



ProjX 2023 – Work Awareness

ProjX is an innovative work awareness and leadership programme that enables young people to learn new skills and explore a wide range of interests whilst working collaboratively with business professionals and industry experts across West Cumbria, from large organisations to SMEs, business owners and micro businesses.

It is funded through Sellafield Ltd's SiX social impact programme which prioritises projects co-created with the community and stakeholders while recognising that more can be achieved in partnership, and that impact can be multiplied through collaboration. ProjX is delivered by the Centre for Leadership Performance (CforLP) in partnership with businesses.

The simple application process is designed to help young people to overcome barriers, access opportunities and get a fresh vision of careers including those that might not appear to be obvious choices for them.

Stuart McCourt, Social Impact Manager for Sellafield Ltd, explains: "ProjX 2023 is all about broadening horizons and encouraging young people to think big when it comes to their personal development, goals and aspirations. It can provide a pathway to attaining skills and employability development, and refresh their vision of what the future may hold."

ProjX 2023 is expanding the landscape for career exploration to enable young people to work on real world issues in real time - with five of the topics linked to live town centre regeneration initiatives, one focused on current tourism challenges, and the final topic designed to assist and support today's arts sector.

ProjX is designed to work within school work experience weeks for minimum disruption and maximum impact. It offers Year 10 or Year 12 pupils the opportunity to collaborate with ProjX partners on multi-disciplinary projects that give young people the chance to share their ideas and views on real business challenges. As 'employees' they work collaboratively together in teams with industry experts who provide knowledge and expert input into each project brief, and at the same time young people gain exposure to a range of businesses, jobs, skill sets and careers.

The programme provides students with an opportunity to develop a range of leadership and employability skills including teamwork, problem solving and communication, and they are fully supported by the CforLP's experienced team who act as coaches and mentors.





The programme raises awareness of how collaboration is an indispensable element for delivering professional projects whilst showcasing the different roles needed including HR, health and safety, project management, marketing and communications. Students experience the different skills and behaviours needed to succeed in delivering successful projects within established supply chains and beyond.

By participating in the programme students will:

- Develop their confidence, aspirations and leadership skills.
- Gain a greater understanding of the range of disciplines and job roles in a workplace, emulating as far as possible the structure, processes and demands of multi-disciplinary and multi-partner work projects.
- Experience project management and business functions through real work scenarios.
- Develop and refine skills such as problem solving, collaboration, and innovation along with leadership, teamwork, communication and planning.
- Be involved in planning, designing, implementing, presenting and reviewing their project, exposing them to a range of situations, skills and job roles.
- Achieve a greater understanding of the range of local businesses in the area including jobs and roles that are less visible.
- Feel connected to their local communities and empowered to lead change.
- Meet positive role models from the local business community, providing the opportunity to forge on-going links.

Partner companies will guide the students through the various sessions providing focused input and expertise to the project. They will explain to the students how their own businesses work, how they fit within supply chains, and the kind of job roles and skills required. The CforLP's dedicated and experienced team will facilitate and project manage the programme and will support students throughout to ensure they get the most from their ProjX experience.





How it works:

ProjX can be offered to a group of between 10 and 15 students during your school's work experience week.

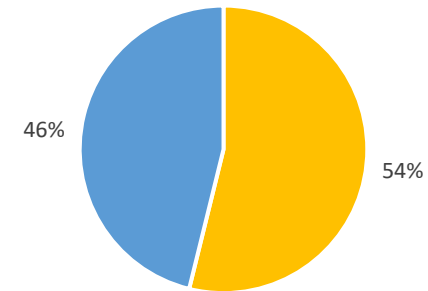
- The CforLP will manage a timetable of sessions to allow students to meet a range of experts throughout the week.
- Students will attend an agreed venue/place of work daily for the ProjX week.
- Business and professional partners will deliver their sessions to students by attending the chosen ProjX venue, via online video calls or by arranged site visits as part of the timetable.
- DBS checked members of the CforLP team will be present to facilitate throughout the week.



What students say about the benefits of ProjX:

- ✦ *"I learned a lot more about the importance of every single job and the time and effort put into them"*
- ✦ *"Developing independence"*
- ✦ *"Feeling confident when presenting ideas and worked on my team working skills."*
- ✦ *"Interesting and the speaker was very helpful and informative"*
- ✦ *"I liked learning about different jobs for my future"*
- ✦ *"I've gained more confidence from this week"*

I feel more informed about the world of work



■ Strongly Disagree ■ Disagree ■ Neutral ■ Agree ■ Strongly Agree

How does ProjX support the Gatsby Benchmarks:

- ✦ 5. Encounters with employers and employees
- ✦ 6. Experiences of workplaces
- ✦ 7. Encounters with further and higher education

How to book a ProjX week

- Contact Nicola (nicola.woolley@cforlp.org.uk) or Michelle (michelle.jackson@cforlp.org.uk) to confirm your work experience dates for 2023/2024
- Send the ProjX information provided by CforLP to students and ask them to apply via the online link: [Application Form Link](#)
- There is no deadline for applications but we require confirmation of the date, numbers and names as soon as possible. Final consent forms to be completed at least two weeks before the start of the work awareness week.