



WorldSkills UK and CEC

Championing the Way, May 2016 – July 2017

WorldSkills UK brings together WorldSkills UK Competitions, The Skills Show and WorldSkills UK Champions to support business competitiveness, young people's employability and excellence in standards. It delivers through engaging young people in skills competitions, delivering experiential careers events, role modelling to challenge stereotypes and using research to support the apprenticeship and technical skills agenda.

WorldSkills UK will be delivering a set of four linked projects as part of the Careers & Enterprise Fund programme. The WorldSkills UK projects that have been awarded funding build on the organisation's experience of managing high quality and life changing skills competitions, as well as national and local interactive and inspirational showcase events. At the heart of the projects are Skills Champions, young people who have participated in skills competitions at a national and/or international level who have developed high level technical and employability skills. These young people will engage with peers to help them to understand and make choices about skills, careers and apprenticeships. WorldSkills UK will work closely with the CEC and a range of national and local partners, especially LEPs, the further education and skills sector, employers and careers service providers, on a set of four linked projects:

- **Championing the Way in schools**

Skills Champions will work with local employer partners to deliver interactive sessions in 100 schools and colleges in "cold spot" LEP areas of Greater Manchester, Tees Valley, Stoke and Staffordshire, South East England, Cornwall and London to connect students with employers, challenge them to consider transferable skill sets relevant for different careers and equip them to navigate subject and careers related choices through contact with peer role models. See <http://worldskillsuk.org/skills-champions/championing-the-way-for-skills> for more information.

- **The Skills Show Greater Manchester**

This event will give young people from across the areas in and around Greater Manchester the opportunity to participate in a major skills and careers showcase event focussed on skills competitions, interactive have a go activities, employer led features, talks and demonstrations from industry experts and professional advice on careers and apprenticeships. Developed

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closely with local partners and sector specialists, the event will be tailored to the skills priorities and needs of the area and provide guidance for around 8,000 visitors.

- **The Skills Show Local – Cornwall, Northamptonshire/South East Midlands and Peterborough**

Locally focussed skills and careers events will be held in three further areas of England to take the inspiring and interactive model combining skills competition, experiential careers advice and education and locally developed features to activity to more than 7,500 visitors, to support their journeys to work.

- **Competitions and Skills DIY Toolkit**

An interactive competition – focussed toolkit will give schools the chance to use skills competitions as a route to engaging young people in understanding more about vocation careers, the skills needed to success in work and the pathways into these careers. It will be developed with careers professionals and employers, and will be available across England with the aim of reaching 7,500 students. It will demonstrate the value of competition-based activities to wider curriculum delivery.

For **further information** contact:

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