

# MASTERCLASS MENTORING



Masterclass Mentoring is just one of the ways EBC offers its business partners an opportunity to develop their workforce and to recognise their individual involvement in influencing and enhancing the learning of young people.

Originally designed to support EBC's award winning work in linking schools with businesses from the hospitality, leisure, travel and tourism sector, Masterclass Mentors now provides businesses from all sectors the opportunity to gain an innovative Level 2 qualification for staff who work with young people to improve their understanding of the world of work. The emphasis is on hands on involvement with young people.

Business supporters are matched with schools and ask to support young people's learning through a mix of classroom sessions, industrial visits and the delivering activities at EBC's wide range of large scale events.

Activities delivered by business supporters can range from:

- A presentation on the business supporter's organisation and the services it offers.
- A talk on their organisation, its structures and career opportunities available
- Providing an insight into entry routes and potential progression paths in their sector.
- Hosting a visit to their business base to provide young people with an insight into the world of work.
- Supporting teachers' professional development through provision of an industrial placement in their workplace.
- Designing and delivering activities to young people at one of EBC's large scale events.

These activities themselves give professional and personal development opportunities for business supporters in terms of improving communication and presentation skills and project management.

Through Masterclass Mentoring, however, EBC seeks to get the new skills acquired, experience gained and involvement with young people's development formally recognised through a Level 2 qualification accredited by the Open College Network North East Region (OCNNER). Participants are encouraged to reflect on their development and learning throughout the process.

EBC staff work with the individual business supporter to build up a portfolio of evidence which is then submitted to the OCNNER for accreditation.

Education Business Connection provides:

- A brokerage service between business supporters and schools to ensure maximum benefit for both parties.
- A range of professional and personal development opportunities for business supporters.
- Support in development and collation of required evidence for the Open College Network North East Region Masterclass Mentoring Level 2 accredited qualification.
- Support for business supporters in final preparation of portfolios for accreditation submission.
- Full liaison with external verifiers.
- **Practical advice and guidance to business partners to develop suitable activities which provide an insight into the topic under focus.**
- Integration of key employability skills and enterprise education across all activities.
- Full programme organisation.
- Full post-activity evaluation.

**'BUILDING CONFIDENCE** IN YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH A **CREATIVE APPROACH**  
**TO CURRICULUM NEEDS AND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS'**