



The Talent Foundry

FREE EMPLOYABILITY AND CAREERS WORKSHOPS

Book now for 2025



**“Do it -
best external
workshop to date”**



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"It provides students with the opportunity to think about themselves outside of the academic arena. Identifying their strengths and areas for development was something they hadn't done before. It was good for them to tackle the questions on a level playing field (regardless of academic ability)."

Teacher

Who are we?

You can't be what you can't see.

The Talent Foundry increases social mobility by helping young people from underserved backgrounds discover what they are amazing at, develop valuable new employment skills and take that first step into the world of work.

Working with partners across different industries and career paths, our free, interactive and high-impact programmes show young people the wide range of options they may not know are open to them.

Our facilitators bring their experience, expertise and energy into every workshop they lead. Many programmes also introduce students to some of our partner's current employees, who all have their own inspiring personal journeys to share.

All our programmes are carefully designed to help schools meet the Gatsby Benchmarks. We clearly indicate which benchmarks each programme addresses, ensuring that teachers can confidently deliver top-quality interventions to their students.



Eligibility Criteria

We work with UK schools that have a higher-than-average number of students eligible for Pupil Premium funding (Pupil Equity Funding in Scotland and Pupil Development Grant in Wales).



We also work directly with students who face (or have faced) other barriers to opportunities.

Additionally, some programmes specifically target a geographical region, such as coastal or rural towns. We tailor the experience and content to the area and young people living there.

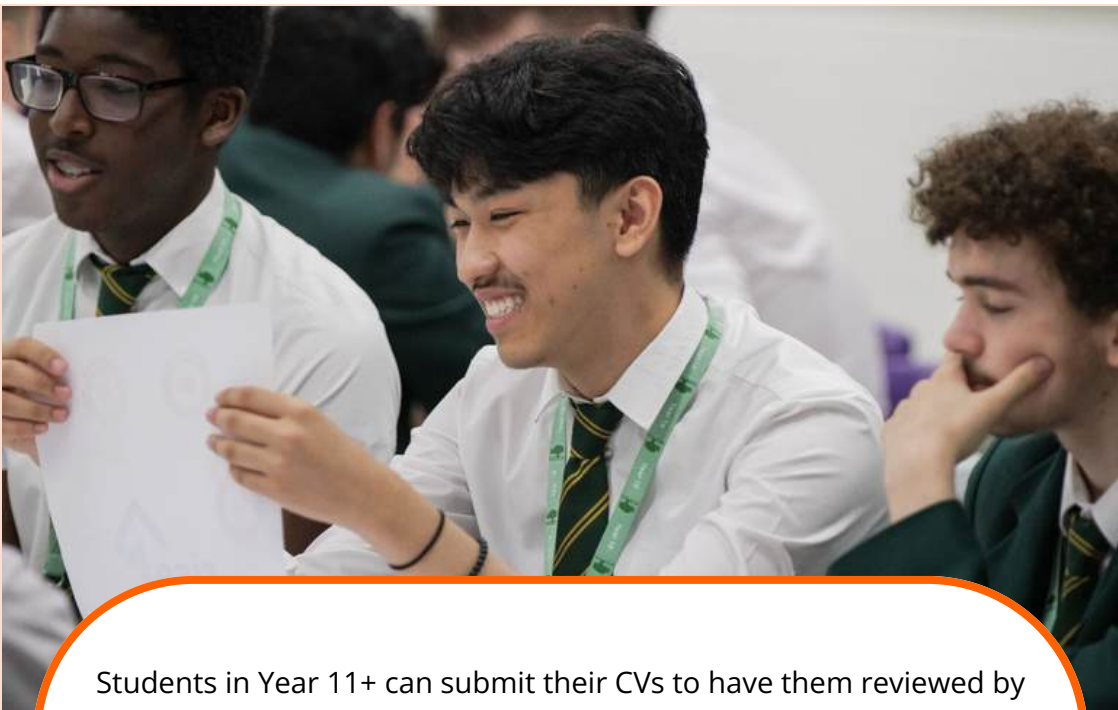
Over 2,000 schools are eligible for our support across the UK

"This project helped me understand how developing skills is helpful in the world of work. I also know more about the kinds of skills employers are looking for."

