

Mock Interviews

How can you help to improve the interview skills of young people in Croydon?



By offering us just a few hours per year as a volunteer interviewer you will help us to ensure that we can give every student in a Croydon school or college a Mock Interview!

Young people often need a lot of support to improve their confidence at interviews. By taking part as an interviewer you will help to prepare students to face the intensive competition in the world or work.

The CEBP Mock Interview programme gives students the opportunity to practice interview techniques in a formal setting before being exposed to the real thing.

Do I need to be an experienced interviewer?

Some experience is helpful, but not a prerequisite for taking part. CEBP provides you with the materials and documentation before the event: a list of questions and student feedback sheets. It is an ideal opportunity to practice your interview techniques and many employers encourage their employees to take part as it is an excellent tool for staff development.

What is the time commitment?

In general it is either a half or whole day commitment. Volunteers meet before school starts to attend a short briefing and meet the lead teacher. Refreshments are provided, and lunch too!

Where do Mock Interviews take place?

Frequently at the school site, often in the school hall or library, but CEBP also hosts events like this for smaller groups. Alternatively, large business organisations sometimes offer their facilities for the day, giving students a very realistic experience.

How are interviewers prepared?

CEBP will brief you and supply you with documentation needed before the event, including a list of questions, job specifications and method of student feedback. In general you will interview 5 candidates in a half-day event.

How are students prepared for Mock Interviews?

Students are given some preparation, often through interview technique advice in class e.g. training videos and are supported by teachers in the preparation of CVs and Letters of Application for the advertised posts.

What are the benefits to business?

- Opportunity for personal development
- Raise company profile in the community
- Knowledge of current education / qualifications
- Review of recruitment procedures / practices
- Knowing you are making a difference

What the students say:

'It really has helped me to think about how to "sell myself". I gained so much from this.'

'Now I feel better prepared and won't be frightened to step forward and shake hands.'

'I realise now that I need to prepare for an interview and think about questions to ask the employer too.'

What the business volunteers say:

'The day was well spent as I was able to make a difference.'

'A very rewarding experience, I saw the student improve as the interview went on.'

'It helped me too...to improve my questioning style.'

'I thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many talented students.'

Please invest in Croydon's young people and future by participating in this and other CEBP activities including:

- Mock Interviews
- Employability Skills Workshops
- Business Champions
- Enterprise Days
- Professional Development for Teachers
- Bizzy Partners

Contact the team at CEBP... we're here to help!



**Croydon Education
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