

# The Careers & Enterprise Company

[Our website](#)

## Youth Advisory Group Member Application Pack



Image description: woman and young person smile at each other in a classroom setting.

**Closing date: 09:00am 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

To request this application pack in any accessible format such as large font or audio recording, or if you need any further support to help you through the application journey, please contact [amy.morris@byc.org.uk](mailto:amy.morris@byc.org.uk) This will not affect your application.



**[To receive an application form, register here.](#)**

# The Careers & Enterprise Company

The Careers & Enterprise Company or CEC is the national body for careers education in England, supporting schools and colleges to deliver modern, 21<sup>st</sup> century careers education.

**Our mission is to help every young person find their next best step.**

## Our work includes:

- Training and supporting Careers Leaders.
- Bringing employers, educators and providers together through our network of Careers Hubs.
- Sharing practical digital tools and resources.

## What is careers education?

World-class careers education follows the [eight Gatsby Benchmarks](#) of good careers guidance.

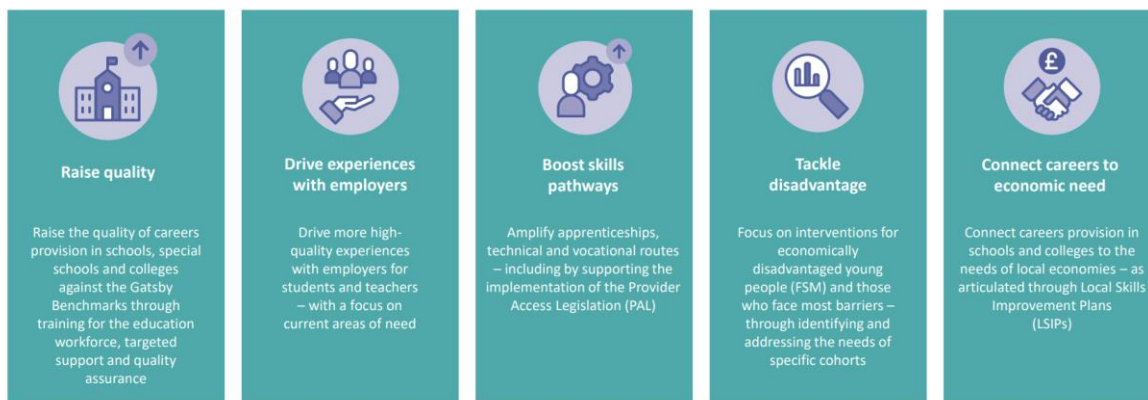
Amongst other things, the benchmarks highlight that young people need:

- Multiple and meaningful encounters with employers, colleges and apprenticeship providers.
- Curriculum learning that links to jobs and relevant skills.
- One-to-one personal guidance.

## Our priorities

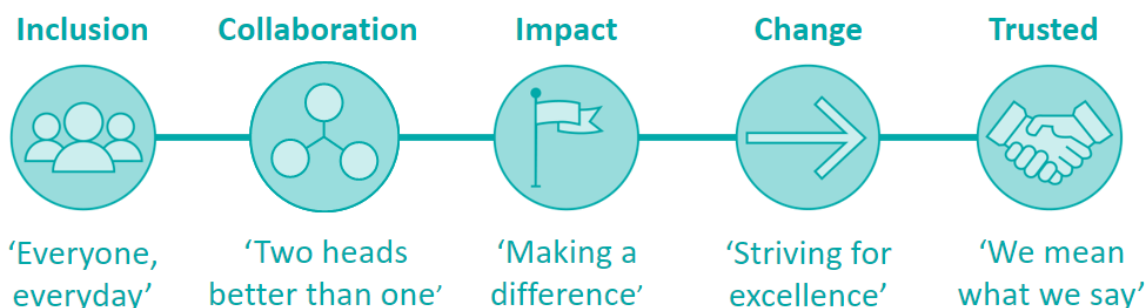
To fulfil our mission, we've developed a strategy focused around five priority areas of work.

