

## Inspiring the Future Case Study

### **Smithdon School, Hunstanton, Norfolk**

Smithdon High School is a comprehensive school in Hunstanton, Norfolk. The current school population is 678 students and 96 staff (51 of whom are teachers). In a recent OFSTED report the school was rated Grade 2: Good. For a few years now the school has had specialist status in Mathematics and Computing, and is working on becoming specialist in performance arts.

### **Introduction to the event:**

The idea of the event was to help young people better understand apprenticeships. Due to the geographical location of the school, it was often difficult to find volunteers so it was hoped that with this event the students would be introduced to a range of companies, jobs and sectors. Volunteers included:

### **How it worked**

We hosted an apprenticeships speed networking session involving volunteers from a range of jobs and sectors, as part of an off time table day for students.

### **Evaluation**

The school felt the event was a success and the students got something positive out of it. Student comments ranged from "It was great that people are bothered about us and where we go from school." to "I found it interesting and it was good to know to hear from normal people and how they got to where they are!" and everything in between.

"The feedback from staff has been positive too today and I am sure all of the students took something away with them...in their own special way. I know I felt it was worthwhile and I just wanted you to know it is greatly appreciated. The volunteers were great and really flexible. They raised aspirations I am sure....some offered to come back too."

### **Feedback from the students**

Students found the experience informative and it has given them an insight into further opportunities available through apprenticeships.

### **School website**

<http://www.smithdon.norfolk.sch.uk/>