

Get involved in... Diplomas

Employers play a big role in developing and delivering the Diploma. Your involvement – whether it's giving talks or setting real business challenges for students – will ensure that learning is put in a real-life context.

Why get involved?

The Diploma is a new qualification for 14- to 19-year-olds that combines theoretical and practical learning to prepare students for university or employment. All Diploma students study English, mathematics and ICT alongside their chosen Diploma subject, complete a project and at least ten days of work experience. Diplomas are designed to help students gain the skills they need in the workplace and aim to create self-aware, confident, work-oriented young people.

Your involvement can ensure that the learning remains contextualised, practical and related to real-world industry.



Benefits for young people

Diplomas will equip students with the universal skills that employers want, such as how to think creatively, problem-solve, communicate, work independently and work in a team. Working with employers can help to bring the learning to life for young people and increase their motivation.

Benefits for employers

Diplomas will help to give you better prepared and more knowledgeable young employees, who can enter the workforce with more relevant skills and an understanding of how businesses work.

Next steps

There are lots of different ways to get involved – you could, for example, give talks or lectures in schools or colleges, set actual business problems for students to solve in their projects, or offer work-experience placements. You could also join the Diploma Employer Champions' Network, where you can encourage and support other employers to become involved in developing and delivering the Diploma. For more information read the *Get involved in... Championing Diplomas* sheet enclosed in this pack.

For more detailed guidance about employer involvement in Diplomas (such as the employer guidance *Improving business by improving the skills of young people* and *What employers are saying about the Diploma*), or for general information about the Diplomas, go to www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19/employers

For more information about the Diploma Employer Champions' Network or to arrange for a Diploma champion to come and speak about the benefits at your organisation, please contact Jo Kelly on **020 7269 9840** or email her at jkelly@semta.org.uk

For more general information about being a Diploma champion, go to www.dcsf.gov.uk/14-19/decn

