



United Kingdom Careers Academy for Finance (UKCAF)

Unique opportunity for Financial Leeds' members to mentor a business finance sixth form student.

Mentors or Partners in Business are employee volunteers who provide Career Academy students with one-to-one support with coursework and life skills. They act as a role model, critical friend and advisor. Partners in Business meet their student about ten times over 18 months.

Each meeting lasts approximately an hour and a half and is an opportunity to help the student:

- reflect on recent coursework; reinforcing classroom learning with real life examples
- expand their understanding of business culture and workplace etiquette
- practice employability skills such as time management, problem solving, CV writing or interview techniques
- widen their network of business contacts for the future.

Partners in Business play an important role in the Career Academy experience. But this mentoring element of the Career Academy programme is voluntary for the young people. Career Academy students must really want a Partner in Business and commit to an 18-month relationship. Currently, eight out of ten students take advantage of this excellent opportunity.

Partners in Business range from recent graduates to managing directors, in both the private and public sectors. Each relationship is as individual as the people involved, and all will have different - but equally valid - experiences of the world of work to share. People are not 'trained' to be volunteers to be Partners in Business. But a formal framework and guidance materials are provided, so no prior mentoring experience is required.

If you are interested in becoming a Partner in Business or would like further details please contact Barry Hilton, Leeds Mentoring, 0113 214 4080 or barry.hilton@educationleeds.co.uk