

CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY (CEC)



Since June 2015, the Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC) has been connecting schools, colleges and careers providers to the world of work, ensuring young people are prepared and inspired to take up the jobs of tomorrow. The CEC uses its “cold spots” analysis to target its resources in areas of England most in need of additional careers and enterprise support².

BUILDING LOCAL NETWORKS TO CONNECT SCHOOLS WITH WORK

Funded and backed by the Department of Education, the CEC’s mission is to join up the fragmented landscape of careers and enterprise. The focus is to enable the best programmes to scale up their work and do more in the areas where they are needed most.

CEC builds local networks to connect employers with schools and colleges, opening pupils’ eyes to the skills and competencies that business require. By providing meaningful work experience, employers help schools with work-related learning, co-delivered by teachers. 1,700 Enterprise Advisers (60% at CEO or senior management level), who are business volunteers located in LEPs work directly with school leadership teams to develop effective employer engagement plans and with local businesses to equip young people with the skills they need. There is a threefold increase in the number of schools and colleges with employer engagement plans in three months after

being appointed an Enterprise Adviser.

The CEC Fund provides grants to ensure effective programmes reach young people. Nearly £10m has been invested in more than 100 proven careers and enterprise programmes, matched by £11m from external funding with approximately 75% invested in “cold spot” areas. So far 250,000 young people have benefited and there have been 170,000 new encounters between young people and STEM employers. CEC also operates a Mentoring Fund which has invested £4m in 39 mentoring programmes. This funding will support 25,000 pre-GCSE teenagers at risk of disengaging from education by 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the programme: <http://www.scaleupinstitute.org.uk/scale-up-programmes/>

² <https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/research/publications/understanding-careers-cold-spots-2016>