



Insight Into

Alliance 4 the Black Country skills working group have formed a consortium of member companies that are happy to provide a couple of hours of their time free of cost to make a presentation at secondary schools across the Black Country.

Background information:

Black Country School Leaver Destinations Year 11 Activity Survey (2008)

	Dudley	Sandwell	Walsall	Wolverhampton	Black Country
Full-time education %	80.2	77.6	79.8	81.7	79.7
Training (non employed) %	4.8	8.1	7.2	4.9	6.3
Employment with training %	3.4	2.5	2.3	1.0	2.4
Employment no training %	3.7	2.4	2.1	2.2	2.6
Voluntary work %	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Part time education %	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1
Part time employment %	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.5
NEET (available to labour market) %	4.4	5.9	5.1	5.2	5.1
NEET (not available to labour market) %	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7
Other	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Moved out of contact %	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.9	1.0
No response %	0.8	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.2
Refused to participate %	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Participation in Learning	88.5	88.2	89.2	87.7	88.4

“In terms of qualifications, overall in the Black Country, the proportion for the working age population with either a Level 4 or Level 3 qualification is lower than the regional average of 26% and 45% respectively. Some 19% of the economically active are qualified to Level 4 or above and 35% with Level 3 or above.

The impact of the current economic downturn is starting to show in official statistics. Using the jobseeker allowance claimant rate, the Black Country boroughs have seen a rise from 4.2% (Dudley), 5.6% (Sandwell), 5.4% (Walsall) and 6% (Wolverhampton) in December 2008

to 5.4% (Dudley), 7.0% (Sandwell), 6.9% (Walsall) and 7.4% (Wolverhampton) in March 2009.

Just over 18,000 new jobs in the Black Country are forecast between 2007 and 2017, along with more than a 190,000 due to 'replacement demand' created by retirements, job moves and other 'turnover' effects. In terms of the new net jobs forecast between 2007 and 2017, just below half are expected to be in higher skilled managerial, professional, associate professional and technical occupations and personal services, whilst a net decline is forecast in administrative and secretarial, skilled trades and machine and transport operatives".

Source: Learning and Skills Council, The Black Country Key Statistics 2009/2010.

Aims and objectives:

- To enable the professional services sectors in the Black Country to establish a relationship with local schools and students.
- To give students a clear view and understanding of the variety of jobs within the professional services sector.
- To manage students expectations of job availability.
- To guide students into a profession by exploring routes into work, via college, work placements or apprenticeships etc.
- To help students better understand 'a day in the life of...'
- To help students better understand the effort, hard work and determination that will get them into their chosen career.
- Discuss interview techniques, CV writing and presentation/appearance.

A typical presentation will outline:

- Introduction/background.
- What an individual does, e.g. accountant, solicitor etc.
- How they got there.
- Students options/routes into this sector.
- Variations of jobs within the sector.
- Expectations
- Q & A