



Impact Report
2022/2023

*Our mission is to unite education and business to inspire and equip
our future workforce for tomorrow's workplace*



This year (2023), we are excited to be celebrating our 30th anniversary!

We've come a long way and are extremely proud of our growth and our achievements each academic year.

~ We've got a fantastic team of 24 dedicated staff members, and we spread our wings over West Berkshire, Reading, Wokingham, Swindon, Oxford, and Hampshire.

~ We collaborate with **over 70 schools**, reaching almost **20,000 students** through in-school events annually.

~ But that's not all! We've teamed up with more than **900 businesses**, and our incredible business **volunteers** generously contribute **4,500 hours of their time** to support us annually.

~ And we organise a whopping **1,800 student work experience placements** each year, opening doors to new opportunities.

A huge heartfelt thanks to everyone who has joined us on our journey!

A message from our CEO:

“The academic year 22/23 was a busy one for us here at EBP. It was the first year in 3 years that our delivery was not affected by COVID, which meant we were fully back out running in person events and workshops in schools and could send students out on work experience placements.

We have continued to grow, impacting over 20,000 students across the Thames Valley area with either in school events or work experience placements. Our work has helped these students gain valuable employability skills, develop their confidence and awareness of their own strengths and potential, as well as informing them about different career paths available. We have worked closely with local businesses to truly meet our mission of “uniting education and business to inspire and equip our future workforce for tomorrow’s workplace”.

I was delighted and privileged to take on the role of CEO in May, to continue the excellent work done by my predecessor, Michelle Smith, and the team and I’m proud to say that during this time we also celebrated our 30th birthday. This officially fell in June 2023, but we planned our official celebrations to tie in with our largest ever Destinations Careers Expo that took place in October.

I would like to thank everyone who has supported us this year: businesses who have shared their time to volunteer at our events, to host students on work experience and to fund and engage with our programmes, all our funders for their contributions and of course our schools who have worked with us tirelessly to support their students – we couldn’t do it without you!

Thank you also to our dedicated Board of Trustees for their unwavering support and of course the fantastic EBP team for all their hard work and commitment.

I’m looking forward to further growth in 2023/24 with exciting new programmes launching, and new businesses and schools coming on board, to enable us to positively impact even more young people.”



Kate Barrow
Chief Executive Officer
kateb@ebp.org.uk

Developing Skills Team

This year we are back delivering our programme of events face-to-face in schools and are delighted to have been able to demonstrate the positive impacts detailed in the pages below.

For more information about any of our workshops, including content, pricing or Gatsby Benchmarks supported please refer to our Portfolio of Programmes:

[Primary Programmes](#)

[Secondary Programmes](#)

We are introducing some brand new workshops for 2024 which will be communicated soon so watch this space!



Main impact value for each type of workshop (and the question it was based on)

All About Me - **76%** of students said they found the workshop valuable

Cultivate - **99%** of students said they were motivated and inspired by the Cultivate Challenge

CV Writing - **92%** of students said they found the workshop valuable

Developing Life Skills - **98%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Discover My Future - **97%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Explore Racing - **100%** of students said they found this event valuable

Financial Awareness: Cost of Living - **82%** of students found this workshop valuable

Financial Awareness: Cost of Living Junior - **85%** of students said they enjoyed this workshop

Get Shirty - **85%** of students said they felt motivated and inspired by the challenge.

Guess My Job - **87%** of students said they'd like to take part in this workshop again



Financial Awareness – Cost of Living at Blessed Hugh Faringdon School

Business Volunteer quote:

“It was a really fun activity and most of the students were really engaged. Those less engaged at first really got into it.”

Main impact value for each type of workshop (and the question it was based on)

Growth Mindset - **97%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

High-Tech Horizons - **64%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Interview Prep - **87%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Mock Interviews - **74%** of students said they would like to take part in another mock interview

Preparing for Work - **86%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Pick n Mix employability skills days - **91%** of students said they found these days/workshops valuable

People Like Me - **90%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Primary Science - **82%** of students said they found this workshop valuable

Mock Interviews at Highdown School

Business Volunteer quotes:

“Brilliant initiative by EBP to help young people in providing a taste of the real-world interview preparation to improve their skills”

“It was a brilliant event, well organised, excellent resources and great fun! Thank you EBP.”



