

BITCI EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

An Opportunity to Make a Difference in your Local Community

All our programmes offer huge benefits to both companies and to the young people that we engage with. Benefits are:

- Making a difference to a child's life
- Supporting your local community
- Adding diversity to your workday
- A feel good factor and some fun in the working day!

All support, coordination, tailored training, impact reporting and Garda vetting (if necessary) are provided by BITCI. The company and school appoint a coordinator for each programme below.

Primary School Programmes

Partnering with a local school, increasing a confidence and fluency in reading or maths through 1:1 and small group sessions that promote enjoyment of the topic as well.

Time to Read

Paired reading sessions of 30 minutes with a reading buddy using a range of books to improve literacy through enjoyment. All books are provided and sessions take place in the school.

Who? 8-12 volunteers for 60 minutes per week over 2 blocks of 8 weeks.

How? 1:1 paired reading with each volunteer committing to 1 hour per week for 8 weeks. There is also a workplace and a library visit.



Time to Count



A numeracy support programme, encouraging children's confidence and enjoyment of numbers through playing specially selected board games. All games are provided and sessions take place in the school.

Who? 6-12 volunteers for 60 minutes per week over 10 weeks.

How? Small groups within a full class. Depending on the number of volunteers, each volunteer commits to 5-10 weeks.

The schools we work with nationwide are all School Completion Programme schools (predominantly DEIS schools) and thus our programmes support those who most need access to quality employers, quality mentoring, and work experience. For them it represents the gateway to a whole new working world and potential future career opportunities, and we are here to provide guidance and support and to make it easy for you. Full evaluation reporting is provided on all programmes.

Post-Primary School Programmes

Partnering with a local School Completion Programme school, these programmes directly impact on school retention and give students an insight into careers and the future working world as well as improving their soft skills and confidence.

World of Work

A programme comprising 6 sessions with a range of topics including a company overview and visit, careers talks, soft skills and sustainability insights, and a closing session to wrap up.

Who? Typically between 4-8 volunteers for 60 minutes per session over 5-7 sessions. Not all volunteers would attend all sessions.

How? Delivering in-class sessions to a full class group of 2nd year students over several months with a workplace visit of a few hours in the company premises. This programme is part-funded by the Department of Education.



Student Mentoring



A 1:1 student mentoring programme across the academic year for 1 or 2 years with senior cycle students (5th and 6th years). Sessions provide individual support on a wide range of career-focused topics.

Who? Typically between 6-14 volunteers.

How? Sessions take place in the company premises for 1 hour sessions every 3 weeks during term time. This programme is part-funded by the Department of Education.

Time to GROW

Get Ready for Opportunities to Work - A student work experience programme for 4th and 5th years that is fully flexible. This is a pilot programme in Dublin currently.

Who? Work experience for between 2 and 12 students, to take place at the company premises.

How? Fully flexible, according to local arrangements - anything from 2 days to 1 week in a block or it could be one day a week for a month. This programme is fully funded by basis.point.



Next STEP



Supporting Transitions to Employment Programme for students in 5th and 6th year with special needs. A flexible work insights and work experience/shadowing programme. This is a pilot in Dublin and Galway currently.

Who? Career insights/work experience to between 1-5 students.

How? Fully flexible. This programme is fully funded by the Department of Education.

Industry Insights for Teachers

A showcase for your business and sector. Highlighting future trends, new technologies, skills gaps and career routes, to local guidance counsellors and teachers.

Who? Typically, 3-5 company speakers, including Site Lead, HR Lead, and new entrants from diverse routes such as apprenticeships and graduate programmes.

How? Fully flexible, typically 1.5 hours (online or at the company premises). This programme is fully funded by the Department of Education.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A REDUCED FEE AVAILABLE TO BITCI MEMBER COMPANIES.