

# Employability Skills Tools and Programmes for Schools

**Hollie Crompton and Laura Carter,  
PwC**

15th July 2022



# Today we're going to talk about

- 1 Introduction to PwC
- 2 PwC's social mobility strategy
- 3 Our schools outreach programme



# Who are PwC?

**“Our purpose is to build trust in society and solve important problems”**



# We developed a social mobility vision and five year strategy

To lead by example as a social mobility employer, specifically:

- To be recognised as an **inclusive** organisation where people from all backgrounds are able to work, develop and succeed; and
- To use our **skills and resources** to enable people from disadvantaged backgrounds across the UK to make the most of their potential, whether at PwC or elsewhere.

Our vision is underpinned by **three** priorities:

1

## Inclusion

- Attract and recruit more people from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Help those we recruit to develop and progress while they're at PwC.

2

## Community

- Support the social mobility of disadvantaged communities.
- Deliver volunteering programmes that support the social mobility of disadvantaged communities.

3

## Advocacy

- Advocate the importance of increased social mobility and the impact of our strategy and actions.
- Collaborate with others and use our influence to achieve the multiplier effect.

# Our Social Mobility Community Programme

**Our vision** for our social mobility community programme is to use our skills and resources to enable people from disadvantaged backgrounds across the UK to make the most of their potential, whether at PwC or elsewhere.

## Social Mobility Schools Programme

Our programme offers secondary school students an opportunity to develop their confidence and key employability skills. We target schools across the UK with a higher than average proportion of students eligible for free school meals.



## Aims of our Social Mobility Schools Programme

Work with secondary school students from lower socioeconomic backgrounds to:

- equip them with the skills to help them fulfil their potential and achieve positive employment outcomes in their career of choice, whether at PwC or elsewhere;
- remove barriers to access, linking our outreach programme to our recruitment opportunities;
- reach the most disadvantaged areas and groups according to national data, including local authority cold spots; and
- share our people's expertise through volunteering opportunities

# How are we currently working with schools?



## Talent Engagement Programmes

Our activities are a chance for students in Years 10-13 to learn about different careers and develop key skills.

Ways we work with schools:

- Virtual Classroom and other skills sessions (virtual)
- Back to Schools tour, focusing on Accounting and Technology
- [Insight events](#), including Females of the Future and Dive into Digital
- Teacher Zone and newsletter
- [Employability Hub](#)
- Virtual Insight Week
- [Youtube careers channel](#)

## Social Mobility Schools Programme

Our programme supports young people (Years 7 - 13) with their skill development.

Ways we work with schools:

- New World. New Skills - Schools series
- New World. New Skills - Virtual schools series
- Employability Skills Toolkit
- Skills events, including Work Inspiration Days and events with partner organisations
- Mentoring e.g. Princes Trust, National Literacy Trust, Ahead Partnership
- Work experience
- One Firm One Day

# Spotlight on a number of our programmes



## PwC's New World. New Skills - School series

- PwC's 'New World New Skills' Social Mobility School series runs twice yearly in the Autumn and Spring terms. In the 2021/22 Academic year we welcomed almost 3000 students into PwC offices in every location in the UK.
- Schools needed to meet our Social Mobility criteria to take part on the programme. Over 350 PwC staff volunteered their time to support the programme, in every area of the business and from Intern to Partner (including Kevin Ellis UK Chairman).
- Schools were given age-appropriate tasks to help them understand the business. For students aged 11-13; they were given a role at PwC for the day to support a new client - their school. Students used cyber security to crack school passwords; financial literacy to develop a pricing strategy for a new vending machine; and consulted on sustainability issues in their school. One school even took the pupils back to the school business manager to propose their ideas!
- Feedback from schools showed many impacts of the programme including raised aspirations and confidence; an experience of a new office environment and developed employability skills.
- The programme is mapped to Gatsby benchmark and based around the skills builder essential skills. If you would like to register your interest for next year (22/23) please use this [form](#).



