

Apprenticeship Fair Case study: London Academy, Barnet

Introduction

London Academy is an 11-18 school in Barnet, London. It is a richly diverse and vibrant community with over 1500 students and 200 staff dedicated to the highest standards and achievement for every young person.

The school's motto is "Leaders for Tomorrow". The education our young people receive is designed to encourage an active participation in shaping the future world through the local, national and ultimately, international community. Our aim is to realise the huge potential in students and staff through a relentless focus on learning underpinned by our belief that there are no limits to what can be achieved with continuous effort and practice.

How it worked

On May 8th, London Academy hosted The Apprentice Fair. A wide range of organisations were invited to present their apprenticeship provision to students from Years 11-13.

Representatives from a wide range of industries were present, covering a breadth and depth of apprenticeships. The employers included BT, Barratt homes Plc, HM Revenue and Customs, Hilton Hotel group and FW Conway, and the range of apprenticeships included Construction, Accountancy, Business Administration, Digital Media, IT, Hospitality and Catering, Hairdressing, Dental Technicians and Jewellery Making.



This was the first time the event was held, and was organised by the Barnet App Club – a group of 3 schools that has worked together over the last 3 years to develop awareness and information about apprenticeships in schools. Students who had been involved in the App Club were invited to come along at 3pm to hear a keynote presentation from a former student who is now an apprentice, and then other students from Yr 11-13 were invited to attend from the end of school until 5pm.

Students were informed of the event through assemblies, form periods and posters, and info about apprenticeships was distributed to form tutors to share with their forms. There were approx. 30 volunteers, of whom half were recruited through the Inspiring the Future website.



Evaluation

Inspiring the Future gave us access to a range of apprenticeships, and the facility to contact and co-ordinate volunteers. Other volunteers came from school and Borough contacts. Students tended to be quite amazed at the range of opportunities available through apprenticeships – our evaluation forms were sent to you so I hope there are some useful quotes on those.

inspiringthe**future**.org

It was a well-received event both for employers and students, however, as employer feedback highlighted, it is vital that we now get parents involved. From a school point of view, it is vital to get teachers informed and involved.

Contact details:

<http://www.londonacademy.org.uk/>

