



Ahead Partnership™
Unlocking social and economic potential



WELLINGTON PLACE EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMME 2022 REPORT

“The CV workshop and the speed networking was really useful preparation. The workshops were really thought out with a perfect schedule for the day. All the companies and volunteers gave important information to the students for them to consider when working through their options for the future and sound advice to take with them into interviews.”

Teacher - Enrichment Festival



OBJECTIVES

Our partnership has helped inspire and nurture young people across Leeds by engaging them in meaningful, exciting activities that help them connect with the working world.

Through access to your customers at Wellington Place and their volunteers, you've broadened students' horizons and allowed them to see the opportunities open to them at a development like yours.

Our objectives:

- To offer meaningful engagement to schools and students in inner city Leeds and ensure that every student, no matter what background has the opportunity to visit and experience an aspirational place of work.
- To support disadvantaged areas of city, including young people from the priority neighbourhood wards in Leeds.
- To enable skilled-based volunteering and offer a scheme of engagement to MEPC's customers based on the Wellington Place site.
- To actively support MEPC's diversity agenda, including a focus on under-represented groups where possible.



Thank you for your support and we hope that you will share the fantastic results of your involvement across your organisation.

"Disadvantaged pupils in England are now as much as seven months behind their more privileged peers at school, including the gaps that grew in the last year. Young people have been more susceptible to job losses, with an 8.7% drop for working class men aged 16-24. Now is the time to take action."

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS



“It was great to introduce the students to the concept of apprenticeships as another route rather than traditional university routes. I also thought that exposing them to an office environment was really good as they may have had preconceived ideas of what an office environment is like good to show them reality!”

Volunteer - Enrichment Festival

CASE STUDY: WOMEN OF THE FUTURE



Welcoming 43 students from three different inner-city schools across Leeds, the 'Women of the Future' event gave young women the opportunity to meet inspirational female figures from businesses based at Wellington Place.

Working alongside Ahead Partnership, the event brought together representatives from businesses including HMRC, Mazars, Irwin Mitchell, Netpremacy, NHS Digital, New Street Consulting, and the Department for Transport. Students were given the opportunity to meet business volunteers from all organisational levels, with interactive careers activities, workshops and office tours to encourage confidence in the workplace, communications skills and workplace etiquette.

100%

increased their understanding of how to get into different careers by attending the event

"It's been a fantastic day, and our students have learnt so much. Not only have they heard first-hand experiences from a range of different successful women but they had the opportunity to experience a variety of office environments, something which they'd typically be unable to do."

Careers Leader, Leeds West Academy

CASE STUDY: ENRICHMENT FESTIVAL



Welcoming 53 students from four different inner-city schools across Leeds, the Wellington Place Enrichment Festival gave young people the opportunity to learn different life skills from a variety of organisations. The Enrichment Festival brought together schools with businesses from across the development including Buro Happold, Mazars, Savills, Redmayne Bentley, Burendo and Equifax, hosting workshops over the two-day period.

Students were able to develop transferable skills and learn how these can be of real value to employers as they begin to build their future. The festival also focused on the importance of wellbeing, with dedicated workshops on sleep and money management.

98%

of participating students are now thinking about their own goals after school

“Well planned, a good range of engaging and learning activities. True buy in from the companies and enthusiasm from the volunteers involved.” - Teacher Mount St Marys School



STUDENT PROFILE

Students came from a range of schools and colleges in Leeds. Particular priority was given to learning providers that serve disadvantaged areas to level the playing field of opportunity and build the students' social capital.

A young person who has four contacts with employers while still at school cuts their chance of unemployment by

86%

Education & Employers Taskforce

School	No of pupil	EAL	SEND	PUPIL PREMIUM
Bishop Young Academy	15	✓		✓
Farnley Academy	14			✓
Co-op Academy Leeds	10	✓	✓	✓
Mount St Mary's Catholic High School	29	✓	✓	✓
Dixons Unity Academy	14	✓	✓	✓
Lawnswood School	14	✓	✓	✓

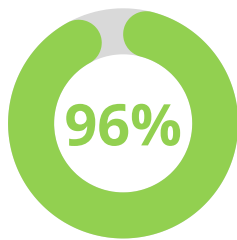
*EAL - Higher than average % of students with English as an additional Language
 SEND - Higher than average % of students receiving support for Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
 PUPIL PREMIUM - Has higher than national average number of students considered disadvantaged and as such receiving further government funding*



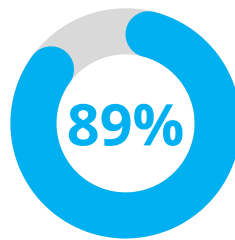
STUDENT FEEDBACK



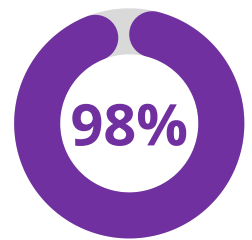
said it developed their understanding of how to get into different careers



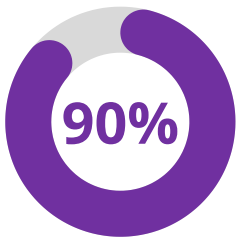
said it improved their teamwork skills



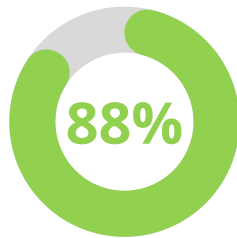
said it improved their speaking & listening skills



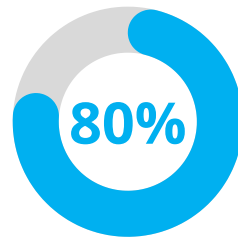
said it helped them think about their own goals



said it improved their problem-solving skills



said it motivated them to work harder at school



developed their presentation skills



said it increased their confidence



WHAT THE STUDENTS SAID

"It was extremely exciting and useful to do and helped developing my ideas about how workplaces run."