1. Raise quality of careers provision.
2. Drive experiences with employers.
3. Boost skills pathways.
4. Tackle disadvantage.
5. Connect careers to economic need.



Read more about our priorities or visit [www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/](http://www.careersandenterprise.co.uk/)

### Our values



### The Context

Last year (2021/2022), over 35,000 students completed our Future Skills Questionnaire, giving us insight into their understanding of pathways, level of careers knowledge, overall career readiness and more.

Young people reported more career readiness as they moved through secondary school: 45% were career ready in Year 7, rising to 67% by Year 11. But there are gaps with some young people facing additional, sometimes multiple barriers.

Evidence suggests, however, that high quality careers support can make an important difference, particularly for those from lower socio-economic backgrounds. The young person's voice in careers education is crucial and we'd like you to help us be part of our journey to ensure all young people can take their next best step.

## The British Youth Council

The British Youth Council is the National Youth Council of the UK. As a youth-led charity, we empower young people aged 25 and under to influence and inform the decisions that affect their lives. We support young people to get involved in their communities and democracy locally, nationally and internationally, making a difference as volunteers, campaigners, decision-makers and leaders.

To find out more about the British Youth Council click here:

[www.byc.org.uk](http://www.byc.org.uk)



## About the Youth Advisory Group

The Youth Advisory Group will be led by the Youth Leadership Team at The Careers & Enterprise Company and will be facilitated and supported by the British Youth Council. This is the third year of The Careers & Enterprise Company Youth Advisory Group and as new members you will help continue the development of new ways of working and thinking about the direction of this group.

**Broadly the purpose of the group is to:**

- **Govern:** challenge and support CEC to embed youth voice through everything we do.
- **Enrich:** add the vital youth perspective to help us be as impactful as possible in delivering against our strategic priorities.
- **Advocate:** work with us to mobilise young people's voices to continuously improve the system for everyone in education.

To help with the above, we may ask you to:

- Use your lived experience and unique perspective to shape our work and feature in our communications (such as blogs, videos etc).
- Represent the Careers & Enterprise Company at important engagements, such as roundtable discussions, workshops, visits and conferences.

To find out more about the current Youth Advisory Group and to read about their incredible work, take a look here: [Youth Advisory Group | The Careers and Enterprise Company](#)

## What we are looking for

We are looking to bring together a group with a wide diversity of educational and training backgrounds who are passionate about ensuring all young people receive brilliant careers support throughout their time in education. We would love to hear from you whether you are still in education, you are embarking on your career journey, you've left education and are still deciding what to do, or whether you are now in employment. We welcome applications from those with experience in state secondary schools, colleges or further education, specialist provision (such as PRU or SEND schools), home-schooled, T Levels, apprenticeship programmes and other training.

**Age:** 14 - 25 years old (as of the 1st September 2023), including those still in school or college

**Location:** England - the work of The Careers & Enterprise Company only covers England and so this role is open to any applicants living in any region of England.

As part of the shortlisting process, we will be looking for evidence of the following:

### Skills

- Teamwork: Able to work within a team to achieve a shared positive outcome.
- Communication: Able to speak on behalf of other young people and consider their views.
- Accountability: Independent, self-motivated and able to keep in touch with the wider group and support project work remotely.

### Values

- Passionate about representing the voices of young people.
- Enthusiasm for creating positive change for young people.
- Interested in influencing how the careers education system can be more beneficial for all young people.

We want to make sure The Careers & Enterprise Company has members with a range of knowledge and skills, and we really welcome applicants who may not have engaged in an opportunity like this before.

"I joined the YAG because I feel careers education is empowering. It's important for young people to know what options are available to them and how to navigate this!"  
Current Youth Advisory Group member.

## Equal Opportunities

The Careers & Enterprise Company and The British Youth Council are committed to fostering a culture of belonging. We know that engagement at work relies on feeling included and valued. Inclusion is both a choice and a practice, for us as an organisation and for individuals within our team. We aim to drive inclusion through every aspect of our work, and we understand that diverse teams are essential for innovative careers education and are central to our mission and impact. CEC values the visible and invisible qualities that makes each member of our team who they are.

