

At SDN, we work closely with the Department for Education (DfE) to design and deliver high-quality professional development that helps providers strengthen their employer engagement and industry placement activity. Together, we're committed to supporting colleges, schools, and training providers to build lasting employer relationships, develop sustainable approaches, and ensure students can access meaningful, high-quality placements.

This year, we're offering a comprehensive CPD programme, shaped by provider needs and regional priorities to give you the practical tools, insights, and peer networks you need to succeed. From large-scale regional events and collaborative networks, to online CPD courses and specialist masterclasses, the programme is designed to help you embed best practice and stay connected with colleagues across the country.

BUILDING BETTER PARTNERSHIPS: EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT AND INDUSTRY PLACEMENTS

Come together with colleagues from across your region to explore how to strengthen employer engagement and industry placements. These large-scale, in-person events combine collaborative workshops, employer and ambassador insights, and hands-on activities. Themes will be tailored to regional priorities and provider needs, with follow-up collaborative networks to keep the momentum going. View the full details and book your place below.

- London 12th November, 9:30AM
- Birmingham 27th November, 9:30AM
- Manchester 3rd December, 9:30AM
- Reading 10th December, 9:30AM

COLLABORATIVE NETWORK SESSIONS

These sessions follow on from our regional CPD events.

Stay connected with peers facing the same challenges as you. These sessions give you space to share approaches, co-develop solutions, and feed into new resources that respond directly to provider needs. Structured as active learning groups, they'll focus on outcomes and practical next steps, without overloading you with extra meetings.

Groups 1 and 2

Session 1 - Face-to-Face 26th Feb 2026, 10:30am - 2:30pm

Session 2 - Face-to-Face or Online 23 Apr 2026, 10:30am - 2:30pm

Groups 3 and 4

Session 1 - Face-to-Face 12th Mar 2026, 10:30am - 2:30pm

Session 2 - Face-to-Face or Online 7th May 2026, 10:30am - 2:30pm



BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

These **fully funded 3-part CPD courses** are designed to help provider staff new to T Level employer engagement or industry placement coordination build the knowledge, confidence and skills needed to develop successful, sustainable relationships with employers.

Delivered over three interactive online sessions, the courses offer practical tools, expert insights and the opportunity to connect with peers across the country. You'll explore how to plan and deliver effective employer engagement strategies to support you in securing industry placements, with a focus on quality, consistency and continuous improvement.

Please note: Courses 1 and 2 are now fully booked.

COURSE 3

10th, 17th & 24th Mar 2026 (9:30am - 12:30pm)

BOOK HERE

COURSE 4

11th, 18th & 25th Mar 2026 (12:30pm - 3:30pm)

BOOK HERE

"The programme was the best training I have ever completed in my current role. Lots of great ideas and I loved the fact that the slides were sent afterwards, so you didn't have to take notes and miss what was being said." - Employer Engagement CPD Delegate

MASTERCLASSES/WEBINARS

Our online masterclasses are designed to explore emerging themes and specialist areas of employer engagement. Each session will be practical, interactive and focused on approaches you can use straight away. While topics are still being finalised, you can save the dates now – and we'd love to hear what areas you'd find most valuable. This way, the programme reflects the real challenges and priorities of employer engagement staff across the country.

These sessions will take place between April and June 2026. If you would like to register your interest these sessions, please email providers@strategicdevelopmentnetwork.co.uk

TOOLS, RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

A growing collection of practical resources to support employer engagement and industry placement delivery is available on the T Levels Support for Schools and Colleges website. This includes guidance, templates, case studies and activity ideas – many co-developed with provider peers. With so many resources available to you, it can be a bit daunting to find what you're looking for. SDN Mesma Group have done the hard work for you with this Employer Engagement Resource Navigation Tool - Download the PDF here.



Join our growing Tevel Employer Engagement Exchange LinkedIn group to build your professional network, share ideas and solutions and access the top tips and resources available for T Level employer engagement.



Want the latest updates, resources, and event invites sent directly to your inbox? <u>Sign-up to our T Level Provider newsletter</u> to stay up-to-date with T Level news, hear about the latest support and resources and discover professional development opportunities at no charge.