring mutual benefit and evolve to respond to local circumstances. Lenzie Academy would like support its young people and local businesses to deliver this ambition by establishing further links with employers in our local area.

### Why should employers get involved?

- Employers can help young people develop the attitudes, skills and knowledge needed for their industry or business
- Employers can promote a positive awareness of their business in the community
- Employers can provide development opportunities for the staff within their organisations

### Potential benefits for young people

- Employers can bring real life context into the classroom
- Employers can help young people develop skills for job applications, CV writing and interviews
- Employers can identify the skills young people need for employment and the world of work



### Opportunities for Schools

- Employers can provide schools with a better understanding of the labour market which will encourage teachers to ensure learning is relevant
- Employers can provide up-to-date careers information by sharing their professional knowledge and experience
- Employers can establish links with schools to provide a wide range of opportunities for young people
- Employers can help reduce the barriers for young people with additional support needs

A report entitled 'School Ties:Transforming Small Business Engagement with Schools' was recently produced for Federation of Small Business Scotland. This research identified that one in four small businesses in Scotland have engaged with schools in the last two years and that many small businesses have limited knowledge of the opportunities for engagement or how much time would be required.

#### The report identifies that:

'Small businesses have a vital role to play - Small businesses (employing fewer than 50 people) employ almost one million people in Scotland and provide a significant proportion of jobs for school-leavers. This means it is vital for schools to engage with small businesses to provide pupils with a rounded view of the experiences and opportunities available in the labour market.'





#### How can employers get involved?

- Attending an S2 'You Can Do Anything' and S4-6 Careers Events
- Attending a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) event
- Supporting senior pupils with job applications and interview techniques
- Talking to a group of pupils in class or assembly about your industry
- Providing work placements, work shadowing or internships for senior pupils
- Pupil workplace visits
- Sharing personal experience of business and career opportunities with teaching staff and pupils
- Inform young people of the skills needed for employment in your industry
- Influence course content and curriculum development
- Support schools with improvement planning
- Supporting the Foundation Apprenticeship programme by providing a regular work placement.

At Lenzie Academy, we understand that in a small business there are staffing and time constraints and it is not always possible to make a regular commitment. The amount of time needed to work in partnership with the staff and pupils in Lenzie Academy could vary from 45 minutes once a year talking to a group of pupils in their subject class, to one afternoon every week from September till May providing a regular work placement to an S6 pupil. We are happy to discuss any opportunity for your business to work in partnership with Lenzie Academy.

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