



## **The Black Country Careers Hub – commitment to support young people as a Cornerstone Employer**

### **What is a Cornerstone Employer?**

A Cornerstone Employer is a business that is invested in the successful and sustainable delivery of careers education for young people and commits to join a leadership group of local businesses to support the schools, colleges and young people in their area. The Cornerstone Employers work together with their networks and the wider business community to ensure all young people have the opportunities they need to be prepared and inspired for the world of work. Cornerstone Employers may be large or small businesses, at local or national level, but it is important that they are:

- **Experienced** in engaging with education and so can lead by example and share their experience with other businesses.
- **Dedicated** to investing time and resource to benefit schools, colleges and young people.
- **Committed** to working with other Cornerstone Employers in the local area.
- **Willing** to galvanise their business networks in the area, to collaboratively meet the needs of schools, colleges and young people.
- **Focused** on sustainability and act as an ambassador and champion for social mobility.

### **Careers Hubs**

Careers Hubs are being set up to help transform careers education for young people around the country and are a central part of the government's Careers Strategy, published in December 2017. The Hubs comprise of local secondary schools and colleges working together with universities, training providers, employers and career professionals to provide the best practice standard for careers support, as set out by the eight Gatsby Benchmarks. All Careers Hubs will have access to support and funding to help them meet the Gatsby Benchmarks. This includes:

- A Hub Lead to help coordinate activity and build networks
- Access to bursaries for individual schools and colleges to train 'careers leaders'
- Central Hub Fund of equivalent to £1k per school or college
- Access to funding for schools and colleges to support employer encounters
- Support from a community of Cornerstone Employers

### **The Employer Commitment**

- We commit to help young people in our community to reach their full potential by working in partnership with local schools, colleges, the Department for Education and The Careers & Enterprise Company, to help promote social mobility and support equal opportunity for all.
- We will work collaboratively to build on locally-led best practice including existing relationships between businesses and schools in the local area.
- We will fulfil the commitments we agree with the local team and attend regular roundtable meetings to discuss progress against these plans. This will include reviewing actions required to address the following themes locally:

## Appendix 1

- Reach: more business connections with education
- Targeting: employers ensuring no young person is left behind
- Quality: innovative and meaningful encounters
- Sustainability: long term relationships with schools and colleges

**Agreed by (please complete and return):**

Name:

Date:

Organisation:

Job Title:

Email:

Main Cornerstone contact: Yes/No

**Additional Cornerstone Contact at your organisation:**

Name:

Date:

Organisation:

Job Title:

Email: