

## Employers (and Alumni)

The government's new (2017) [careers strategy](#), has at its heart four themes, the first of which is ensuring a 'high-quality careers programme' in all schools and colleges. This is to be achieved via the eight Gatsby benchmarks, each of which relate to an area of school activity, and define excellence in that area:

1. A stable careers programme
2. Learning from career and labour market information
3. Addressing the needs of each pupil
4. Linking curriculum learning to careers
5. Encounters with employers and employees
6. Experiences of workplaces
7. Encounters with further and higher education
8. Personal guidance

The first six benchmarks can, in some way, be achieved by input by employers and businesses. Other parts of the strategy include making employers an integral part of the guidance strategy, ensuring people can benefit from tailored support (i.e. individual careers guidance and mentoring, for example, by an employer) and making the most of labour market information. You can see from above that employers will play a huge part in schools achieving the eight benchmarks and sustaining a world class careers programme.

### **How can you get involved?**

Please do get in touch with Jonathan Knott ([j.knott@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:j.knott@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk)) for further information. Below are some of these activities and experiences that employers could offer:

#### ***At school:***

- assemblies and talks
- careers 'speed dating' events
- small group focus sessions/mentoring
- practice interviews
- projects and challenges in related subjects

#### ***In the work place:***

- work place safaris and visits (site tours)
- talks from employees about world of work and career pathways
- team building exercises and work related challenges

### **Past pupils – Alumni**

To complement our programme of employer engagement encounters, we also invite ex-students back to Denton Community College to talk about their careers. We would love to hold on to our links to past

pupils. Please do get in touch with Jonathan Knott ([j.knott@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk](mailto:j.knott@dentoncommunitycollege.org.uk)). As a start, please tell us what year you left, your next step after year 11 and what your current job is.