



# What is the **Enterprise Adviser Network?**

**The Enterprise Adviser Network is a national initiative that brings together business leaders with senior leadership teams in schools and colleges.**

Business and education work together strategically and operationally to bridge the gap between education and the world of work and embed a more fit for purpose careers programme.

Enterprise Advisers are senior leaders in business or the public or third sector who volunteer their time to engage and support education, students and teachers in a way that is focused, structured and planned.

The Enterprise Adviser Network is managed at a national level by The Careers & Enterprise Company and at a regional level by Local Enterprise Partnerships.

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## **What are the benefits to my business/organisation?**

- **Networking.** Enterprise Advisers belong to a regional and national network, representing a wide range of organisations and sector leaders.
- **Skills.** As an Enterprise Adviser you are able to advise the school or college on the skills and qualities required to succeed within your business/sector – improving the skills pipeline in your local area.
- **Talent.** Working closely with the school or college at a strategic level and/or by participating in activities means that you will be able to spot talented young people for your business and sector.
- **Community.** Volunteering as an Enterprise Adviser fulfils corporate social responsibility objectives, leading to a greater understanding of the local community and customer base.
- **Personal Development.** Being able to adapt to an unfamiliar school or college environment and structure lends itself to excellent personal development opportunities and transferable skills and experiences for the workplace.

# Creating 100,000 more and better jobs for the North East.

**The North East Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is a public, private, and education sector partnership that covers Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland local authority areas.**

Our aim is to create 100,000 more jobs for the North East economy and to ensure that 70% of these jobs are better jobs.

We do this by providing strategic economic leadership for the region, working with partners and facilitating the delivery of the strategic economic plan (SEP).

Improving skills is at the heart of SEP activities. We have committed to support every school and college in the region to adopt and implement the Gatsby Career Benchmarks (find out more on our website, [www.nelep.co.uk](http://www.nelep.co.uk)) and the Enterprise Adviser Network is a key part of this.

We'd like to give each and every young person in our region the opportunity to have meaningful interactions with the world of work. By becoming an Enterprise Adviser you can help us to achieve that goal.

## How do I become an Enterprise Adviser?

Senior leaders who want to become Enterprise Advisers have two options for working and supporting education.

Both tiers of Enterprise Advisers will support education and address common actions that have been raised from a self-assessment the school or college will have completed against the Gatsby Career Benchmarks.

**Tier 1.** Working as strategic links and at a leadership team level in schools and colleges.

**Tier 2.** Enterprise Advisers who may not want to work at a strategic level but still want to engage and support schools or colleges in other ways like careers events, interview days, mentoring etc.

## Criteria for becoming an Enterprise Adviser

To become an Enterprise Adviser, the business leader must:

Hold a senior position within the company or have been identified and authorised as the most senior and appropriate person to engage with schools or colleges as an Enterprise Adviser

Be committed to supporting a school or college for at least one academic year and within a time frame that is mutually beneficial and convenient to you, your business and the school or college you are supporting

Develop, shape and add value to the school or college's careers, enterprise and employer engagement strategy

Be confident they can support the senior leadership team within the school or college

Use own contacts and other Enterprise Advisers within the Network to work with the school or college to help them enhance their careers, enterprise and employer engagement strategies

Share best practice across the Enterprise Adviser Network

Promote the role among existing contacts and networks to contribute to the recruitment of new Enterprise Advisers

Value existing relationships with employers, businesses and other organisations that schools or colleges may have and, where possible, use these partnerships

All Enterprise Advisers require a DBS check; if already checked, copies of these will be requested. The North East LEP will facilitate DBS checks for Enterprise Advisers who do not already have them.

## What support is available to an Enterprise Adviser?

Enterprise Advisers are supported by the North East LEP's Enterprise Co-ordinators throughout their involvement.

Enterprise Co-ordinators do a number of things to make sure that Enterprise Advisers are suitably prepared for the role and matched with the right school or college:

- Offer one to one and remote guidance and support
- Run regular briefings and network events
- Provide access to resources
- Share knowledge of local organisations
- Assist with troubleshooting.

**Want to find out more? [Click here](#) to visit the Gatsby Good Career Guidance information leaflet.**