



Volunteer Newsletter

9th December 2025

Dear Volunteer Business Ambassador,

This is our last newsletter for 2025. Lots of your favourite events are needing volunteers in the New Year. We would love to have your help!

Please note that volunteers DO NOT require a DBS check to attend our events so this need not be a barrier to volunteering for you or your colleagues. Volunteers don't need to be from any particular sector of the workforce. Retired individuals are also very welcome.

Please send an email to events@ebp.org.uk if you are able to get involved. Please do not reply to this email which will take you to our "no-replies" inbox.

Thank you,

Wishing you all a lovely Christmas break and all good things for 2026,
Julie Cageao and Paul Rose, Business Engagement Specialists

Events coming up:

Reading / Tilehurst

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School, Reading

Spotlight on Careers, Wednesday 21st January, 08:30-15:15, Year 9

1 volunteer organisations needed

Showcase Your Industry – Inspire Future Talent

Does your business offer apprenticeships or alternative routes into employment? Join our *Spotlight on Careers* programme and connect directly with students through a dynamic, full-day, in-school event.



As a **Business Ambassador**, you'll deliver a 1-hour interactive workshop (repeated throughout the day) to small groups of students. Your session should include a hands-on activity or challenge that highlights your industry and the career paths available.

Why take part?

- ✓ Attract future talent ✓ Raise awareness of career opportunities
- ✓ Help close skill gaps ✓ Gain insights from young people

We'll support you with planning, ideas, and guidance from our experienced team.

Workshop format might include:

- Quick intro to your business
- Engaging activity or game
- Real job role insights
- Q&A – students are curious and eager to learn!

The Bulmershe School, Reading

Interview Preparation, Tuesday 27th January, 08:30–15:00, Year 10

3 volunteers needed

Business Ambassadors are required to support EBP staff whilst they deliver this workshop by offering their own advice and expertise about what they need to do to prepare for a job interview. The Business Volunteers will not be expected to deliver any content but be available to share insights, experiences and advice about interviews.

The Bulmershe School, Reading

Guess My Job, Tuesday 27th January, 08:30–15:00, Year 10

2 volunteers needed

Business Volunteers are asked a number of questions by the students, to which they can only answer Yes or No. The students can 'guess their job' in a given time. Volunteers then spend a few more minutes with the students, answering questions in more detail about what they do. No advance preparation is needed.



Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School, Reading

Mock Interviews, Wednesday 28th January, Time TBC, Year 12

6 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

The Bulmershe School, Reading

Mock Interviews, Monday 2nd February 2026, 08:30–15:00, Year 10

19 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre, Reading

CV Writing, Tuesday 3rd February, 08:30–15:00, Year 10

1 volunteer needed

The purpose of this workshop is to support students to feel confident about entering the world of work and the initial process to finding employment. A vital first step to this is how to showcase their skills, interests and experience by creating a dynamic CV. Students will also look at how to write a personal statement and learning its purpose and significance. Business Ambassadors are required to support our staff, whilst they deliver the workshop, by offering their advice and expertise. Business Ambassadors do not have to prepare anything in advance.



Maiden Erlegh School, Earley

Mock Interviews, Friday 6th February, 08:30–14:30, Year 11

12 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

The Willink School, Reading

Mock Interviews, Wednesday 11th February, 08:15–12:00, Year 11

16 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

Reading Girls School

Spotlight on Careers, Tuesday 3rd March, 08:30–15:15, Year 8

3 volunteer organisations needed

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Why take part?

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- ✓ Help close skill gaps ✓ Gain insights from young people



We'll support you with planning, ideas, and guidance from our experienced team.

Workshop format might include:

- Quick intro to your business
- Engaging activity or game
- Real job role insights
- Q&A – students are curious and eager to learn!

The Wren School, Reading

CV Writing, Friday 6th March, 08:30–15:00, Year 12

2 volunteers needed

The purpose of this workshop is to support students to feel confident about entering the world of work and the initial process to finding employment. A vital first step to this is how to showcase their skills, interests and experience by creating a dynamic CV. Students will also look at how to write a personal statement and learning its purpose and significance. Business Ambassadors are required to support our staff, whilst they deliver the workshop, by offering their advice and expertise. Business Ambassadors do not have to prepare anything in advance.

Bradfield College, Reading

CV Writing, Thursday 12th March, 08:15–10:30, Year 12

3 volunteers needed

The purpose of this workshop is to support students to feel confident about entering the world of work and the initial process to finding employment. A vital first step to this is how to showcase their skills, interests and experience by creating a dynamic CV. Students will also look at how to write a personal statement and learning its purpose and significance. Business Ambassadors are required to support our staff, whilst they deliver the workshop, by offering their advice and expertise. Business Ambassadors do not have to prepare anything in advance.

