

TeachFirst

Careers and Employability Leadership Programme

Preparing young people for success beyond school



The Teach First Careers and Employability Leadership Programme trains middle to senior leaders to improve the careers and employability provision in schools and ensure every child reaches a destination that matches their potential.

Why is careers provision important?

Applying a high-quality, embedded approach to careers and employability learning is linked to improved attainment, engagement and destinations of pupils.¹

The government's new Careers Strategy outlines that from September 2018 all schools should have a dedicated Careers Leader, and use the Gatsby Career Benchmarks to improve career provision. This includes providing pupils with seven meaningful encounters with employers throughout their school life by 2020.²

Whilst a number of schools in England are leading the way delivering excellent careers programmes, there is a growing need for training that enables all schools to develop a strategic, high-quality approach.³



Improve the careers and employability provision in your school.

How does the programme work?

The Careers and Employability Leadership Programme develops a middle or senior leader as a specialist careers leader. It equips them to deliver sustainable, whole-school improvements by developing leadership skills and sector expertise. It has a proven impact in helping schools to achieve best practice in careers and is cited in government's Careers Strategy.

¹ Schleicher & Kashfepakdel (2017) 'The impact of career development activities on PISA mathematics tests'

² Department for Education (2017) 'Careers strategy: making the most of everyone's skills and talents'

³ Ofsted (2013) 'Career Guidance in schools is not working well enough'

The Careers and Employability Leadership Programme

Over 12 months, the careers leader will design, implement and evaluate a whole-school improvement strategy that ensures progress towards all eight Gatsby Career Benchmarks; a statutory requirement by 2020. It provides evidence towards the Quality in Careers Award. The programme is tailored to meet the needs of each school and provides a foundation for long-term improvement through blended learning modules including half-termly local training days, online resources and personalised support.

Evaluation of current practice



Schools will be supported to self-audit current provision and develop a plan to address each benchmark.

Personalised support



One-to-one support from peers, business leaders and a dedicated Teach First facilitator to tailor the programme to the needs of each school.

Professional networking



Connect with a local and national network of over 150 schools and careers leaders prioritising improvements in careers and employability.

Access to sector experts



Face-to-face and online modules designed to develop career leadership skills and sector expertise. Module themes include 'Embedding careers into the curriculum' and 'Building lasting employer links'. Training is delivered in small local groups of 8-12.

High-quality resources and opportunities



Access to materials that equip all staff to support careers-related learning and opportunities that have a proven impact on pupils.

How to apply

To find out if your school is eligible and to apply, contact access@teachfirst.org.uk. Fully-funded places for 2018-2019 are available across England and will be offered to schools with gaps in their progression data. The careers leader requires capacity to attend one day per half-term of training and develop a whole-school strategy.

“The programme has been fundamental in shaping our career and employability strategy. Experts and high-quality speakers delivering at each module have ensured our strategy has been developed using current research and practice.”

Assistant headteacher, Careers and Employability Leadership Programme 2017 Cohort