Main impact value for each type of workshop (and the question it was based on)

Site Visits to employers - **100%** of students said they found their site visit to be valuable

Spotlight on Careers - **87%** of students said they found these workshops valuable

Wellbeing Warriors - **72%** said they would like to take part in the workshop again

Zebra Experience Centre Visit - **100%** of students said they found the ZEC visit valuable



Preparing For Work at The Deanery

Student quote: "Hearing from employers and employees really helped me to find a new perspective in a world of work."

Teacher quote: "An outstanding, fully engaging, totally absorbing day that has had a huge, positive impact on our Year 11 students."

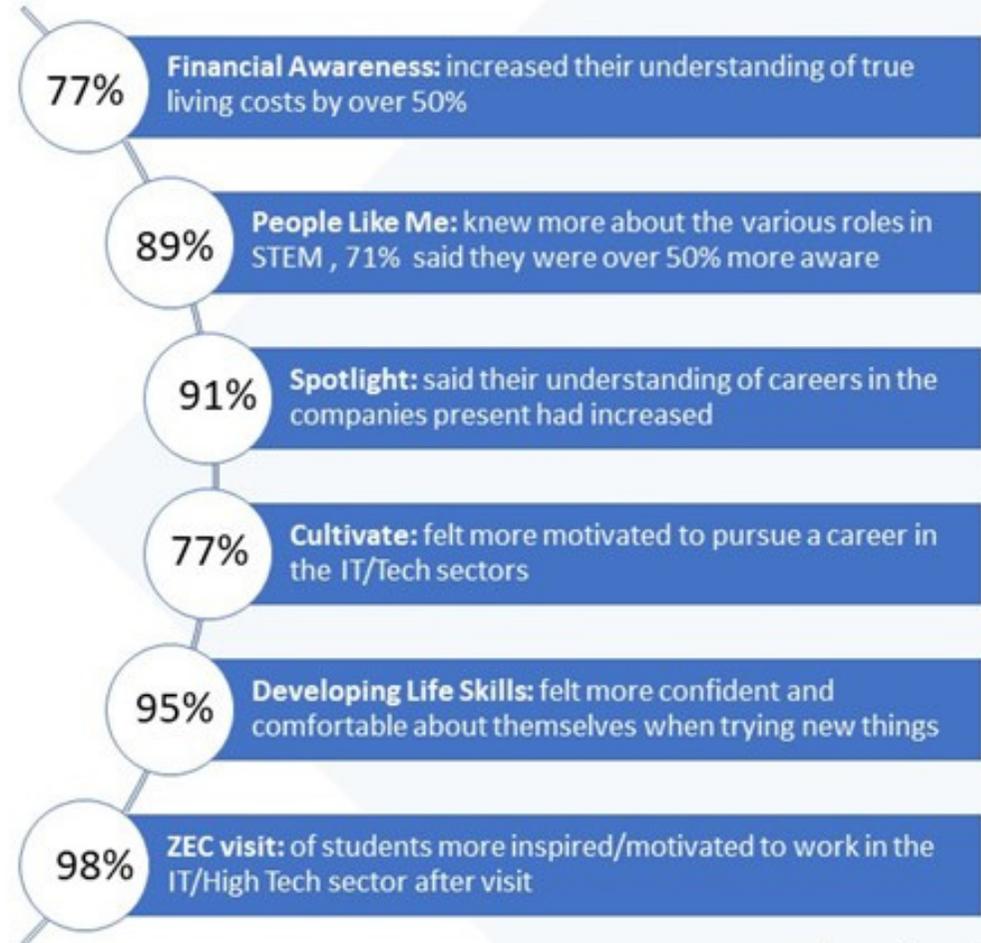
Teachers overall for all events:

97% of teachers said they would like to take part in these workshops again

Business Volunteers overall for all events:

99% of business volunteers said they would like to take part in these workshops again

Key impact data from all programmes 2022/2023



Work Experience Team

Why work experience?

YEUK's Youth Voice Census 2023 established that a lack of work experience is the biggest barrier faced by young people not in work, yet 2/3 of children leave school with no work experience. (Speakers for Schools, Youth Voice Census Sept 23)

Currently, most are navigating the journey to the world of work, unsure about the skills valued by employers and the route to gaining those skills.

