



Camden Virtual Work Experience from Speakers for Schools and Camden STEAM

Could you offer Camden students virtual work experience placements and be part of our pioneering programme to give young people opportunities during the pandemic?

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, many Camden students will have had their crucial first experiences of work cancelled this summer.

We are aware of the significant positive impact work experience has on young people's outcomes, particularly on those from disadvantaged backgrounds. The closure of schools and the unavoidable disruption to pupils' education is a challenge for all students, but particularly for students from disadvantaged backgrounds; the barrier to opportunities, such as work experience, is likely to be a determining factor to the way inequality widens as a result of the pandemic.

We are calling on Camden employers to be part of a pioneering solution to this challenge, by providing virtual work experience for local students. Camden STEAM have partnered with Speakers for Schools – a national educational charity backed by over 150 employers including the Bank of England, BP, Marie Curie and Spotify – to offer STEAM Pledge employers the opportunity to provide Virtual Work Experience (VWEX) this summer.

What is Virtual Work Experience?

The Speakers for Schools VWEX programme is the first of its kind in the UK and enables employers to solve key problems in their business with young minds, while delivering meaningful structured work experience to more young people in Camden. Speakers for Schools' employer partners, including Morgan Sindall and BP, are in the process of delivering VWEX nationally, and we are pleased to confirm that Google, one of our Camden STEAM Pledge employers, will also be offering placements for Camden young people.

Why take part?

Many young people across the borough are already missing out on vital school-based education, but they also face missing out on crucial early experiences of work. VWEX gives you the chance to ensure students can still access high-impact experiences, whilst also creating opportunities for your organisation to meet its goals around early talent and support you to keep building your pipeline, with a particular focus on diversity and inclusion and opening up access to students who would otherwise miss out.





How does it work?

This free programme has been designed to make it simple for employers to put together a high-impact placement.

The programme will be run using Google Classroom, using simple but powerful technology whilst ensuring your placements meet all safeguarding requirements and are fully GDPR compliant.

What Speakers for Schools and Camden STEAM will do for you:

- Camden STEAM will work with Camden secondary schools and Further Education to recruit all participating students
- Speakers for Schools will provide the infrastructure for the VWEX, including generating temporary
- Google Classroom accounts and virtual classrooms for your staff, teachers and participating students
- Support with examples of best practice placements and schedules
- Share and celebrate your contribution in our campaigns and comms

What Speakers for Schools and Camden STEAM need from you:

- A commitment to offer a 5-day placement to groups of students (students will work together in a team)
- Placements take place between end of May – July
- Provide short livestream talks to students
- Produce a series of short pre-recorded videos for students (Speakers for Schools will help with the tech)

Please contact Steampledge@camden.gov.uk to register your interest or for more information or click the button below:

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