How it works

Engaging employers and training providers

Working with employers and training providers will help to bring the programme to life, giving students real experiences and encounters with those working within domestic trades and a better understanding of the roles, skills and knowledge they will require, plus the types of activities/tasks they may encounter as an apprentice within domestic trades.

Employer and training provider visits

There are a number of ways in which you can engage with trades employers and training providers to bring the world of work to life for your students. You could invite them to:

- Present to your students on their organisation/roles
- Bring in apprentices
- Run interactive workshops demonstrating typical tasks
- Host a tour/visit at their organisation
- Host work experience/placements
- Run sessions developing your students' employability skills
- Share insights into the latest/upcoming vacancies that may be available in your area

"We found the hands-on workshop and visit really useful! It really worked for our learners."
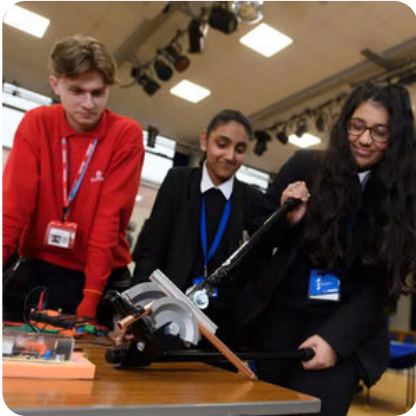
Finding employers/providers

A number of organisations are supporting the Try a Trade programme, plus schools/colleges will already have their own networks of employers/providers supporting their careers provision. On page 3, we explore some of the ways you can connect with employers and providers that can help your students.

Getting started

Finding employers/providers

Training Provider Networks

Training provider networks are networks of training providers, FE colleges, Universities and other organisations delivering apprenticeships, T Levels and other skills qualifications or study programmes. There are networks available across the country who you can connect with to link with local providers who can support your school/college.
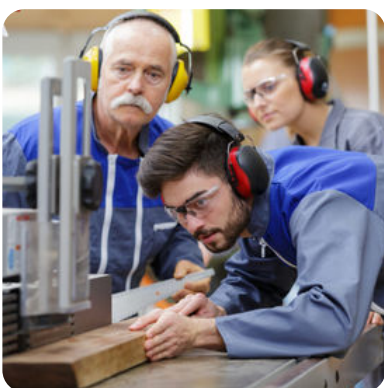
Careers & Enterprise Company

The Careers & Enterprise Company help schools/colleges to engage with local employers through their Careers Hubs and Enterprise Adviser Network. Make sure that you're connected in with your local Careers Hub or CEC Co-ordinator to find out how they might be able to support you.

Apprenticeship Ambassador Network

The Apprenticeship Ambassador Network (AAN) is a group of employers and former/current apprentices who volunteer their time to inspire more young people to pursue high-quality apprenticeships as a vibrant career route.
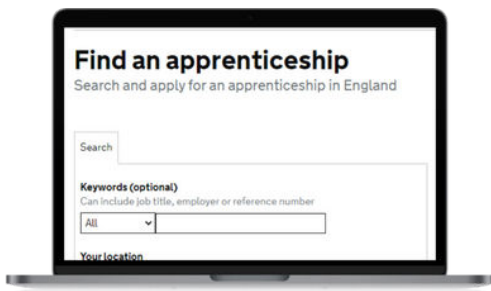
Local employers / employer networks

Using your local connections, reach out to any employers/providers that you work with who may be in the construction sector or work with other organisations who may be able to support you.

Getting started

Finding employers/providers

Employers/providers with vacancies

Take a look on websites such as Find an apprenticeship and other local or national jobs sites to see which employers or training providers may be advertising trades apprenticeship vacancies near you. They may be able to offer support in engaging with your students and generate interest in their roles and organisation.

Check-a-trade employers

Try a Trade is delivered by Check-a-trade, who have a network of over 47,000+ employers who will be receiving information about Try a Trade and how they can support schools/colleges involved. As employer outreach develops through the programme, keep a look out on the website to see which employers might be interested in offering their support.

Parent/carer engagement

Don't forget to ask your students' parents/carers if any of them work in domestic trades or if they employ or work with apprentices. If you receive some positive responses, you could consider hosting a parent-to-parent discussion forum to help get some of the parents' questions answered. Please also signpost parents who are tradespeople to the Check-a-trade website where they can confirm their interest and gain support in how to engage with your school and apprenticeships.