"I liked learning new subjects that were very beneficial to me like communication and being more resilient."

"I liked how the CV workshop was really sociable and gave us amazing tips as well as lots of tips on sleep and its importance."

"The activities were very engaging and creative and allowed us to think about our strengths."

"There are so many opportunities, keep your mind open to them. Always believe in yourself."

Multiple, meaningful contacts with employers while still at school can boost a young person's future earnings by 22%

“Even if you fail a big part of your life then you can try again, and you will get where you want to”

“Women’s rights count, you can be anything you want to be.”

“Believe in yourself and never let anyone hold you back!”

Student participants - Women of the Future

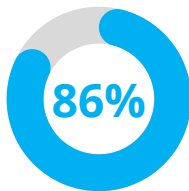




VOLUNTEER FEEDBACK



said they have an improved understanding of young people



said taking part gave them an opportunity to network with other businesses

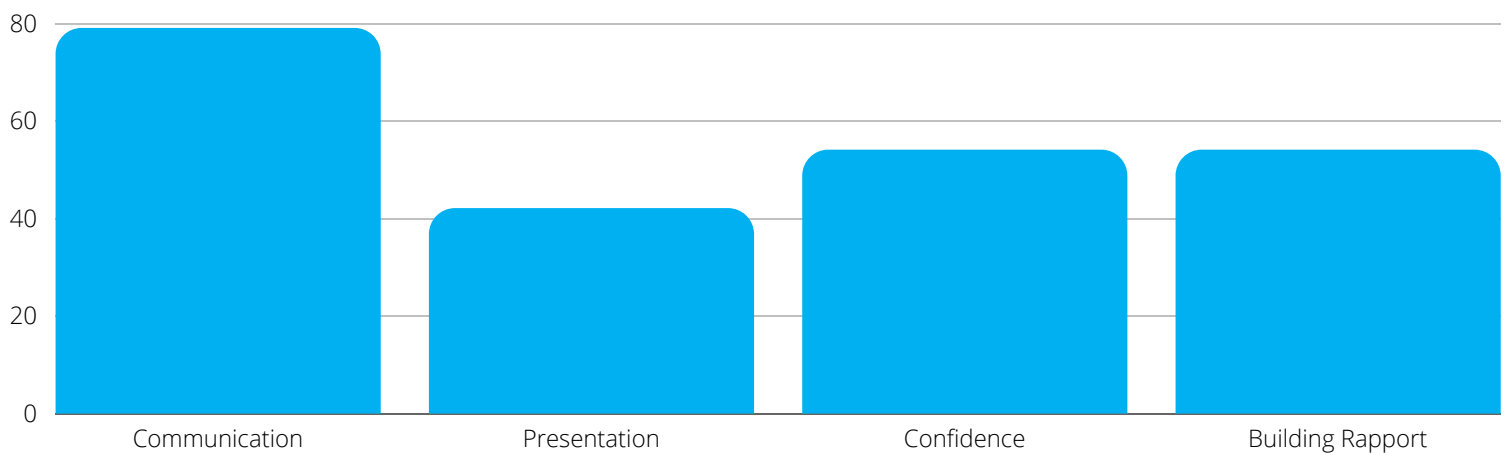


said taking part improved your business' profile and access to talent



said they would take part in Ahead Partnership activities again

SKILLS YOUR VOLUNTEERS SAY THEY DEVELOPED





WHAT THE VOLUNTEERS SAID

"Well organised, nice atmosphere on the day very welcoming and friendly. It was nice the pupils had prewritten questions to fall back on where needed and great to see some of the students taking notes!"

"It was great to see the young people so engaged and asking questions. It was great to provide my experiences to help guide them through what can be a tricky and confusing time figuring out what you want to do."

"It was great to introduce the students to the concept of apprenticeships as another route rather than traditional university routes. I also thought that exposing them to an office environment was really good as they may have had preconceived ideas of what an office environment is like good to show them reality!"

"Lovely to speak to the students and hopefully inspire them a little about future ways of working!"

"Focus on reflection about strengths - something that isn't done enough and they were really engaged."

Your programme supports education providers to achieve the Gatsby Benchmarks - which are associated with better outcomes for students (source: An Evaluation of the North East of England pilot of the Gatsby Benchmarks of Good Career Guidance, March 2021)



NEXT STEPS INTO 2023

We're looking forward to continuing our support to Wellington Place over the next calendar year, as well as strengthening our links with MEPC sites in other areas of the country.

We have agreed to repeat the Women of the Future event and Enrichment Festival. We are working towards developing a core list of partner schools who repeatedly take part in Wellington Place events. Our aim is to develop a strong working relationship with each partner school, with repeat interventions every year - strengthening partnership working.

We are continuing our dialogue with many of the businesses at Wellington Place about creating bespoke education programmes and will continue to feedback progress on this.

We are also working with the events team on Wellington Place on a series of events focused at showcasing the third sector network in the city.

CONTACT US



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