T LEVEL EMPLOYER SUPPORT CONFERENCE

25th January 2024

71





WELCOME

COLIN BENTWOOD

MANAGING DIRECTOR

SDN STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

îL

Delivered in partnership with





ĩL



The T Level story and what's next Andrea Kay, Industry Placements Policy at the Department for Education	10:40
T Levels experiences – regional perspectives Perspectives from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership, Essex Chamber of Commerce, Anglia Ruskin University & Mid Kent College	11:00
Break	11:45
Table discussions Focusing on your experiences of industry placements	12.00
Lunch – In the restaurant	12:45
First-hand accounts of implementing industry placements Employer and student panel with Q&A	13:45
Reflections on the day and Support for industry placements	14:45
Close at 3.15pm and networking	15:15





THE T LEVEL STORY SO FAR...

ANDREA KAY

POLICY LEAD DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION



HM Government



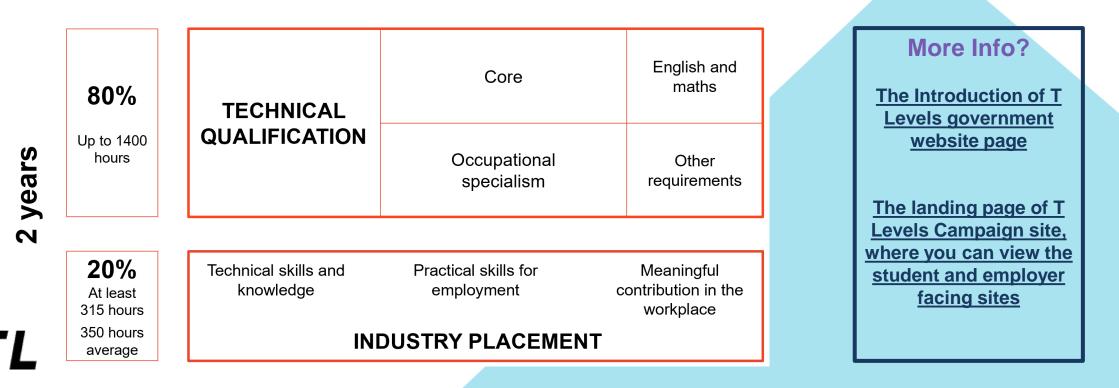


The T Level story so far...

Andrea Kay, Head of T Level Industry Placement policy

What is a T Level?

- Recent: launched in September 2020
- Level 3: Post GCSE 16-19 year olds
- Two Years: Equivalent to three A Levels in UCAS points
- Blended: Mix of classroom learning and on the job experience
- Employer led: Designed with employers and based on same occupational standards as Apprenticeships



Where are we now?

- Over **250 colleges and other FE providers** across all regions country now offer T Levels
- **18 T Levels** are available, with Agriculture and Legal taught for the first time from Sept. 2023
- Rollout and development of T Level Foundation Year (formerly Transition Programme) creating more consistency and retaining some provider flexibility
- Over 16,000 students started a T Level between 2020-2022
- **T Level Results Day 2023** second cohort completed their courses with a fantastic pass rate of 90.5% (69.2% merit of above)





And what are the challenges?

- Getting the message out on T Levels, including the continued importance of T Levels in light of the Advanced British Standard announcement
- New T levels and new providers coming on board every year and learning what works
- Scaling-up particularly for some T Levels and for some geographies
- Transitioning to new qualifications challenges for providers in moving to T Levels new qualifications with different assessment methods and greater number of teaching hours in the curriculum

What are Industry Placements?





Real industry experience- learning and working in a business external to education provider, making meaningful contributions to an organisation



Minimum of 315 hours (approx. 45 working days)



Occupationally-specific – developing practical and technical skills in the T Level that the student is taking



No legal requirement or expectation for industry placements students to be paid – but employers can choose to if they wish.



For all T Level students and for the development of students on other vocational programme (CDF)

What T Levels will there be?



