

Key Growth Sectors - Taster Experience

What is the Project?

A modern work experience programme for students in years 8 and 9, focussed on key growth sectors pertinent to the South Midlands region. This work experience will be school-based and it will be specifically designed to equip young people with essential career knowledge whilst providing an opportunity to develop sector-relevant employability skills.

This initiative will raise awareness of local labour market opportunities, strengthen school / employer relationships and equip students with the knowledge and skills to navigate future careers. The Inspirational Learning Group (TILG) will provide 20 schools in the South Midlands region with digital access to Lightbulb, our online learning platform, providing schools full access to curriculum resources, National Careers Challenges, employer interviews and workplace tours.

In addition to these resources, all schools will be provided with bespoke lesson plans, videos and all other resources required to build their own interactive South Midlands Key Growth Sectors Taster Experience. Schools will be able to select up to 5 workshops of their choice from from key growth sectors such as Advanced Manufacturing, Cyber Security, Creative Industries, Logistics and Agro-food which have been developed in conjunction with leading employers. These workshops will be delivered in school as part of a hands-on, carousel taster experience, providing students with an opportunity to apply their skills to sector specific challenges and activities.

How can Employers/Volunteers get involved?

- Support the delivery of workshops.
- Inform students of your own professional journey and the skills you use in your own role,
- Provide students with 1:1 feedback as they engage in various sector-specific activities and employer-led challenges.
- Opportunity to promote the various progression routes into each sector.

What support will The Inspirational Learning Group offer?

- TILG will liaise with South Midlands Careers Hub and all the chosen schools to connect them with industry and ambassadors, employers and volunteers who are willing to support.
- Provide training - Equip ambassadors with the skills and confidence to help teachers deliver in-person school activities through our online and face to face training and networking events.

WHAT DO STUDENTS GAIN FROM PARTICIPATING?

- **Understanding Pathways** - Awareness of different industries and careers through employer-based challenges and profiles.
- **Skills Development** - Apply and evidence transferable skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, communication, and creativity.
- **Employer Encounters** - Experience meaningful interactions with employers via real tasks, briefs, and networking events.
- **Decision Making** - Strengthen decision-making around subject choices, post-16/18 pathways, and future opportunities.
- **Workplace Readiness** - Build the skills and confidence to transition successfully into further education, training, or work.