LONDON SOUTH EAST COLLEGES

Employer Guide to Work Experience

Introduction

Work experience is now an integral part of the skills training that the College provides to young people aged 16-18. Learning a specific vocational skill is only one part of what College life is about. We want to ensure all students leave College with the full range of skills needed to find Meaningful jobs. This includes knowing how to behave in a work environment and having the skills and confidence to become an effective employee.

Why should I get involved?

As an employer you will play an important part of developing the young person's employability skills in a 'real' environment. Research suggests that 74% of employers think work experience is critical or significant when recruiting young people. A high quality work experience placement can remove the catch-22 situation young people often find themselves in, not having enough experience and not being able to get a job without experience.

What are the key benefits?

An opportunity to contribute to developing a young person's 'work skills' that are essential when employing new staff. Give young people an insight into your sector and inspire them to become your future workforce. Benefit from increased publicity and opportunities to build our relationship with the local community. Get a fresh perspective on your business from a key demographic group. Can form part of a corporate social responsibility programme.

What is the expectation for employers?

We would expect employers to:
To provide an interesting and informative work placement for a minimum of 5 days
To ensure the work placement is structured and has clears goals
To provide a mentor or staff member that can support the young person whilst on placement
To confirm adherence to any health and safety / insurance legal requirements

If you would like to interview prospective students for any work experience placement opportunities this can be arranged through the College or you can inform us of your selection criteria and we can match potential students for you.

What about health and safety requirements?
Other than your normal health and safety legal requirements, there is very little additional you will need to do. We will just need to confirm that you have Employers Liability Compulsory Insureance.

More information can be found at the Health and Safety Executive website:
http://www.hse.gov.uk/youngpeople/workexperience/placeprovide.htm

How do I find out more information and register my interest?
Contact the Work Experience Department at London South East College:
Tel: 0208 295 7000 work.experience@lsec.ac.uk