AUTUMN 2020

- Digital production, design and development
- Design, surveying and planning for construction
- Education and early years

AUTUMN 2021

- Building services engineering for construction
- Digital business services
- Digital support services
- Health
- Healthcare science
- Onsite construction & the built environment
- Science

AUTUMN 2022

- Finance
- Accounting
- Maintenance, installation and repair for engineering and manufacturing
- Engineering, manufacturing, processing and control
- Design and development for engineering and manufacturing
- Management and administration

AUTUMN 2023

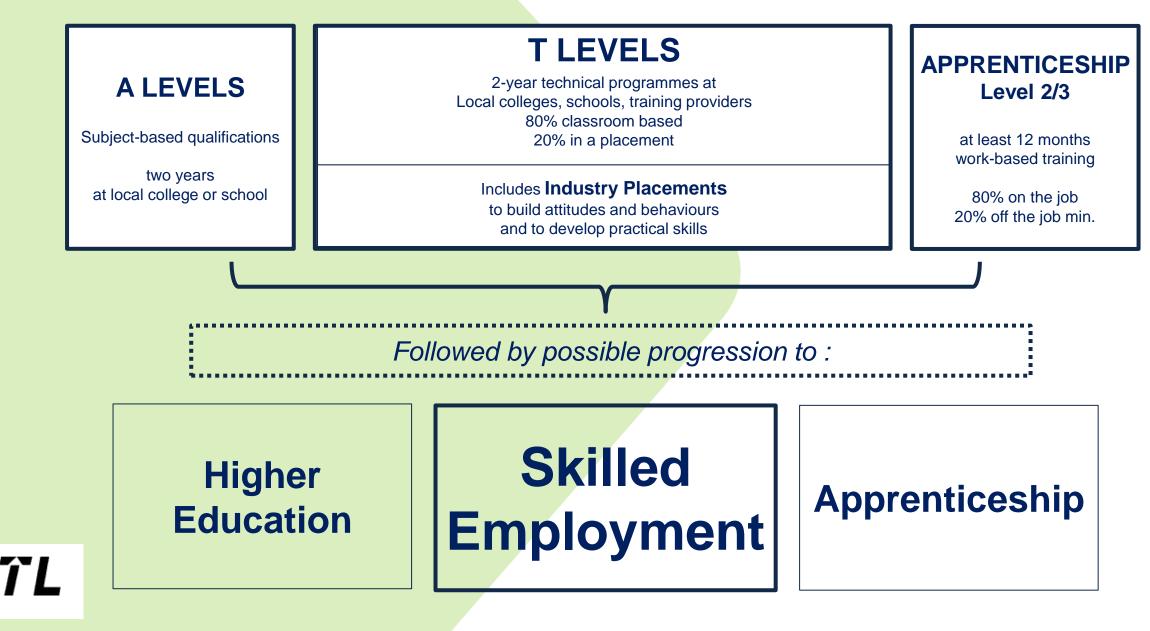
- Legal services
- Agriculture, land management and production

AUTUMN 2024 & beyond

- Craft and design
- Media, broadcast and production
- Hair, beauty and aesthetics
- Catering
- Animal care and management
- Marketing

What comes after a T Level?





Why offer an Industry Placement?



SMARTER RECRUITMENT

▲ SOLUTION FOR ENTRY-LEVEL JOBS

Industry placements are an ideal solution for entry-level skills. They can help you build a pipeline of talent for junior positions or apprenticeships.

You can avoid many of the costs associated with recruitment by working with local colleges and schools to connect with young people who are deciding on their careers.

DEVELOP YOUNG PEOPLE INTO YOUR INDUSTRY

Placements give you a chance to work alongside the next generation of workers entering your industry, making sure they develop the knowledge, attitude and practical skills to succeed.









T LEVELS EXPERIENCES REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

LOUISE AITKEN

SKILLS GROWTH & STRATEGY MANAGER SOUTH EAST LOCAL ENTERPRISE PARTNERSHIP





Regional perspective – T Levels and Industry Placements

Louise Aitken, Skills Lead South East Local Enterprise Partnership





SELEP Skills - Vision and priorities

Vision: to help deliver a flourishing and inclusive economy across the biggest LEP in the country by equipping employers, adults and young people with the skills, conditions and aptitudes required for significant <u>and clean growth today and tomorrow</u>.

