

Thursday 28th January 2016



Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you to express my gratitude for your continued support of Tarporley High School and Sixth Form College and the invaluable contributions that you make to our students' learning experiences.

I would really like to develop the links that we have to local businesses and would be very keen to enlist the support of your enterprise as one of our emerging partners. We would like to work to create a true 'partnership' between our establishments that has the potential to have further significant impact on our students throughout their time at Tarporley.

Included below is an extract from the Department for Education's 'Careers guidance and inspiration in schools', March 2015, which may help to give you an idea of possible partnership opportunities.

29. Employers can demonstrate the opportunities available and advise on how to access them. They can explain the skills needed, and where pupils should be prepared for a level of competition in gaining access to courses or employment. Evidence from the Education and Employers Taskforce shows that access to a network of employers is associated with better outcomes for young people. Employers can pass on the benefits of their experience to both pupils and teachers, helping to link curriculum subjects to employment and providing an overview of the different routes into careers.

30. Every school should engage fully with their local employer and professional community to ensure real-world connections with employers lie at the heart of the careers strategy. Different interventions will work for different schools and pupils, but it could mean in practice:

- *Developing links with curriculum areas*
- *Mentoring and coaching*
- *Speakers from the world of work in schools*
- *An insight from Jobcentre Plus, or the National Careers Service into the labour market and the needs of employers*
- *Workplace visits and work experience placements*
- *Work 'taster' events such as games and competitions*
- *Careers fairs and career networking events*
- *Access to open days at further and higher education institutions*
- *Access to creative online resources and labour market intelligence*
- *Help with basic career management skills like CV writing, CV building, job searches and job interviews.*

32. A clear focus on the enterprise skills, experience and qualifications that employers want can support preparation for work. Schools should help pupils gain the confidence to compete in the labour market by providing opportunities to gain the practical know-how and attributes that are relevant for employment. Increasing contact with employers will help to raise the profile of the importance of career choices but the school's overall strategy for advice and guidance should recognise that some pupils will need additional support before they are ready to make decisions

I am therefore writing to see whether this is something that you would be interested in supporting us with. I would also be interested in your thoughts regarding the types of activities that you might envisage contributing to as part of our partnership. These may be linked to specific curriculum areas (including Citizenship and Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education) or specific age groups.

If you are interested in the content of this message and would be keen to work with us to develop a business partnership to support our students then I would be extremely grateful if you could reply to me via email to CBlackhurst@tarporleyhigh.co.uk with contact information and possible details of how you may be able to support.

Many thanks in advance for your interest and support and if you have any further questions then please do not hesitate to contact me.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Clare Blackhurst', is positioned above the typed name.

Clare Blackhurst

Associate Assistant Headteacher

Tarporley High School & 6th Form College

Eaton Road, Tarporley, Cheshire, CW6 0BL

Tel: 01829 732 558 ext 242

Email: CBlackhurst@Tarporleyhigh.co.uk