## One Firm One Day (OFOD)

- One Firm One Day (OFOD) is PwC's annual day of volunteering and fundraising, in aid of the firm's charities through the PwC Foundation.
- This year we offered 3 skills sessions - Teamwork and listening, Financial Literacy, Data Science and Analytics.
- Schools meeting our SM eligibility criteria could sign up to a session of their choosing, and PwC volunteers would go out to the school to deliver the session.
- Over 250 PwC volunteers delivered a session, reaching 3000 students in schools across the UK. We reached more than 40 schools delivering 100+ sessions.
- 3 schools also visited their local PwC office (London, Manchester and Belfast) to undertake a business challenge experience for the day.

# Examples of our virtual programmes

## PwC's Virtual Classroom

We're really excited to bring you the latest instalment of PwC's Virtual Classroom - a virtual programme open to students between Years 10 and 13\*. The programme combines both live and pre-recorded content.



### Live sessions

You'll need to pre-register for each session in advance - the link for each session will be sent to you with the confirmation once you've registered for each event. All live sessions will start at 4:30pm and will last for approximately 50 minutes.

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Thursday 19 November</b> | The importance of racial equality                          |
| <b>Thursday 20 November</b> | The importance of social mobility                          |
| <b>Thursday 3 December</b>  | The importance of gender equality                          |
| <b>Thursday 3 December</b>  | Parents and Influencers Event: The importance of diversity |

## PwC's Virtual Classroom

## Employability Skills Toolkit

### Curriculums

Free lesson plans and resources to download



**Technology and Digital Skills Curriculum**  
(aged 13-18)



**Financial Literacy Skills Curriculum**  
(aged 13-18)



**Wellbeing Curriculum**  
(aged 13-18)



**Business Case Study Challenges**  
(aged 13-18)



**Employability Soft Skills Curriculum**  
(aged 13-18)



**'Careers in the Curriculum' Case Studies**  
(aged 13-18)  
**\*new materials added\***

## Employability Hub



**Online applications and assessments**  
E-learn tool  
[Click here](#)



**Video interviews**  
E-learn tool  
[Click here](#)



**Assessment days**  
E-learn tool  
[Click here](#)



**The A - Z of tech**  
Podcast series  
[Click here](#)



**Wellbeing and looking after yourself**  
Video  
[Click here](#)



**The skills we look for**  
Webpage  
[Click here](#)



**Be a strong communicator**  
Webpage  
[Click here](#)



**Be a team player**  
Webpage  
[Click here](#)



**Career Uncovered**  
Explore your own preferences and learn more about our different business areas.  
[Click here](#)

## New World. New Skills - Schools series



**New World. New Skills - Schools series**  
Helping students develop their skills for the future

### Learning materials

Welcome to PwC's *New World. New Skills - School Series*, our social mobility virtual skills programme.

#### Week 2 - Teamwork

#### Week 2 - Teamwork

Available from Monday 9 November 2020

#### Week 2 - Teamwork

- Week 1 - Aiming High
- Week 2 - Teamwork
- Week 3 - Leadership
- Week 4 - Creative Problem Solving
- Week 5 - Speaking and Listening
- Week 6 - Staying Positive

#### Learning objectives:

- To know what a team is and to understand what makes a team effective and successful
- To recognise when you have demonstrated teamwork

- [Watch video >](#)
- [Video transcript >](#)
- [Presenter bios >](#)
- [Further student learning >](#)



# PwC contacts

## North and Scotland



**Laura Carter**

[laura.c.carter@pwc.com](mailto:laura.c.carter@pwc.com)

## Midlands, West and Wales and Northern Ireland



**Jade Perrier**

[jade.perrier@pwc.com](mailto:jade.perrier@pwc.com)

## London and South East



**Grace Osborne**

[grace.osborne@pwc.com](mailto:grace.osborne@pwc.com)

# Ways you can get involved

- Share all of our [social mobility schools programme](#) and [student recruitment opportunities](#) with your schools
- Encourage eligible schools to sign up for our New World New Skills schools series
- Share our New World New Skills virtual schools series with all schools and on social media etc
- Sign up to the [teacher talent network](#) and encourage teachers to sign up to our teacher talent network so you can receive emails with all our opportunities

# How could students join?

Year 12\* Virtual Insight Week



Fantastic Career Opportunities



Thank you

Any questions?