If you require any support during our recruitment process, please contact [amy.morris@byc.org.uk](mailto:amy.morris@byc.org.uk)

## What we expect from you

In this post you will be advocates and representatives of your peers. We want you to share your thoughts and opinions with us and take a lead on creating change.

**Length of post:** 1 year, with the opportunity to continue for a second year.

**Commitment required:** Approximately 5 hours per month. This will consist of:

- 1.5-hour skills development meeting each month, which all members must attend. We would also ask for your commitment to take on light tasks between meetings, where possible.
- 3 / 4 x in-person strategy days in London (all expenses covered).

You will be required to attend the following meetings as part of your Induction and Training:

- Introductory online sessions: 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023
- Induction Day (in-person): Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in London

Following your Induction, group members will be given the opportunity to engage with and attend monthly development meetings, face to face strategy meetings in November, March and July and linking with other opportunities of interest such as events, webinars, projects and workshops.

Proposed dates of in-person meetings (TBC):

- Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November
- Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July

If you require additional support to complete this application or to carry out this role, please contact the Youth Engagement Team via [amy.morris@byc.org.uk](mailto:amy.morris@byc.org.uk)

## What you can expect from us

**We'll help you develop your leadership skills:** You'll receive access to training and skills development opportunities in your role so you develop your confidence as a young leader.

**You will build close relationships with your peers:** You'll benefit from working alongside a motivated team of group members, who you'll be forging bonds with, learning from and supporting each other at every step of the way.

**You'll get plenty of support:** We will make sure you have all the support you need to take part in our programmes, events and workshops. We are committed to working closely with any members who have specific access needs, ensuring that you feel supported and able to access all engagements. We will be covering all of your costs at in-person meetings, such as travel and food.

**There'll be plenty of opportunities:** You'll have access to some exciting and important opportunities to have your voice heard nationally. This might include meetings with important decision-makers, attending events with the government and using the British Youth Council as a platform to be seen and heard. These experiences will look great on your CV, LinkedIn or other applications.

**Step up as a leader:** In due course, we'll be looking to appoint a new Youth Leadership Team, including a Youth Board Member and there will be plenty of opportunities for all Youth Advisory Group members to try their hand at leadership, through charring meetings, leading discussions and supporting your peers.

**We'll offer you a Youth Voice qualification:** You'll have the opportunity to apply for an ASDAN Youth Voice Award qualification.

"I want you to know that being a Youth Advisory Group member has had such a positive impact on me and the continued support has opened my eyes to what a leader can be."

Current Youth Advisory Group member.

## How to Apply

To apply please complete [this registration of interest](#) to be sent the application form.

**As part of your application, you will need to prepare and upload either:**

1. A written statement (2 pages maximum)
2. A voice recording (3 mins maximum)
3. A video (3 mins maximum)
4. Any other creative way you think gets your answers across.

**And we'd like you to answer the following questions:**

1. Tell us a little about yourself and your journey through education.
2. Why do you think careers support is important/valuable? Tell us about any experiences you might have had, especially those that have influenced or supported your decision making when thinking about your career journey.
3. What change would you like to see to support young people to be career ready?
4. What value would you bring to the Youth Advisory Group?

This is the expected recruitment timeline:

- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023 09:00:** Application deadline.
- **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023:** Shortlisting complete and invites to interview.
- **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023:** Group interviews.

After the closing date, the British Youth Council's Youth Engagement Team and the Youth Leadership Team at The Careers & Enterprise Company will shortlist a selection of applicants to invite for a group interview. Unfortunately, due to the volume of applications we expect to receive we will not be able to provide individual feedback.

## Queries and Questions

If you have any queries or would like more information, please contact Amy Morris at the British Youth Council via email: [amy.morris@byc.org.uk](mailto:amy.morris@byc.org.uk)

