

WORK INSIGHT & SKILLS WEEK



ABOUT SMBP

INTRODUCTION

A volunteer-led charity, SMBP is a collaboration of 170 commercial organisations, professional services firms and professional sports teams working in towns and cities across the U.K. All are committed to supporting students from low income backgrounds in their pursuit of a career in business.

Since 2014, SMBP has grown from offering opportunities to 20 students in London, to over 500 student places across the UK in 2022 through our award winning Work Insight & Skills Programme.

Our programmes are designed with the Gatsby Career Benchmarks in mind. Research from the Education and Employers Taskforce shows that a young person who has four or more meaningful encounters with an **employer** is **86% less likely to be unemployed** or not in education or training and can **earn up to 22% more during their careers**.

As such, our Work Insight & Skills Week supports students from low-income backgrounds helping them **meet and interact with professionals at a range of high-profile firms**. Students will take part in creative business-like tasks and learn about a day-in-the-life of a variety of business leaders. They may also receive a tour of the office and further networking opportunities.

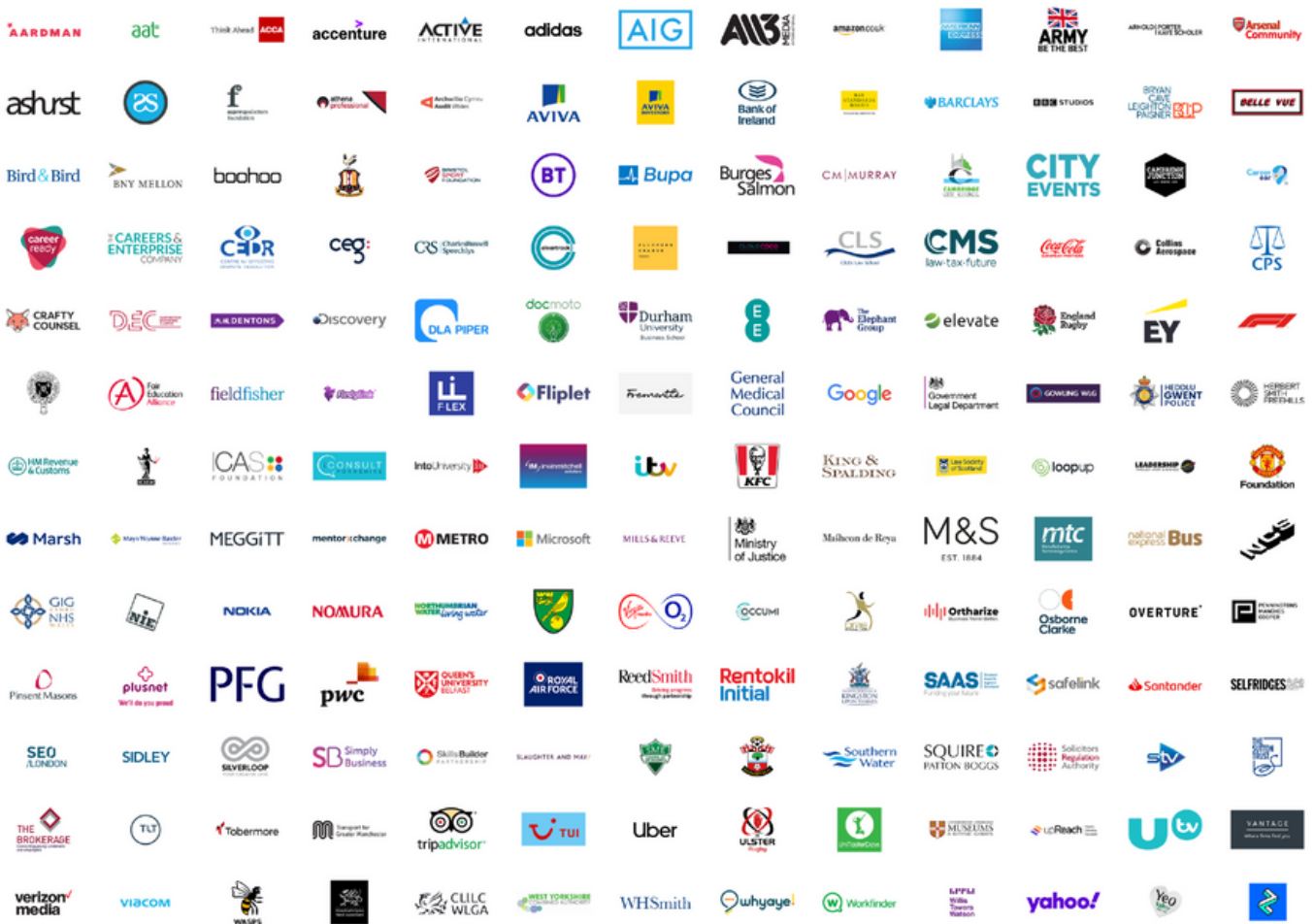


OUR PARTNERS

COLLABORATION

We collaborate with businesses, universities, charities and individuals to create our unique programmes, using their insight and expertise to make sure every student gains an invaluable experience.

Below are the organisations we worked with in 2022.





Skills Builder

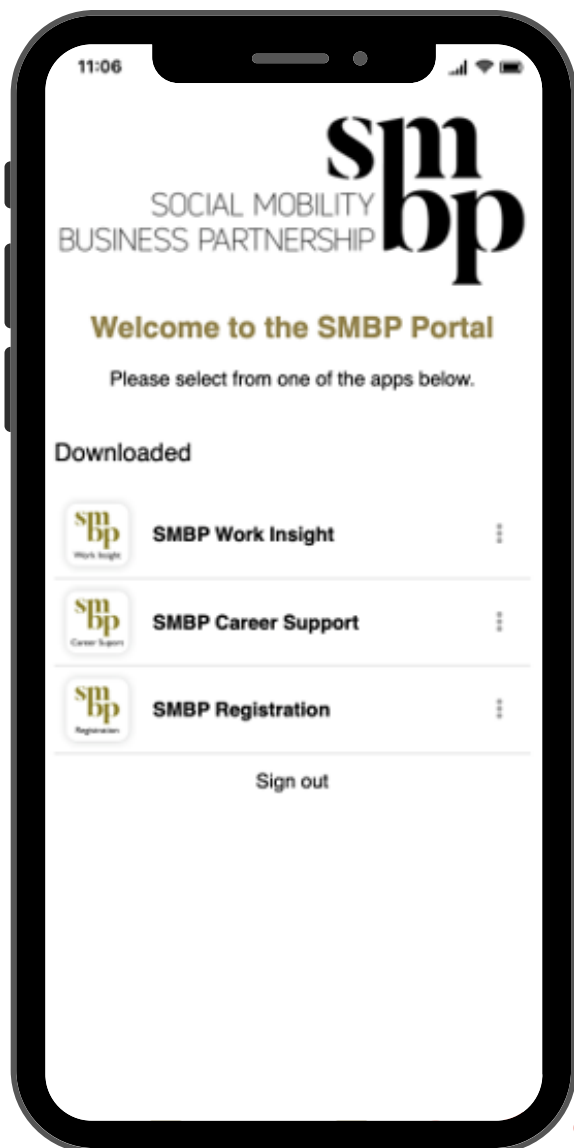
Progressing in
essential skills

SMBP are proudly rated
Impact Level 4
by SkillsBuilder

HOW WE WORK

WORK INSIGHT & SKILLS WEEK

SMBP APP



Our programme is **completely free** for students to attend, with lunch provided every day and travel costs covered.

Students benefit from visiting four different businesses in a week, learning through interactive business games, and spend the fifth day at a professional sports club where they learn about the psychology of resilience.