Student



CV REVIEWS



Students in Year 11+ can submit their CVs to have them reviewed by our M&G industry volunteers. This will support them to create the very best applications, whether it's for entry-level, part-time or apprenticeship roles.


Students will receive written feedback, as well as suggested edits or amendments to the CV itself.

This service works on a first-come, first-served basis, so register now to avoid missing out.

[Click here to book now](#)




Programme Overviews



Programme	Year Groups	Student Places	Setting	Duration	Gatsby Benchmarks	Free
<u>Barclays LifeSkills</u>	7 - 13	60+	In school	4 full days	2, 4, 5	
<u>Dell Meet the Dell Team</u>	10 - 13	20-30	Online	1 hour	2, 5	
<u>KPMG Opening Doors to Opportunities</u>	4 - 13	Number of students vary based on office location	KPMG Offices around the country (view programme page for more details)	Half Day	4, 5, 6	
<u>KPMG WorkReady</u>	7 - 13	30 - 70	In school	Half Day or Full day	4, 5	



"I was very impressed with everything. Quality resources and delivery were the main highlights. A really worthwhile project that built confidence and opened the eyes of students to future career possibilities."

Teacher

Programme	Year Groups	Student Places	Setting	Duration	Gatsby Benchmarks	Free
<u>Bridge to M&G: Pre-apprenticeship programme</u>	12	No limit (subject to criteria)	M&G offices in London, Edinburgh or Stirling & virtual workshops	5x full days & 3-day summer residential	2, 5, 6	
<u>Bridge to a Career in Construction: pre-apprenticeship programme</u>	12	25 (applications for individual students)	Mace sites across London, some virtual sessions	5x workshops & 3-day residential	2, 5, 6	
<u>Maven Secure Your Potential</u>	12	4 - 10 per school (teacher must attend the first workshop)	Maven Offices, London	2x full day & 2x half day	2, 5, 6, 8	

"I learnt that university isn't the only route into the corporate world and it's much more flexible and inclusive than you may think."

Student

Programme	Year Groups	Student Places	Setting	Duration	Gatsby Benchmarks	Free
<u>Rise Championed by ICAEW</u>	7 - 10	60	In school	2 - 3 hours	2, 5	
<u>RSSB Track to the Future</u>	12 - 13	20 (At least 50% female)	2x in school & 2x in local RSSB partner offices	4x 3 hours	2, 4, 5, 6	
<u>SAS Future Analysts</u>	12 - 13 (Must be studying Maths, IT or Computer Science)	20	In school	3x 2 hours	2, 5	



Years
7 - 13

60+
students

In school

4
full days



Key Stage
3, 4, 5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 4, 5

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This series of workshops offers a wide range of topics to give young people skills and confidence for life and entering the world of work. Teachers can select four topics which we deliver over four dates across the academic year, to the same cohort of students. We also offer teacher resources to keep the learning going.

Students will:

- Develop valuable transferable skills to prepare them for success outside school
- Improve their problem solving, creativity, adaptability, teamwork and presentation skills
- Learn CV writing, interview techniques, financial skills and more (depending on the topics chosen)

“I learnt that employers are looking for people with a good attitude. I also learnt that many successful people fail and were told they were not good enough but kept a growth mindset and became very successful.”

**Ahmed, Student
Saint Gabriel’s College**

“The workshop was excellent... It was helpful with getting students to develop a deeper understanding of life skills and their application to the world of work.”

**Teacher
Westborough High School**

Years
10 - 13

20 - 30
students

Online

1
hour



Key Stage
4, 5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 5

[Click here to book now](#)

A bespoke talk from employees at Dell Technologies based on your students' needs and interests - from career routes into the tech sector, to cyber security or marketing.

