

Get involved in...

Academies

Academy sponsors can help to break the cycle of underachievement that affects too many of Britain's communities.

Why get involved?

Academies are all-ability state-funded schools run by independent sponsors, who come from a wide range of backgrounds, including universities, businesses, the charitable sector, existing private schools, educational foundations and the faith communities.

Working in partnership with experienced school managers, Academy sponsors bring a record of success in other enterprises, which they can use to transform the aspirations and educational achievements of pupils.

As a sponsor, you can help to make a complete break with the culture of low aspiration that afflicts too many communities and their schools.

Benefits for young people

Sponsors can help to make school more relevant and enjoyable for pupils. They can bring new ideas that enrich the curriculum and extend it into new areas. Business sponsors also bring skills from



the workplace, which they can pass on to pupils, along with an understanding of the needs of employers. Their contribution can be of great benefit in helping young people to prepare for employment.

Benefits for employers

As a sponsor, you have the opportunity to challenge traditional thinking on how schools are run and what they should be like for students. You can help to create the change in culture and attitude required to break the cycle of underachievement. Sponsoring an Academy also broadens your experience and offers you the chance to give something back.

Next steps

To find out more about the role of Academy sponsors and how to get involved, call **0870 000 2288** and ask for the Office of the Schools Commissioner.

For more information on Academies, see the Academies Prospectus (reference number DFES-00428-2007), available to download from <http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/>