Priorities:

- Increase apprenticeships and **industry relevant qualifications** for all ages, particularly in priority sectors and at higher and degree level
- Simplify the landscape for employers, stakeholders and individuals
- Build a diverse and inclusive economy and reduce polarisation
- Raise awareness of jobs and growth across SELEP and the area's size, scale, national and international significance
- Foster and support the spirit of pride, entrepreneurship innovation and enthusiasm across SELEP to bring about change

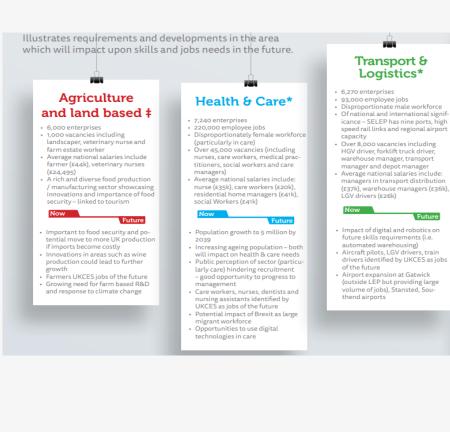








Employer and evidence led



Construction*

27,325 enterprises, fourth highest number compared to other LEPs 101,000 employee jobs 213,973 employee jobs (construction/related sectors) Ageing workforce Disproportionately male workforce

Nearly 6,000 vacancies (including electricians, plumbers, carpenters, quantity surveyors bricklayers production managers) Average national salaries include production manager (£46K), supervisor (£33k), carpenter (£32k), quantity surveyor (£47k) Competition from London offering higher salaries to people trained here

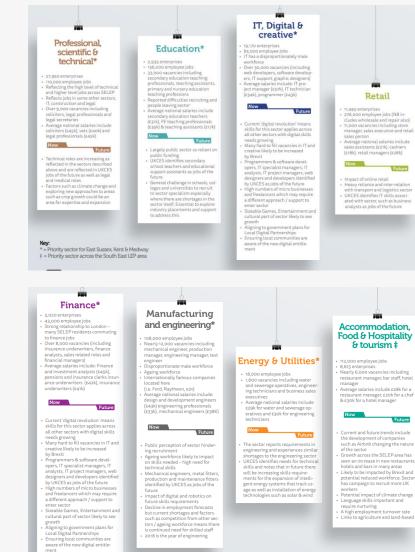
Now Future

300.000 new homes across SELEP Large infrastructure projects (i.e. Lower Thames Crossing) Growing need for 'green' & low carbon skills and opportunity to establish as area of expertise Public perception hindering growth Large requirements in 'off site' jobs Carpenters, joiners, architects, project managers, plumbers & heating & ventilation engineers and

Future

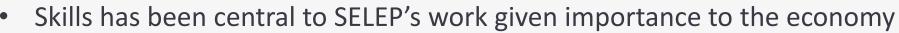
chartered surveyors identified by UKCES as jobs of the future Brexit impact (large migrant workforce)

Trend towards pre-fabricated housing speeding up construction



Accommodation, Food & Hospitality

Current and future trends include such as Airbnb changing the nature of the sector Growth across the SELEP area has seen an increase in new restaurants Likely to be impacted by Brexit and potential reduced workforce. Secto has campaign to recruit more UK



- Has included £40 million+ skills capital funding to ensure there are the right buildings, tech & kit needed to train residents and respond to business needs
- SELEP has also overseen £80 million + European Social Funding, (and £2 million Covid recovery) ensuring that projects are aligned to local need
- <u>South East Institute of Technology</u> facilities now starting to roll out across LEP - a collaboration between colleges, universities and employers to provide technical qualifications
- LEPs have also had an official role supporting <u>Local Skills Improvement</u> <u>Plans (LSIPs)</u>, and have worked with Essex , Kent and Sussex Chambers of Commerce on data and intelligence to support these









