

Case study

Pendle Community High School – Careers Event

The Slice is Right: Meet the next generation of employees with skills you need!

This jointly organised event saw local employers invited to an extraordinary lunch networking event at Pendle Community High School hosted by a post-16 group of students. They were invited to meet the next generation of future employees who, due to disability or special educational needs, may ordinarily be overlooked in the workplace. The lunch-time network session started with students and employers making pizzas together and once cooked, lunch was eaten. It provided the opportunity for employers to meet 10 motivated and committed students who showcased very particular skills that could benefit businesses who provide the right environment for them to thrive in the future.

Pendle Community College is a school that creates an amazing nurturing environment for young people with a range of needs and abilities to thrive. It was an informal yet productive way of encouraging a range of employers from Pendle Council, Pendleside Hospice, Community Rail Lancashire, Gemini Commercial Cleaning Services and the DWP to learn more about their potential future employees and the school. The pizza was excellent too!

Following lunch, a Talkaoke was set-up to facilitate further discussion. This pop-up talking table was perfect as students asked their questions about job roles, career paths, opportunities and the skills needed. Pre-prepared questions helped to start the discussion, but the relaxed atmosphere led to an easy and informative exchange. All attending were very impressed with the students' friendliness, confidence and determination to have a successful future. Additionally, employers were asked to write down pledges as a result of the visit which included increasing their work experience offer and being more inclusive when recruiting.



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