The College has requested volunteers who ideally will have experience in finance or dealing with budgets.

The Wren School, Reading

Interview Preparation, Friday 13th March, 08:30–15:00, Year 12

2 volunteers needed

Business Ambassadors are required to support EBP staff whilst they deliver this workshop by offering their own advice and expertise about what they need to do to prepare for a job interview. The Business Volunteers will not be expected to deliver any content but be available to share insights, experiences and advice about interviews.

Little Heath School, Reading

Mock Interviews, Tuesday 17th March, 08:30–13:20, Year 10

20 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

The Wren School, Reading

Mock Interviews, Friday 20th March, 08:30–15:00, Year 12

13 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

Little Heath School, Reading

AI Debate, Monday 8th June, 08:30–15:00, Year 9

2 volunteers needed

This workshop aims to engage students in critical discussions about the ethical aspects of artificial intelligence. The workshop enhances their understanding of the complexities and implications of AI technologies. Ideally volunteers will have a career in AI or have a working knowledge of AI and how it impacts on peoples' everyday lives and the careers of the future.

Leighton Park School, Reading

Get Shirty, Monday 22nd June, 08:30–16:15, Year 9

8 volunteers needed

Students will spend the day with business volunteers, developing ideas and producing a comprehensive business plan for an independent t-shirt manufacturing company. The students will produce a detailed portfolio which contains all of their design ideas, packing requirements, promotional material and financial plans as well as design and create a team t-shirt. Students will be guided by EBP staff and volunteers. A full briefing will be given in advance. No prior preparation is required. **Whatever your specialism (mentoring, strategy, finance, marketing, design, etc), you will be well-placed to support these young people.**

Highdown School and Sixth Form Centre, Reading

People Like Me, Wednesday 24th June, 08:30–15:00, Year 9

2 volunteers needed

To help students to identify their skills and strengths and careers best suited to them. In this workshop, students complete a questionnaire which uses their skills and strengths to form a profile of themselves. This profile is then used to identify/suggest the roles/areas within STEM careers that the student would be best suited to. Business Ambassadors from STEM related organisations are needed to complete the questionnaire and share their experience with the students.

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School, Reading

Guess My Job, Wednesday 8th July, 08:30–14:00, Year 7

2 volunteers needed

Business Volunteers are asked a number of questions by the students, to which they can only answer Yes or No. The students can 'guess their job' in a given time. Volunteers then spend a few more minutes with the students, answering questions in more detail about what they do. No advance preparation is needed.

Tadley

The Hurst School, Tadley

Mock Interviews, Tuesday 20th January, 08:30–14:30, Year 10

4 volunteers needed

Business volunteers from a cross-section of organisations are required to help facilitate mock interviews sessions and share their expertise. Practice interviews give students the chance to gain confidence and put new skills into practice with business professionals in a supportive and familiar environment. Each student will have about 15 minutes for the interview and then 5 minutes for your feedback.

Swindon / Wiltshire

The Deanery CE Academy, Swindon

Pick N Mix, Friday 9th January, 08:30–14:30, Year 11

1 volunteer needed

Students benefit from a pick and mix of sessions to prepare them for work, such as All About Me, Growth Mindset, Labour Market Information, Interview Techniques, People Like Me, Sector Insight, Financial Awareness Cost of Living, Health and Safety in the Workplace.

At EBP, **we are committed to building a diverse and inclusive community of volunteers** who reflect the wide range of backgrounds and experiences of the young people we support. We welcome volunteers from all walks of life, including people of all ages and cultures, those from global majority backgrounds, those from the LGBTQ+ community, those with disabilities, and neurodiverse individuals. We are keen to understand and meet individual support needs wherever we can. We want every young person to feel seen, heard, and represented, and believe that by bringing together volunteers with varied experiences, we can help prepare them for the future with confidence and support. Your unique perspective will help make a real impact!

Other news:

**Looking to make a difference?
Join us as an Office Volunteer!**

Are you passionate about helping young people prepare for the world of work? We're looking for enthusiastic volunteers to support our busy office team! Whether it's data entry, preparing resources, making calls

to recruit business volunteers, or connecting with schools – there's always something meaningful to do.

Got a specific skill or expertise you think could help EBP? We'd love to hear from you!

Flexible hours and a friendly team in our office at Shaw House, Newbury. Come be part of something that really matters.

Interested? Get in touch with us today! events@ebp.org.uk

**A small
donation
makes a big
difference 😊**



**Wishlist
amazon**



**WEST
BERKSHIRE
LOTTERY**
WINNING TOGETHER




**Support us through
easyfundraising**



**Talk about your volunteering
experience on social media
and tag us, to encourage
others to get involved!**

**There are so many ways that you
can support the work we do!**