Students will:

- Have a rare opportunity to speak to current industry experts
- Learn about work, the tech sector, career opportunities and anything else they want to know
- Expand their horizons, discovering different routes into a career

"It was very interesting, and I learnt a lot about Dell. It has opened up a career option that I may now choose in the future and overall, it expanded my knowledge about STEM jobs, specifically in technology. It has motivated me to look further into this industry."

**Gian, student
Parkside Studio College**

"Dell team members were enthusiastic and dynamic in their delivery. The facilitator was very effective, and students were fully engaged for the whole workshop."

**Teacher
Hatch End High School**



Opening Doors to Opportunities

Years
4 - 13

Number of
students vary
based on office
location

Local KPMG offices
around the country

Half day



Key Stage
3, 4, 5

Gatsby Benchmarks
4, 5, 6

[Click here to book now](#)

Students will visit the KPMG offices, work alongside KPMG mentors, and think about how they would utilise the latest cutting-edge technologies in a collaborative problem-solving challenge based on real life client briefs.

Students will:

- Gain insight into the world of work and the impact technology is having on the workplace
- Take part in an office tour
- Develop core transferable skills and explore innovative technologies
- Hear from professionals in the industry

"The workshop was interesting and challenged my critical thinking."

Student
Calderside Academy, Glasgow

"This was an excellent opportunity to open children's eyes to career possibilities they had not considered and how pursuing different career paths can be exciting. Working with the mentors gave students so much enthusiasm and made them feel they were part of something meaningful."

Teacher

Years
7 - 13

30 - 70
students

In school

Half day or
Full day



Key Stage
3, 4, 5

Gatsby Benchmarks
4, 5

[Click here to book now](#)

Students get a unique opportunity to peak inside one of the largest professional services companies in the world, and find new ways to utilise cutting-edge technologies in a collaborative problem-solving challenge based on real life situations.

Students will:

- Gain insight into the world of work and the impact technology is having on the workplace
- Develop their core transferable skills and explore innovative technologies
- Meet professionals in the industry to hear their personal stories and receive bespoke feedback

"The workshop inspired me to try new things and learn more about KPMG."

**Year 10 Student
Bishop Milner Catholic College**

"A valuable learning experience supported by work based mentors to develop key skills required in the workplace."

**Teacher
West Walsall E-ACT**



Bridge to M&G: Pre-Apprenticeship Programme

Year
12

No limit
(subject to criteria)

M&G offices in
London, Edinburgh
or Stirling &
virtual workshops

5x full days &
3-day summer
residential

Key Stage
5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 5, 6



[Click here to book now](#)

This pre-apprenticeship programme helps young people secure a variety of Business Administration and Finance apprenticeships.

Students will:

- Work with current and former apprentices and the M&G hiring team to identify roles that best suit their strengths and interests
- Gain the confidence and knowledge for successful apprenticeship applications
- Get support to secure Level 3 and Level 4 business-focused apprenticeship roles, at one of the UK's top financial institutions
- Receive personalised coaching sessions and a masterclass with international headhunters, Odgers Berndtson

"The programme was very inclusive, informative and valuable for my knowledge moving forward it provided me with an even deeper insight into apprenticeships and gave me confidence moving forward with other apprenticeship applications."

Hamza
Former participant

"I believe that this is a fantastic opportunity for students to work on their soft skills, and understand what it truly takes to be in a working environment and become a successful apprentice."

Teacher
George Green's School

Bridge to a Career in Construction: Pre-Apprenticeship Programme

Year
12

25
students
(applications for
individual students)

Mace sites across
London, some
virtual sessions

5x workshops
& 3-day residential



Key Stage
5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 5, 6

[Click here to book now](#)

Introduced to degree apprenticeships in construction, planning, and project management, students gain a head start in Mace's apprenticeship application process, while building their skills and confidence.

Students will:

- Develop essential employability skills, such as teamwork and problem-solving
- Benefit from personalised coaching sessions and a masterclass with international headhunters, Odgers Berndtson
- Attend a free residential experience, with outdoor pursuit activities
- Learn directly from employees and current apprentices at Mace Group

"The programme is probably the most important thing I've done...I wouldn't have been successful if I hadn't done the programme... Having my future secure is a nice feeling."