Major Projects Skills Group

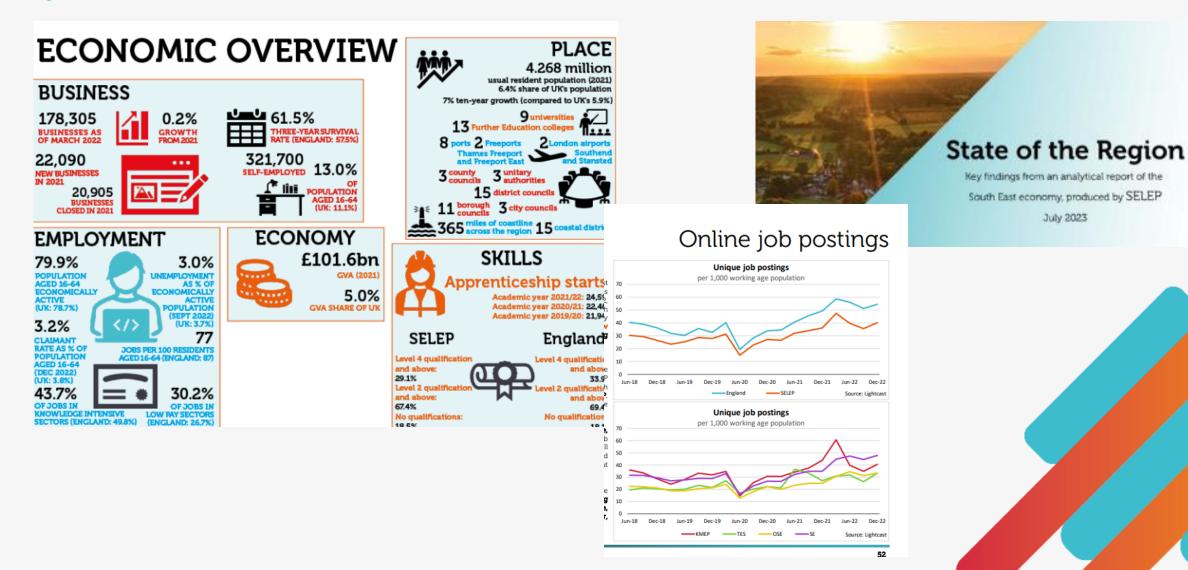


- SELEP also has a major projects skills group, a sub-group to the main MPG group to be led by the Construction & Industry Training Board
- Projects include: The Lower Thames Crossing, Hoo Peninsula developments, Ebbsfleet Garden City, Thames Freeport and Freeport East, UK Health Security Agency
- Research was undertaken to look at the collective skills needs of major projects across the south east.
- Conservative estimates put the combined construction value at around £28.5bn. There are also significant challenges in meeting the skills/labour demands of these projects and ensuring that the local workforce and businesses are able to benefit.
- Currently working on a project looking at immersive content for construction T Levels





Bigger picture - <u>State of the region</u>





Next steps and the future

- In August 2023, Government informed LEP's that core funding will end in March 2024 and the SELEP Board has agreed an integration plan to enable this transition to March / April 2024
- Upper Tier Local Authorities will undertake LEP functions in future, where appropriate. This includes aspects such as Governance and Capital Programmes, Partnership and Network, Growth Hub and Business Support, Data and Intelligence. For some areas of work, they will continue independently (e.g. major projects) and maintain strong links to local authorities
- Skills work will also be led by through the Chamber led Local Skills Improvement Plans (LSIPs)
- As part of transition, SELEP is currently sharing best practice, lessons learnt and information. A partnerships webinar is being held on 7th February – <u>register</u> here



SELEP newsletters available at <u>https://www.southeastlep.com/news/newslett</u> <u>er-archive/</u> and includes a link to the SELEP '<u>State of the Region</u>' report

FOLLOW US

@southeastlep
in linkedin.com/company/south-east-lep

GET IN TOUCH Mello@southeastlep.com

STAY UP TO DATE Southeastlep.com

SELEP Legacy Webinar: What makes good publicprivate partnership?

Wednesday 7 February | 10am - 11.30am

Register now!

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A FASTER, SMARTER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC RECOVERY



T LEVELS EXPERIENCES REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

ANDY SPARKS & JO GILES LSIP DIRECTORS ESSEX CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



TL



Essex Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP)



What is an LSIP:

- "A plan that will provide an agreed set of actionable priorities that employers, providers and stakeholders in a local area can get behind to drive change"
- "work closely with all stakeholders to develop a plan that sets out the key challenges needed in a local area to make technical skills more responsive to employer needs"
 - Place employers at the heart
 - It's a journey to bring together the 2 sides
 - Facilitate direct and dynamic working arrangements between employers and providers
 - Not just another plan, and it won't cover everything it's about the key priorities!
- Essex Chambers of Commerce and Industry appointed as Employer Representative Body (ERB) November 2023
- There are 38 across England , including Kent Invicta Chambers of Commerce and Sussex Chambers of Commerce



Department for Education

Local Skills

October 2022

Improvement Plans

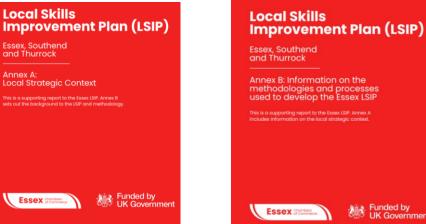
of a Local Skills Improvement Plan

Statutory Guidance for the Development

LSIP Stage 1 - report creation:

- 9-month project (November 2022 to July 2023)
- Report and 3 annexes published on 10th August 2023
- Chamber involvement in Project well received
- Excellent working relationship build with stakeholders
- High levels of business engagement inc. SME's











Funded by UK Government

Skills priorities

- Soft skills and behaviours.
- Basic English, Maths and ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages).
- Digital skills and 'Digitech'.
- Green skills.
- Leadership and Management skills.

