



OPPORTUNITIES FOR OXFORDSHIRE EMPLOYERS 2022-2023



Volunteering in Schools/Colleges

We work with 53 mainstream secondary schools, special schools and colleges across Oxfordshire through our partnership with the Careers & Enterprise Company. We offer business volunteers several ways to get involved, from sharing your career journey and insights with young people in schools and colleges through **an hour of volunteering** to a more strategic role in supporting school and college leaders with their careers programme as an **Enterprise Adviser**.

Give an Hour:

It might feel like an hour is too short to have a real impact, but we know from experience that an hour can create new perspectives and inspire new ideas. You could speak to a class about your sector, carry out a mock interview or support a CV workshop. Even these short activities make a big difference and can change a young person's thinking about a potential career pathway.



Become an Enterprise Adviser

Supported by our team, you will be matched with a local secondary school or college, where you can use your skills, business experience and networks to help them develop a strong careers programme that supports *all* students.

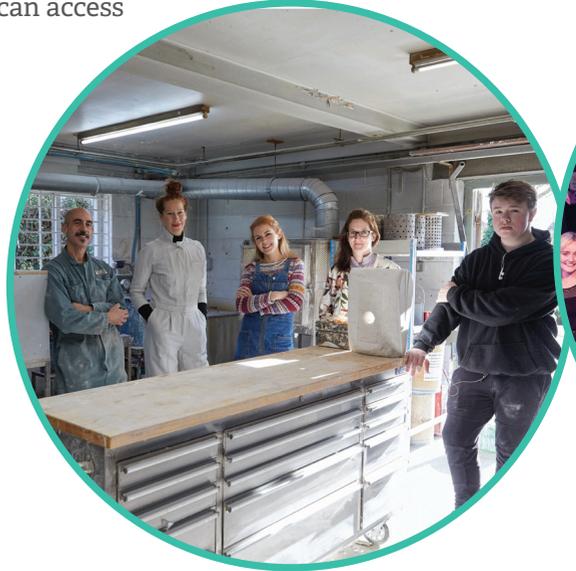
Give an hour to help young people understand potential career pathways.



Supporting and Celebrating Apprenticeships

Oxfordshire has a very tight labour market and many organisations struggle to recruit Apprentices and retain them throughout their training. We have created a series of opportunities which employers can access in order to develop their talent pipeline. Our team are on hand to provide free advice and support.

Unlocking and Accessing the Apprenticeship Levy – we work with Levy paying businesses who would like to pledge up to 25% of their unused Levy to help grow Apprenticeships in Oxfordshire, rather than the funding being returned to the Treasury. Pledges have already benefitted GP surgeries and local primary schools. We also support small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), social enterprises and charities who would like to access the Apprenticeship Levy to pay for Apprenticeship training.



We want to enable Levy paying businesses to pledge unused Levy to help micro businesses like Priory Cast Products (pictured above) to grow by employing new Apprentices.



Could a grant support your next Apprentice?

Get in touch!

0345 241 1196

skills@oxfordshirelep.com



The Apprenticeship Grant scheme is available to businesses to apply for on behalf of an Apprentice looking to start or complete their Apprenticeship.

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Grant Scheme aims to help remove barriers for residents looking to start or struggling to complete an Apprenticeship. Employers apply for the grant on behalf of their Apprentice/s. Grants available are up to £1,500 (up to £3,000 in exceptional circumstances) and can be used for non-statutory items such as travel permits, laptops to aid studies, Ofsted registered childcare, provisional driving licences and counselling/mentoring for mental wellbeing.

The Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2023

celebrates the achievements of Apprentices and employers who offer quality Apprenticeships.



The awards are sponsored, judged and awarded by businesses and OxLEP Skills manages the awards on a not-for-profit basis. Organisations are invited to become a supporter of the awards and nominate themselves and/or an Apprentice for an award through the 12 categories.

Winners of the Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards 2022.

The Apprenticeship Ambassador Scheme

invites Apprentices to volunteer in Oxfordshire schools and colleges to give presentations to young people about why they chose an Apprenticeship as a career pathway.



Apprenticeship Ambassadors receiving presentation training at Blenheim Palace, to help prepare them for talking to young people in local schools/colleges.

For more information on any of the opportunities outlined, please contact: skills@oxfordshirelep.com or visit www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills



Mentoring

We are launching a **virtual mentoring scheme** for Oxfordshire on National Mentoring Day, 27th October 2022 and we are looking for business professionals to become a mentor.

The mentoring platform will allow jobseekers and career seekers (Mentees) to receive support from business volunteers (Mentors) on how to be successful when applying for new roles through CV writing, interview techniques and preparing for interviews. Time commitment for mentors will be manageable during busy periods.



You could support jobseekers by becoming a virtual mentor.



Community Employment Plans (CEPs) can help create new jobs for local communities.

Community Employment Plans (CEPs)

CEPs are employer-led initiatives which can form part of Section 106 planning obligation for significant developments which are happening across Oxfordshire. Each Local Planning Authority in Oxfordshire has their own Local Plan. We aim to support major employers create their CEP alongside district Economic Development Leads, which will help local people access industry related job opportunities.

For more information on any of the opportunities outlined, please contact: skills@oxfordshirelep.com or visit www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills



OxLEP Skills aims to ensure that every person who lives and works in the county is equipped with the skills they need to maximise their potential. We have created this offer to help organisations understand how they can get involved to make this a reality. *Please note, all these programmes are fully funded and as such are free for employers to engage.*



Give an hour to inspire the next generation



Become an Enterprise Adviser



Unlock or access the Apprenticeship Levy



Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Grant Scheme



Oxfordshire Apprenticeship Awards



Apprenticeship Ambassador Scheme



Mentoring



Community Employment Plans

For more information on any of these opportunities, please contact: skills@oxfordshirelep.com or visit www.oxfordshirelep.com/skills