Tyler

Former participant and current apprentice

"Led to a definite development of key employability skills as well as general development of confidence, clarity in future pathway and eagerness to access more opportunities."

Teacher

Raynes Park High School

Year
12

4 - 10 students per
school
(teacher must attend
the first workshop)

Maven Offices,
London

2x full day &
2x half day



Key Stage
5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 5, 6, 8

[Click here to book now](#)

This programme gives students with low confidence and significant disadvantages the opportunity to network with professionals at Maven, develop core employability skills and experience working life in a Central London Office.

"Being here has really made me feel confident and being surrounded by so many positive people."

**Kiprice, Student
Oasis Academy Hadley**

Students will:

- Be supported to find their individual strengths, and shown how to apply their skills to think more confidently about their future
- Receive coaching sessions and tailored advice on their goals and future skill development
- Develop confidence and collaboration skills, working with students from other schools

"Students felt empowered by workshops and gained valuable insight into the world of work. They were able to think about their current skill set and it boosted their confidence."

**Teacher
Mulberry Academy Shoreditch**

Rise

Championed by ICAEW

Years
7 - 10

60
students

In school

2 - 3
hours



Key Stage
3, 4, 5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 5

[Click here to book now](#)

Core skills development sessions focussing on showing students the skills and attributes they already have and can develop within their school to release their potential.

Students will:

- Practise transferable skills in curriculum-linked challenges
- Develop skills that are relevant to both the classroom and the workplace
- Meet current employees from Rise partner companies, including KPMG, PwC, Grant Thornton, ICAEW, BDO and EY, gaining inspiration and discovering new career paths available to them

"I learnt how to encourage others in my group to work and I learnt what skills and qualities I have that I didn't really notice before."

**Alicia, Student
Airdrie Academy**

"I wholeheartedly recommend the Talent Foundry's Rise workshops to any educator looking to elevate their careers programme and increase students encounters with employers. It is a great way to get students to build crucial employability skills."

**Teacher
Oaks Park High School**

Track to the Future

Years
12 -13

20
students
(At least 50% female)

2x in school &
2x in local RSSB
partner offices

4x
3 hours



Key Stage
5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 4, 5, 6

[Click here to book now](#)

Guiding students through the principles of project management as they work on a design brief covering RSSB's recently launched sustainability goals and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion principles. Accredited by the Skillsbuilder Framework.

Students will:

- Develop core transferable skills that support their pathways after school
- Gain insight into the Rail Industry and its wide-ranging career path opportunities
- Be supported and mentored by industry volunteers
- Actively contribute to developing key principles in implementing RSSB's corporate strategies

"It is an amazing programme and has taught me a lot and made me decisively consider a career in Northern."

**Student,
Manchester College**

"This is the most engaged I've seen these students with an external organisation in years!"

**Teacher,
Kirk Hallam Community
Academy**

Years
12 - 13
(Must be studying
Maths, IT or
Computer Science)

20
students

In school

3x
2 hours



Key Stage
5

Gatsby Benchmarks
2, 5

[**Click here to book now**](#)

Increase students' awareness and familiarity with data analytics and AI, learning its importance to the UK jobs market. We also offer SAS Tech Bites Assemblies with industry volunteers speaking to whole year groups about opportunities within the tech sector.

Students will:

- Understand how data analytics is central to many professional sectors in the UK
- Network with professionals to learn what a data career looks like
- Develop core employability skills such as teamwork and problem-solving
- Get experience working with data, discovering core data concepts such as crowdsourcing and comparative analysis

"I have a better idea of the industry. Meeting new people makes me more confident in the direction I'm going."

Dilawar, Student
Space Studio West London





"Students have gained a meaningful insight into data analysis careers; they feel more confident in researching, applying and interviewing for these kinds of roles... Feeling underqualified and inexperienced is a major barrier for young people to explore their careers options. Experiences like this go a long way in overcoming that."





Teacher
SGS Berkeley

Book for 2025-26

These programmes are full in 2024-25.