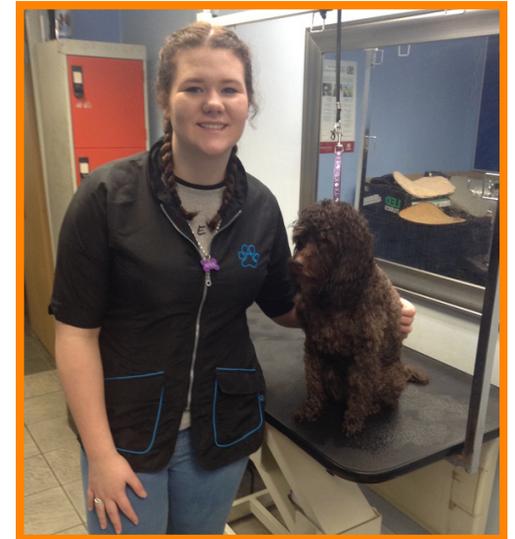
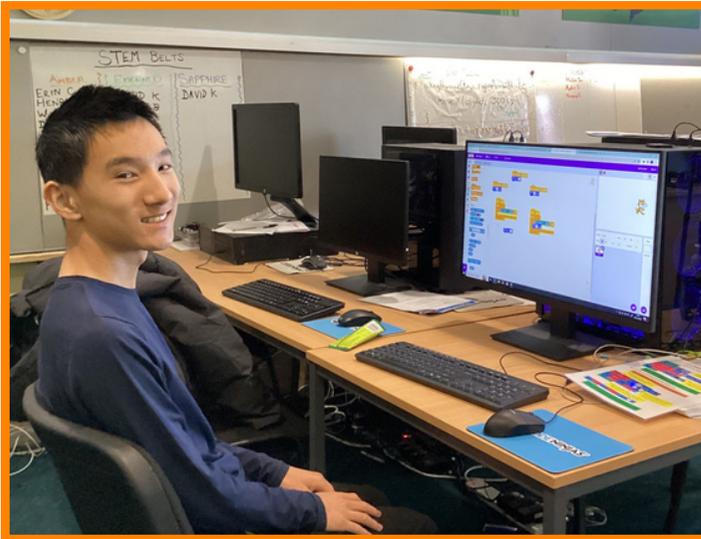


Students who complete work experience on average will raise their future earnings by over £1088 per year and attending work experience reduces the chance of becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) from 11% to 7%.

Work Experience Team

By the end of the Summer 2023, the work experience team had placed **over 1800 students** in their chosen placement.

This resulted in many success stories, including apprenticeships and part time work being offered, as well as some lucky students having their own work printed at a local publishing company!



Work experience has supported our students to build their confidence, develop soft skills that increase their employability chances and also provides them with valuable additional experiences they can draw on when they come to apply to further education courses, or start to write CV's and apply for work in the future.

Destinations Expo 2022



Careers fairs provide the perfect opportunity for businesses to raise their profile with our future workforce, inform young people about the opportunities within the organisation and showcase the different routes available. These events enable young people to gain invaluable real-life interactions with businesses. They inspire and motivate as well as showing the immense diversity of jobs and career paths available to them.

Destinations Expo is our annual interactive careers fair for Year 11-13 students from West Berkshire and North Hampshire. It is the largest of its type in the area and is a fantastic opportunity for local businesses to source new talent, inspire the future workforce and showcase the benefits of working for an organisation.

Universities and pathway providers are invited from further afield and have the opportunity to engage with up to 1500 students.

If your school or organisation would like to be involved, then please get in touch: GeorginaCR@ebp.org.uk



Destinations Expo 2022

Destinations Expo 2022 was a resounding success with very positive feedback from all parties.

89% of students said their knowledge and understanding of the organisations present had increased,
52% of students said their knowledge had increased by over 50%



98% of business volunteers said they would like to take part in this event again



Quotes from businesses:

“Fantastic opportunity to engage with students we wouldn't meet with otherwise”

“It was wonderful to meet so many exciting young people with high aspirations”

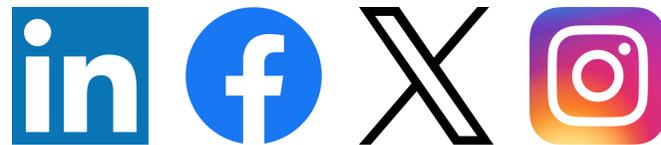
Student quotes:

“This event was really good, it helped me decide which career path to take”

“Great opportunity, would do again 100%”

“Very insightful, I got to learn about more opportunities which are available to me”

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