

The Enterprise Adviser Role - Frequently Asked Questions

Getting started

What is a Careers Hub?

[Careers Hubs](#) improve careers education for young people by working directly with schools, special schools, colleges, Enterprise Advisers, employers and apprenticeship providers in local areas across England. There are 44 Careers Hubs nationwide, organised as partnerships between The Careers and Enterprise Company and organisations involved in local economic growth, such as Local Authorities and Mayoral Combined Authorities.

How do I get involved?

Simply complete the short '[register your interest](#)' form. You will be contacted by a member of our Careers Hub team. You can also find contact details for your local Careers Hub by using the postcode [search](#).

What happens after I register?

Your local Careers Hub will contact you within five working days to explain the next steps and arrange a call. They will guide you through the onboarding process and help find the best match based on your skills and interests.

What do I need to commit to?

You will be asked to commit to the role for a minimum of one academic year. Most Enterprise Advisers choose to continue beyond their first year once they see the difference their involvement makes. On average, Enterprise Advisers volunteer around four hours each month. This includes meetings, preparation, travel and follow-up activities, which can take place in person or online.

What are the key requirements?

Enterprise Advisers must complete a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check, follow safeguarding and conduct policies, take part in inductions, and engage in ongoing learning and networking through the Careers Hub.

Working with Schools and Colleges

I've never worked with a school or college before – am I suitable?

Every school, special school and college has different needs, and Careers Leaders vary in their capacity and experience. That's why we welcome a wide range of professionals. We look for people who are resilient, solution-focused and eager to make a difference. You do not need experience in education; your skills, knowledge and real-world insight are what help shape stronger careers education and brighter futures.

How will I work with an education institution?

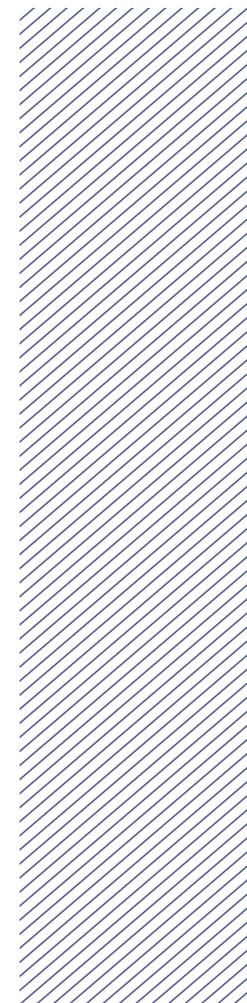
Careers Hubs connect volunteers with schools, special schools and colleges through long-term partnerships or short-term projects. Most Enterprise Advisers support one institution, though opportunities to work with more than one will be available.

Can I choose which school, special school or college I support?

We'll always take your preferences into account. However, your chosen school or college may already be matched with an Enterprise Adviser or may not need additional support at the time you sign up. If that's the case, your Careers Hub team will discuss alternative options with you.

How long does it take to start working in an education institution?

Matching times vary. While you wait, you can complete your induction and meet other Enterprise Advisers. If you are open to flexible support, your Enterprise Coordinator will talk you through current opportunities.



Can I work directly with young people?

While there may be opportunities to engage directly with young people, the Enterprise Adviser role mainly involves working with educators. It centres on providing strategic influence and inspiration, helping to design meaningful, high-quality careers experiences and connecting schools and colleges with employers. If your main interest is working directly with students, there may be other Careers Hub programmes that are a better fit, including support such as mock interviews or careers talks.

What training will I get?

You will receive a full induction to help you understand the role and feel confident from the start. Training is delivered locally through your Careers Hub. Throughout your time as an Enterprise Adviser, you'll have a named Enterprise Coordinator as your main point of contact, plus access to good-practice examples, webinars and networking opportunities. In some areas, you may also be able to shadow an experienced Enterprise Adviser.



What Enterprise Advisers do and the impact you'll make

What do I do as an Enterprise Adviser?

You will use your experience and leadership to shape modern, high-quality careers education, with a strong focus on supporting those who need it most. What you do will reflect your skills, experience and motivations, whether you volunteer independently or represent an employer. Your Careers Hub team will help you focus on where you can make the greatest impact. Depending on your strengths, you may:

- Influence and inspire by partnering with education leaders to shape careers programmes that deliver inclusive, meaningful workplace experiences for every young person.
- Co-design modern work experience by working with educators and fellow Enterprise Advisers to embed employer insight into the design and delivery of modern work experience.
- Connect and champion by using your networks to link schools and colleges with employers and advocate for modern work experience across your organisation, community and sector.

What difference will I make as an Enterprise Adviser?

Enterprise Advisers represent more than 2,000 employers and contribute the equivalent of £6.7 million in volunteer time each year, showing a collective commitment to improving young people's futures. Together, you help broker over 11,000 employer connections annually, strengthening links between education and business and creating opportunities for young people to experience the world of work.

What's out of scope?

While the role is wide-ranging and impactful, there are clear boundaries. Your role as an Enterprise Adviser does not include promoting or selling services to schools, special schools, or colleges; it is an advisory and strategic position, not a commercial one. It also does not involve duplicating existing activity. Instead, you work in a complementary way alongside Careers Leaders and local networks, adding value to the support already in place.

Eligibility and key skills

I am a sole trader or recently retired. Can I still sign up?

Yes. Enterprise Advisers come from all backgrounds, sectors and career stages, and you can volunteer as an individual whether you are self-employed or retired. Your skills, experience and professional insight are what matter most. Even without current local business connections, you can make a meaningful contribution by helping a school or college strengthen employer engagement and develop a more strategic approach to building relationships.

Should I sign up through my employer or as an individual?

In most Careers Hubs, you will sign up as an individual. However, we also ask for your employer's details as part of the registration process, as you will be representing them in your role as an Enterprise Adviser.

This enables us to keep employers informed about their staff who volunteer nationally and, where appropriate, involve them in wider collaboration. Many employers value the opportunity to connect their Enterprise Advisers, share learning and create a broader collective impact, especially where volunteering is part of an employer-supported programme.

What skills do I need?

Key strengths include building relationships and influencing decisions, thinking strategically, co-designing meaningful work experience and supporting Careers Leaders to grow their confidence and capability. Clear communication, strong leadership, useful employer connections and an understanding of local labour-market needs will help you make the greatest impact.

Further information about the Enterprise Adviser role and how you can register interest can be found at: www.careersandenterprise.co.uk.