Skills system priorities

- System access and flexibility.
- Information, Careers Advice and Guidance.
- Tutor shortages and capacity of providers to respond.
- Inclusive employment.
- Barriers to engagement.
- Skills planning system for Essex.

Essex LSIP Priorities:

- Essex Sectors and Technical Skills
- Advanced Manufacturing, Engineering & Aviation.
- AgriTech & Food Tech.
- Community & Voluntary
- Construction.
- Creative and Cultural.
- DigiTech.
- Education.
- Health, Care & Med Tech.
- Professional Services.
- Transport and Logistics.







Essex Chambers of Commerce and Industry reappointed as Employer Representative Body (ERB) August 2023.

<u>Throughout stage 2 we will</u>:

- make the skills landscape **easier to navigate** for businesses, educators, and training providers.
- T levels are an important part of the landscape, weare supporti employers navigate this landscape
- monitor and support the realisation of the Essex LSIP and to keep it under review to ensure that it is still relevant and reflects the skills needs of Essex
- maintain **skills alignment** with larger national infrastructure projects
- provide leadership and support to the skills system through any potential devolution

Current LSIP Priorities /Activities:



- Formation of the Essex Employment and Skills Board (ESB)
 - set up and agree membership
 - Set up sub sector working groups

Note: ESB work includes planning for the **end of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership** (SELEP) and any future **Essex Devolution**

- Action Plan review and progress updates quarterly
- Sector Deep Dive Logistics
- Regular LMI updates January update to Annex C
- Business & Provider engagement events 4 x planned for winter 23/24

Questions?

