

Volunteer Introduction to the BEE Programme

What is the BEE (Business, Enterprise and Employability) Programme?

BEE is a year-long programme for young people in primary schools to develop their financial literacy skills, supported by business volunteers. Volunteers lead a series of six workshops focusing on financial knowledge, enterprise and employability.

The first three sessions explore balancing needs and wants, spending and saving, contracts, tax and banking, and pupils have the opportunity to visit the offices of their business volunteers and the Bank of England.

In the final three sessions, pupils form 'companies' to design, produce and sell greeting cards, calculate costs, and donate their profits to charity.

What is required of volunteers?

Although the programme works best when there is consistency in the volunteers that attend each session, the minimum commitment required from volunteers is to prepare and lead one 2 hour workshop. Coordinators may consider having a pool of volunteers from which 4-6 can be chosen for each session.

Detailed briefing and resources are provided on www.thebeeprogramme.com. For each activity during a session, one volunteer will lead the class from the front, whilst the others support small groups of pupils.

Benefits for volunteers

- involvement with the local community
- enjoyable, fun and highly rewarding
- a chance to use their skills and expertise outside of the office
- allows them to develop new skills, such as patience and flexibility
- opportunity to volunteer in a meaningful and long-term way

Benefits for pupils

- opportunity to meet and interact with people from outside of their community
- understand how financial literacy can shape their careers and learn about different professions
- experience learning outside of the classroom
- meet National Curriculum objectives for English, Maths, Citizenship and PSHE
- build confidence and aspiration
- practice speaking, listening and team work

Please visit www.thebeeprogramme.com for more details and testimonials from past volunteers. Resources for each session are available to download from the website.

If you have any questions please contact:

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