



BECBC

Britain's Energy Coast Business Cluster

Cumbrian collaboration with global reach

Business & Schools Collaboration Project

ANNUAL REPORT

2018

Delivered for BECBC by



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INTRODUCTION

This report is produced to give a summary of the achievements during 2018 for the BECBC Business and Schools Collaboration Project (BSCP). The programme has enabled transformation in the quality, quantity and diversity of secondary school engagements with business.

The project was:

- collaboratively funded by 24 organisations
- the winner of the national award from the NDA for socio economic contribution
- shortlisted for the in-cumbria Socio-Economic and Carers Company national awards.



BSCP Sponsors

£50k raised for 2018



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HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

The BSCP has engaged with over 7,000 students over the past year.

We've delivered in each of the 15 schools across Copeland and Allerdale and have gone on to target individual year groups to further extend our coverage beyond initial parameters.

Of the 45 direct activities delivered in 2018, they include:

- 14 World of Works (a programme introducing students to a range of careers)
- 12 Mock Interview Sessions (each with whole year groups attending interviews with business leaders)
- 13 Assemblies (with employees attending to talk and interact with the students)
- 2 SEND (Special Educational Needs) Sessions

The programme developed a 'shopping list' of established school interactions, which schools can pick from to suit their needs. The list above is a sub set of this overall programme of interactions. The shopping list itself is beneficial to schools and businesses, allowing good practice to be shared and successes to be built upon with schools requesting the programmes which go down well when tried elsewhere.

Having identified the Gatsby Benchmarks as the rationale and measure against which we're performing - on average each of the 15 schools received employer input across 3 or 4 year groups. One school has had activities across all year groups.

Business collaboration has increased month on month.

Jan 2018 = 96 different employers taking part

Dec 2018 = 139 different employers taking part
(even more if you count individual volunteers)

A diverse range of employers taking part – 65% non-BECBC members and 55% SMEs.

IMPACT AND FEEDBACK FROM SCHOOLS

A wide selection of feedback was received from Schools

Schools overall have benefitted from this co-ordinated approach. They are planning in advance, across the full academic year, as part of a coherent whole school strategy. The Shopping List is regularly used and referred to, particularly in Enterprise Adviser Meetings to identify activities that can be used to ensure employer engagement hits all year groups, 7 to 13.

Teaching staff are making use of the calendar to support their own CPD and bringing employers in to support lesson planning.

Workington Academy Assemblies - w/e 27/4/18

"All went ahead as planned and were very good. They presented to Y7 and Y8 which is approximately 300 students.

All presented well and gave an insight into their career. They also talked coherently about what skills and attributes they were looking for when they recruited. Any more would be warmly welcomed. Many thanks"

Mark Bedford, Deputy Headteacher

Whitehaven Academy Careers Week – March 2018

"The careers week went well. All students engaged and the CV workshops and aptitude tests were greatly received from year 10. Every student in the academy experienced some sort of employer encounter throughout the week. When asked, one student said, "That was ace, sir!" On behalf of the academy, I want to thank you for your support in finding employers to work with us during the week, their support has greatly enhanced our students' aspirations. Thank you."

Nigel Gillson, Careers Lead

Beacon Hill and Solway WoW – December 2018

"It was simply fantastic and appreciated by all our students"

Ian Williams, Deputy Head, Solway School

Energy Coast UTC WoW – November 2018

Speed Networking (Y11)

1. The objectives for this activity were clearly explained. 100% of colleagues present either completely or mostly agreed
2. All of the students were clearly engaged throughout. 100% of colleagues present either completely or mostly agreed
3. The activity was pitched at the right level for year 11 students. 100% of colleagues present either completely or mostly agreed
4. Students you spoke to were clear as to the purpose and relevance of this activity to their future career choices. 100% of colleagues present either completely or mostly agreed

"The Energy Coast UTC values our partnership with BECBC and Inspira immensely and know that without their influence and input, our CEIAG programme would not be deliverable or as effective as we know it is. We look forward to finding new ways to work with them both in the years ahead!"

Ian Russell, Vice Principal

IMPACT AND FEEDBACK FROM DELEGATES

Organisations report that they are using the calendar to plan their longer term engagement in school. Apprentices and graduates have engaged and volunteered as part of their training and ongoing CPD. Referrals and recommendations play an important part in the “recruitment” of volunteers. We firmly believe without this regular encouragement to take part, reassurance regarding the activities, coordination of information and instructions, we wouldn't have as many volunteers as we have.

Interview Prep Session at UTC 12/3/2018

“It was a well laid out content and Alison was very good. We were also able to interject with some real life examples which worked well. It certainly shows that you have thought about the time available and what to include which was about the right length of time for the students to focus on. “

Kathryn Jackson (Kathryn Jackson Coaching)

Social Media Savvy Sessions at St Jo's WR March 2018

“Enjoyed doing it, interesting mix of students, quiz went down well. Would do it again at the drop of a hat. Great load of kids, teachers pretty good as well. One student (had major misdemeanour on social media) was a bit difficult, if had known in advance would have handled slightly differently. Some very engaged, got merit points, a couple disruptive but handled OK. Some of the questions may seem quite over simplistic, but most of them got quite a bit of discussion going and some lively debate. Was fascinated by how a few people got really into the debate about the consequences of what happened to Justine Sacco, and the speed with which the storm hit. Really interesting. Some bright sparks out there!”

Kate Wilson

St Joseph's WoW – July 2018

Morgan Sindall – *“the students showed interest in our job roles and had some good questions”*

Kaefer – *“a lot of interested and engaged students”*

Royal Navy – *“most students were genuinely interested and engaged”*

IMPACT AND FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS

Students regularly report increased confidence, knowledge and preparedness as a result of their engagement with employers. Mock interviews are particularly effective (as shown below). Speed networking informs and spreads awareness, often at a crucial time when GCSE options are being chosen.

DEVELOPMENTS FOR 2019

We have events and activities booked in advance up until the end of the current academic year, July 2019. These include 13 WOWs and mock interview sessions and a variety of assemblies.

Ongoing work to expand the range of employers and individual volunteers continues to be a priority. As schools increase participation we hope to develop a sustainable programme, to include further teacher CPD, supported careers lesson planning, encourage better engagement with alumni and parents.

We hope to build on the momentum gathered this year to make 2019 even more successful.

The continued success of the programme remains dependant on sponsorship to enable it. A little given by a few in sponsoring this programme allows us to transform the school interactions.