Visit: www.essexchambers.co.uk

- Call: 01702 560100
- Email: lsip@essexchambers.co.uk

andysparks@essexchambers.co.uk

Joannegiles@essexchambers.co.uk







Business

Employer

Driven

Led



T LEVELS EXPERIENCES REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

DALE GREGORY

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR STUDENT RECRUITMENT ANGLIA RUSKIN UNIVERSITY



TL



T LEVELS EXPERIENCES REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

NABIL MUGHARBEL

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM MID-KENT COLLEGE







TABLE DISCUSSIONS

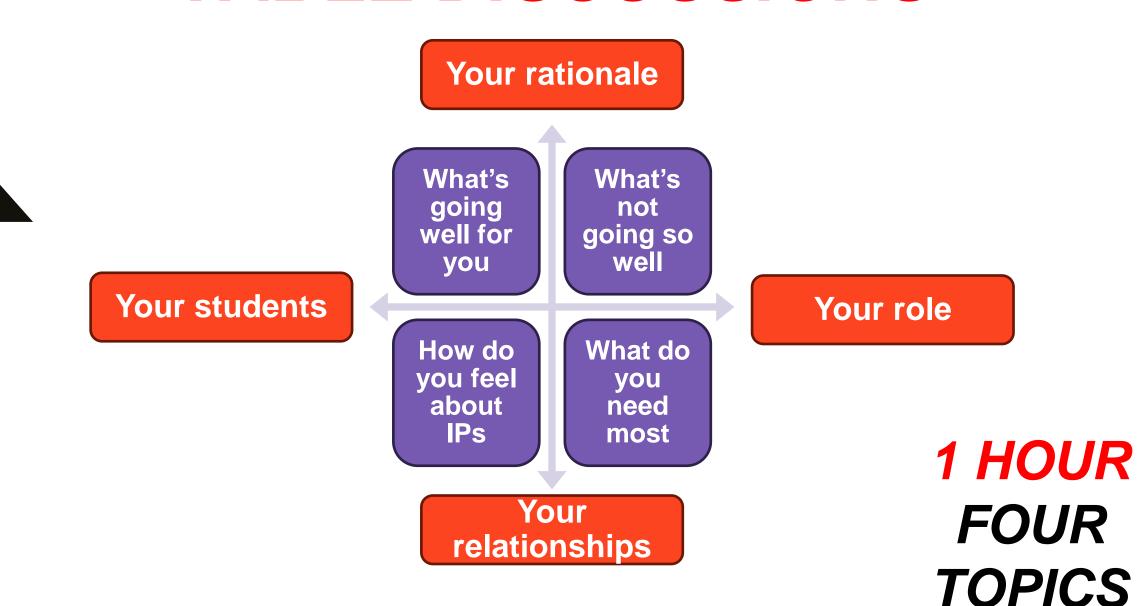
KAREN KELLY

STRATEGIC ASSOCIATE





TABLE DISCUSSIONS



ΊL



LUNCH

RESTAURANT





FIRST-HAND ACCOUNTS OF INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS

EMPLOYER PANEL WITH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

KAREN KELLY

STRATEGIC ASSOCIATE

SDN



TODAY'S PANEL



Paul Taylor PhD

Facilities Management Titan Airways

Mark Rolfe

Head of Kent Scientific Services Kent Scientific Services

Donna Jones

Management Consultant Gallagher

Karen Vigar

Education Engagement Manager ISG

T LEVEL STUDENTS

Alexandra KeeveyScienceSydney MillerDesign and Surveying Built EnvironmentSophie BrindleyDesign and Surveying Built Environment



REFLECTIONS AND THEMES FROM TABLE DISCUSSIONS



THEME: WHAT'S GOING WELL

- Employers and providers working well in partnership Strengthening relationships with providers (also a negative)
 e.g. When employers are involved in careers events
- Demand from students growing
- Collaborations between employers emerging
- Timing placements later in the T Level course works well

SKILLS FOR LIFE

THEME: WHAT'S GOING WELL

- Provider communications improving through experience
- Provider processes improving through experience
- Providing meaningful experiences (also a negative)
- Rotating students
- Keeping younger students in HQ then older on-site
- Upskilling staff with line management experience

THEME: WHAT'S NOT GOING SO WELL



- Capacity / resources / time to manage especially SMEs
- SME awareness of T Levels and industry placements
- Employers' understanding of T Level content
- Student availability
- Student readiness
- Impact on part-time jobs
- *TL* Providers equipment

THEME: WHAT'S NEEDED MOST



- Buy in from senior managers
- Building progression from T Levels into careers guidance
- Making the process seamless for employers
- Visibility of T Levels communications & marketing
- Funding for travel / clothing / kit ? Of ESF
- More hybrid models

THEME: HOW DO PEOPLE FEEL



- Positive! "We're enjoying it"
- Relax and flex
- T Levels can really meet employers' needs and are great for young people, industries and social mobility / diversity
- Communication is vital



SUPPORT FOR EMPLOYERS

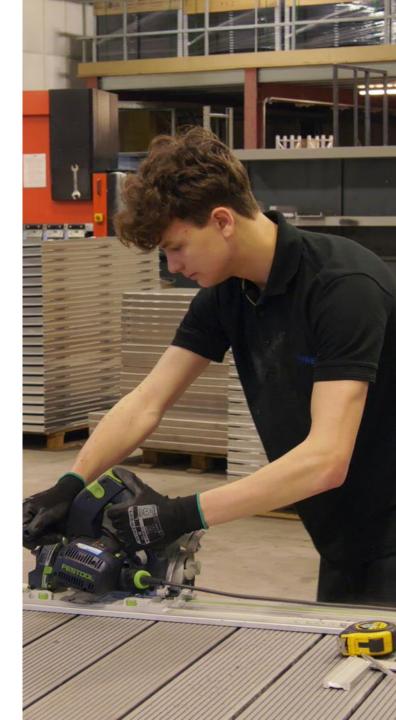
COLIN BENTWOOD





employers.tlevels.gov.uk/





GETTING STARTED

Downloadable resources

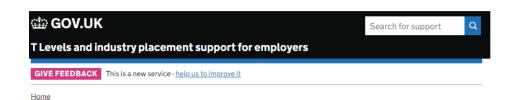
What are T Levels?

What are Industry Placements?

How can they work for you?

Hear from others:

- Employers
- Students
- Providers



About T Levels and industry placements

What are T Levels?

T Levels are a new qualification for students aged 16 to 19 in England who've finished GCSEs.