Students are invited to an induction the week prior to the Programme where SMBP staff will discuss the importance of competencies and inform students of the week ahead and what to expect.

They are given access to the SMBP App upon registration where they can access everything they need for the week, plus access to additional career support, our skills zone, information on student finance and much more.

Following the week, the SMBP Career Mentoring platform will support each student with their career journey.

BENEFITS

WHAT WILL STUDENTS GAIN?

1 Develop key competencies to boost their applications:

- Teamwork & Leadership
- Resilience & Goal Planning
- Communication
- Creativity & Problem Solving

2 Multiple high-profile corporate brand names to include in their Personal Statements and CVs to make them stand out

3 Assistance along each step of their career journey on the SMBP online career mentoring platform

4 Excellent networking opportunities and the option to be first to know about career opportunities from our partners, including Apprenticeships and jobs and bursaries

A smartphone displaying the 'Daily Skills Log' app interface. The screen shows the title 'Daily Skills Log' and a brief instruction: 'Each day, you can use this form to reflect on what you have learned and any key points you want to remember. Once submitted, your responses will be emailed to you for you to refer back to.' Below this, there is a section for 'Required fields' with several input fields: 'Which hosted partner hosted your session today?' (text input), 'Which competency did you develop?' (dropdown menu with '-- Select one' and a green arrow), 'Describe the task you were given' (text input), 'Describe what you did' (text input), 'What was the end result?' (text input), and 'What would you have done differently?' (text input). The phone's status bar at the top shows the time 15:26 and various icons.

