

Name of project / activity / event	Career Speed Networking		
Subject Area/s supported	Work Related Learning and Careers IAG		
Number of young people	200	Year Group	9

Why was it organised?

- To provide year 9 students with an opportunity to speak to people working in a variety of career areas to broaden their knowledge and understanding of career paths and job opportunities available.
- To develop the students understanding of the transferable skills required to succeed in a variety of careers
- As part of a series of lessons designed to prepare students for making their option choices.

Overview of the event

This event took place in January as part of the build up to the year 9 option selections. The school worked in partnership with REBP to recruit and brief 7 employers to be involved on the day. Employers included a nurse, social worker, freelance artist and leisure and conference centre staff.

Each employer was seated within an area of the hall. The year group was divided into two and each group spent an hour in the hall.

Students were provided with an induction to event and in smaller groups of 10-12 spent 10 minutes with each employer. The aim was to find out as much information about their career path, skills required for their job role, qualifications needed and the variety of career opportunities on offer within their organisation.

To ensure the event was as interactive as possible and to encourage good communication with the employers each student was provided with a worksheet detailing possible questions they could and information that they needed to find out

After approx one hour the session was repeated with the other half of the year group.

The format of the activity was very successful and enabled both students and employers to communicate in an informal environment, small groups ensured that the students were confident to speak and ask questions.

This activity is being repeated this year and will include a wider range of employers.

Summary of evaluations and outcomes

School

'Students were focused and positive. They were enthusiastic, asked questions and thoroughly enjoyed the event.'

'Students are more aware of careers and career pathways which will enhance their learning and help them to make GCSE choices.'

Students

What is the most important thing you leant today?

Comments included:

- Finding out the qualifications needed for their careers.
- All jobs include hard work and determination.
- There are many different job roles within an organisation.
- It is never too late to go into education.
- The qualifications you get will have an effect on your career path

What was the best part?

Comments included:

- Meeting employers we would not usually have a chance to talk to and hearing their experiences.
- Finding out the qualifications needed for their careers.
- Finding out what job opportunities are available to me.
- Hearing the positives and negative about the employer's job roles.

Employer

'Really good to have an event like this for students'

'Lets do this again in the near future'