Information for Employers

Here at Frank Wise school we are keen to engage with employers and providers, particularly those in our locality. We believe that our students should be an integral part of the local community and that high quality, meaningful careers and enterprise education will best prepare our students for the world of work.

Frank Wise School is an outstanding and inspirational community Special School with 120 pupils between the ages of 2 and 19 serving the area around Banbury. Recognised by OfSTED as having "A drive to excel [that] runs through the school's work", Frank Wise is characterised by a strong belief in highly individualised and inclusive provision. As such we group our pupils solely by age and are committed to providing weekly access to mainstream learning opportunities for all of our pupils.

Work Experience and Employer Engagement

Work experience and interactions with employers and employees are extremely important for our pupils. Research from the Education and Employers Taskforce has shown that young people who have four or more meaningful encounters with an employer are 86% less likely to be unemployed or not in education and training. There are also benefits for employers including helping to develop young people's futures, improving workplace diversity and social mobility, supporting employee development and embedding corporate social responsibility priorities. There is more information in the careers and enterprise employers-guide-schools-v2.pdf

We endeavour to ensure that, from year 7, every child has at least one experience of an employer or an employee in each school year. This often takes the form of business representatives visiting individual classes to complement the children's learning.

Frank Wise work with Enterprise Oxfordshire to inform our work and create opportunities for our students to engage with local employers:- https://www.oxfordshirelep.com/about/about-oxlep

We have a number of established partnerships with local business and are delighted to have Lisa Dixon from EKFB as our careers advisor. Local businesses such as DCS and Prodrive also provide significant ongoing support for our school.

Opportunities to work with Frank Wise school

A number of events, integrated into the school careers programme, offer an opportunity to engage with our pupils and/or their families. These include:

- Careers and Family Information Fair
- Business question and answer events
- Individual work experience placements and work place visits
- Inspirational talks
- Enterprise activities

We are always seeking new relationships with employers who would like to offer work place opportunities to our students. This might be a class visit to your place of work, a talk from an employee or the provision of a work experience placement. If you would like to get involved please contact our Careers Lead.

How we can help your business

At Frank Wise we aspire to develop two way partnerships with other organisations and are able to offer a number of opportunities for your business including -

- Working in partnership to provide disability awareness training. We will help you to develop effective communication and strategies for working successfully with disabled clients and colleagues.
- Sharing our vision for excellence. As an outstanding school we will show how we have built high impact expertise within a culture of continual improvement, to help your business to 'excel'.
- We offer opportunities for local community engagement to develop high visibility social impact for your organisation.
- We would love to make your business part of our community and help you to gain a better understanding of the potential of young people with learning disabilities as future employees and consumers.
- Work experience has many benefits for employers as well as to students. These range from simply giving back to your local community and gaining a reputation for investing in young people, through to benefiting existing employees by giving them opportunities to develop their supervisory and leadership skills.
- The Careers and Enterprise Company has a comprehensive guide to support employers in offering opportunities to school pupils here:- https://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/employers
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Partner Businesses

We are delighted to work in partnership with many local businesses, including these below.