Find out more



About industry placements

What are T Levels? What are industry placements? T Level subjects Work taster activities Becoming a T Level ambassador Industry placements myth-busting

Getting started with industry placements

<u>Tailored support sessions for employers</u> <u>Which T Levels could be relevant to my organisation?</u> <u>How sole traders, micro businesses or freelancers can get involved in industry placements</u>

ĩL

PLAN YOUR PLACEMENT

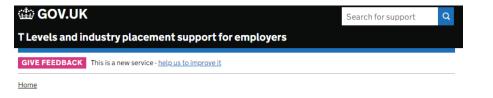
Downloadable resources

The case for industry placements

Planning industry placement content

Are we ready to offer industry placements? Checklist and action plan

Final preparations checklist



Plan industry placements

How industry placements work

5 steps from finding a school or college through to writing an end of placement review.

Find out more



Planning in your organisation

How industry placements work Industry placement role descriptions Dealing with challenges Hosting an industry placement with another employer Legal compliance for industry placements Your industry placement responsibilities

See all 9 articles

Working with providers and students

Working with the right school, college or other provider Selecting students for industry placements Making payments to industry placement students Planning industry placement projects and tasks



DELIVERING YOUR PLACEMENT

Downloadable resources

Day 1 induction checklist

End-of-placement review with the student

End-of-placement review with the provider



During industry placements

Effective mentoring for students

A good mentor can make a huge difference to a student's experience. Discover our tips for industry placement mentors.





Supporting and managing students

Effective mentoring for industry placement students Supporting students' health and wellbeing on placement Managing young people who are new to the workplace Helping students learn Mental health and industry placements Supporting industry placement students with special educational needs and disabilities

CASE STUDIES

Videos This video shows some of the ways in which employers benefit **Benefits to** from offering industry employers placements to T Level students.

Benefits to staff

This video shows why T Levels give back so much to the staff who support students on industry placements and welcome them into their teams.



Video length: 2 minutes 15 seconds

Video transcript

Practicalities and logistics

arrangements employers are making to share placements, work with providers, look after students' health and wellbeing, place them in the right part of the organisation, and give them the support they need.

This video shows some practical



Video length: 3 minutes 46 seconds

Video transcript

Planning and provider links

This video shows how employers plan industry placements with colleges and training providers to give T Level students real and valuable experience of the work environment.



Video length: 4 minutes 13 seconds

Video transcript



LIVE EVENTS FOR EMPLOYERS – FEB & MARCH



Event	Туре
Industry placements for small and medium sized businesses – how can they contribute to your workforce and practical steps you can take Building Sustainable T Level Placement Programmes – What are the issues for large employers and how can they be tackled?	Specific topic
The role of the line manager and mentor – hosting T Level students in the workplace	
Engineering and Manufacturing	Industry focused

To book on future events <u>click here</u>

Links to previous webinar recordings available here

INDIVIDUALLY TAILORED ASSISTANCE



Q

Search for support

https://employers.tlevels.gov.uk/hc/en-gb/requests/new

🏟 GOV.UK

T Levels and industry placement support for employers

GIVE FEEDBACK This is a new service - help us to improve it

Home

Contact us

Use this form to contact us about industry placements or sign up for tailored support sessions. You can usually expect a reply within 2 working days.

Alternatively, you can call us on **08000 150 600** (choose option 4). Phone lines are open 8am to 8pm, Monday to Friday. <u>Find out about call charges</u>

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



Invite providers to contact you

Leave your details for them to get in touch.

Register your interest

- Register interest in T Level industry placements for nearby providers to contact you
- Simple to register 5 minutes maximum
- Multiple location feature coming soon
- Easily accessible through employer support site
 - employers.tlevels.gov.uk

Register an interest in T Levels and industry placements

Enter your details into our online form and we will share your interest in T Levels and industry placements with registered T Level schools and colleges for 12 weeks.

If a provider would like to speak to you about an industry placement or other T Level opportunity, they can contact you using the details you provide.

The form takes about 5 minutes to complete.

This form is only for employers with a single business location. If your organisation has multiple locations and you'd like to register an interest in T Levels and industry placements, <u>contact us</u>

Register an interest



NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK T LEVELS THURSDAY

T Level Thursday will be celebrated on 8 February. You can share your T Level experiences on social media using the National Apprenticeship Week toolkit.

Scan the QR code to download the resources, or visit: <u>https://naw.appawards.co.uk/toolkit</u>



Use the tags: #TLevelThursday #NAW2024 #skillsforlife

employers.tlevels.gov.uk/



