



Volunteer Newsletter

13th January 2026

Dear Volunteer Business Ambassador,

Happy New Year to you all! We hope you have enjoyed the festive break.

We have a lot of opportunities coming up over the coming months and need lots of help, so please do let us know if there is anything you can attend. Your support is really appreciated and vital to the success of our events.

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 and best wishes,

Julie Cageao and Paul Rose, Business Engagement Specialists

Volunteers DO NOT require a DBS check to attend our events and you don't need to be from any particular sector of the workforce. Retired individuals are very welcome.

Events coming up:

Reading / Tilehurst

The Bulmershe School, Reading

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

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.

The Bulmershe School, Reading

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

1 volunteer 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, 10:45-15:00, Year 12

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.

The Bulmershe School, Reading

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

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.

Maiden Erlegh School, Earley

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

7 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

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.

Reading Girls School

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

3 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 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

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.

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

1 volunteer 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.

Wokingham

High Close SEN School, Wokingham

Enrichment Day, Thursday 12th February, 09:00-14:45, Year 9-11

6 volunteers needed

We would love to hear from vocational companies or business ambassadors based in the local area who could help us with a lovely project at High Close School which will involve the following activities:

Guess My Job Morning with Year 8 & 9:

This is a fun and interactive event where you will be interviewed by a group of students who will try to guess what you do for a living. After student questioning and guessing you will reveal your role and talk about your career journey.

Mixed Activities Afternoon with Year 10 & 11

After an icebreaker activity looking at Growth Mindset, the majority of volunteers will be asked to support students with their Mock Interviews – interviewing the students and sharing your expertise with them in a positive and supportive environment. Other volunteers will be asked to remain in the main room to support with a creative activity which students will be completing when not being interviewed.

Experience of young people with Special Educational Needs is useful but not essential as a full briefing will be given. Ideally, all volunteers will support the whole day to understand the school, but 2 x half-day shifts will be accommodated.

Swindon / Wiltshire

The Corsham School, Corsham

Scrap Challenge, Thursday 16th April, 08:45-14:00, Year 7

8 volunteers needed

Students will work in a team and put their imagination and engineering skills to the test with Cardboard City! Today's cities are highly varied throughout the world, ideally to best suit the needs of their residents. Each has different services, layouts, features and styles. A cardboard city of their own design can become anything they desire. A winning product/service will be chosen from all the teams. Business Ambassadors will assist the students in the design and build of their creation, so no prior preparation is required.

The Corsham School, Corsham

Guess My Job, Wednesday 6th May, 08:45-14:30, Year 8

10 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.

The Corsham School, Corsham

Mock Interviews, Thursday 25th June, 08:45-13:00, Year 10

18 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.

Basingstoke

North Waltham Primary School, Waltham

Guess My Job & Intro to Engineering

Tuesday 10th February, 09:30-12:00, Years 4, 5 & 6

3 volunteers needed

Guess My Job: This is a fun event for students to learn about job roles they may not be aware of and to break down stereotypes. 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

Intro to Engineering: The aim of this workshop is to understand how engineers shape our world, by learning the different types of engineering that is available. Business Ambassadors will help students with an interactive problem to solve. Business Volunteers will receive a full briefing prior to the event and a briefing on the morning of the event. No advance preparation is needed.

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 😊



**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!**