ELIGIBILITY

WHO CAN APPLY?

In England or Wales, students applying must:

1. Be in Year 12 or Year 13 or 16 - 18 years old at college
2. Have attended a state-funded, non fee-paying school/college
3. Live within an hour's commute of the cluster area.

We prioritise places to students who:

4. Have 5 A*-C grades or 5 grades 4-9 in their GCSEs
5. Are first generation to attend university in their family; or
Have been eligible for free school meals in the last 6 years; or
Be from a low-income household*

*a low income household is defined as such if the total household income is less than the areas average household expenditure. The table details the average household expenditure by area:



Region	Average Weekly Household Expenditure	Average Yearly Household Expenditure
North East England	£544	£28,300
North West England	£578	£30,040
Yorkshire and the Humber	£578	£30,035
East Midlands	£618	£32,138
West Midlands	£572	£29,768
East England	£662	£34,444
London	£766	£39,852
South East England	£761	£39,597
South West England	£672	£34,949
Wales	£559	£29,077

CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT

FURTHER SUPPORT



After taking part in one of our Work Insight & Skills Weeks or our National Online Week, students will receive the following ongoing support:

1. Access to SMBP's Career Mentoring Platform

Here students can receive ongoing assistance with:

- creating Personal Statements and CVs
- completing application forms
- preparing for interviews

2. Receive SMBP Recruitment Bites

Students can receive recruitment opportunities from our 170+ participating businesses, including apprenticeship opportunities and graduate roles.

3. Apply to join our Ambassador Programme

Students on our Ambassador Programme spend a year building their presentation skills and communication confidence by presenting to their peers about their experience with SMBP. They will be allocated an SMBP Buddy (a member of our Alumni Advisory Committee) who will support them in monthly development meetings.



OUR SUPPORT

MEETING YOUR GATSBY BENCHMARKS

- The Gatsby Career Benchmarks are a framework that schools and colleges can use to develop a good careers programme. There are eight Benchmarks in total, and they are the recommended elements of good practice in career guidance.

SMBP's programmes are designed with this framework in mind, to help schools and colleges provide their students with a variety of meaningful employer experiences and guidance.

Gatsby Benchmark	Definition	SMBP Offering
Encounters With Employers and Employees	Every pupil should have multiple opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. This can be through a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes.	Our Work Insight & Skills Week and National Online Week offer students five different insights into different employers.
Experiences Of Workplaces	Every pupil should have first-hand experience of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.	
Personal Guidance	Every pupil should have opportunities for guidance interviews with a career adviser, who could be internal (a member of school staff) or external, provided they are trained to an appropriate level. These should be available whenever significant study or career choices are being made. They should be expected for all pupils but should be timed to meet their individual needs.	Our Career Mentoring platform and Ambassador Programme provide ongoing opportunities for students to receive career support once they have taken part in either our Work Insight & Skills Week or our National Online Week.

*WHEN DO OUR
PROGRAMMES RUN?*

OUR 2023 DATES AND LOCATIONS

DATES	PROGRAMME LOCATION
10th – 14th April	National Online Week (all of UK)
3rd - 7th July	Belfast
24th - 28th July	Birmingham Bradford Brighton Bristol Cardiff (Public Sector Focus) Derby Leeds North East* North West England† Norwich Reading Rugby & Coventry Wrexham
31st July - 4th Aug	London
TBC	Glasgow Cambridge (Creative Industry Focus)

*Days delivered in Sunderland area

†Days delivered in Blackpool and Manchester area

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

ACTIONS

- 1** Get in touch and we'll arrange a call to talk about the programme and answer any questions
- 2** Identify eligible students to apply for the programme and encourage them to apply
- 3** Set up a time for us to speak to your students in-person
- 4** Set time aside to ensure eligible students to apply via our website: <https://smbp.org.uk/students/>

Note: applications for all programmes open in January. Students can register their interest before January via our website.





SOCIAL MOBILITY
BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

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