Please get in touch to discuss a 2025-26 workshop.




Programme	Year Groups	Student Places	Setting	Duration	Gatsby Benchmarks	Free
<u>Dell Big Idea</u>	7 - 9	30 - 70	In school	3 hours	2, 5	
<u>Dell Bridge to Tech with Comptia ITF+</u>	12 - 13 (Must be studying IT or similar)	40 (applications for individual students)	Online	12x 2 hours	2, 4, 5, 7	
<u>Dell Powering Potential</u>	12	5 - 10	Manchester and Tees Valley Offices (Only available to schools in these areas)	4x 4 hours	3, 5, 6, 7, 8	
<u>M&G Enterprise Challenge</u>	7 - 8	30 - 50	In school	3 - 4 hours	4, 5	

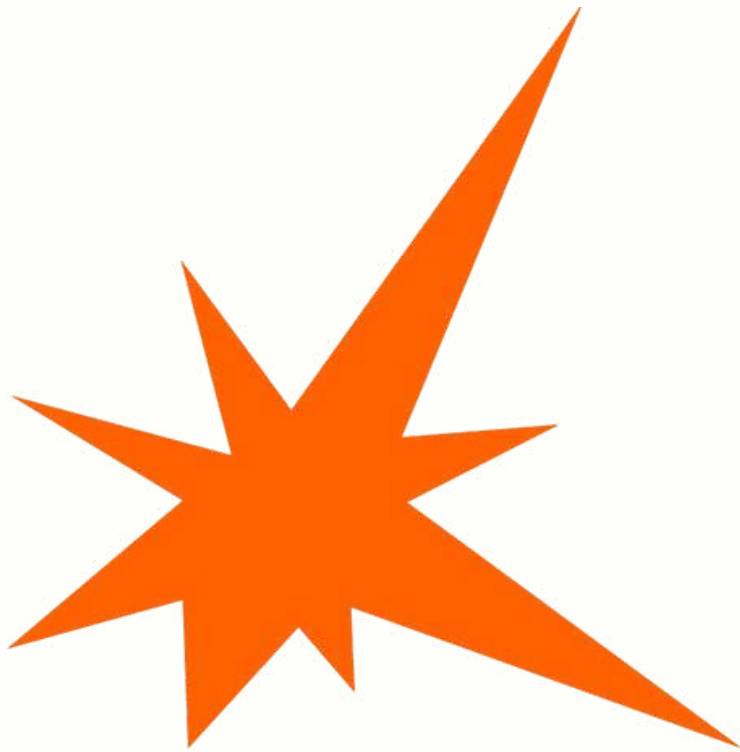
Programme	Year Groups	Student Places	Setting	Duration	Gatsby Benchmarks	Free
<u>M&G Skills for Life</u>	12 - 13	20	3x in school & 1x in M&G offices (trip only for schools near Bath, Edinburgh or Stirling)	4x 2 hours	2, 4, 5	
<u>Network Rail Lightbulb Moments</u>	7 - 8	50 - 60 (At least 50% female)	In school	3.5 hours	2, 5	
<u>Network Rail Track to the Future</u>	12 - 13	20 (At least 50% female)	3x in school & 1x in local Network Rail office	4x 3 hours	2, 4, 5, 6	
<u>NHS NextGen Nurse</u>	9 - 11	30 - 40 (At least 50% males)	In school (Only available in North East and Yorkshire)	3 hours	2, 4, 5	

"I believe that students now feel more confident in their decision making. They have developed their presentation skills and have learnt more about what they can bring to the future - rather than what the future can bring to them.

Teacher



Programme	Year Groups	Student Places	Setting	Duration	Gatsby Benchmarks	Free
<u>Publicis Pro Turning Pro</u>	12 - 13	40	In school	Full day	2, 4, 5	
<u>Severn Trent FLOW</u>	13	20 (applications for individual students)	Severn Trent Academy, Coventry	4x full days	3, 5, 8	
<u>University of Manchester Powering University of Manchester</u>	7 - 8	60	University of Manchester	Full day	5, 7	



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