

What can businesses offer?

- A meaningful, flexible, work practice placement – for a few hours a week up to virtually full time

Business benefits:

- An increase in the pool of local labour from which your business can recruit
- Opportunity to develop your corporate social responsibility strategy by investing in young people
- A valued and recognised contribution to the local community in which you do business
- Helping to reduce youth unemployment in East Lothian and Midlothian
- Development opportunities for your existing staff
- Increased staff morale

Please note: there is no expectation that the employer will offer a job at the end of the programme and there is no involvement in vocational qualifications.



If you would like to hear more about the WAY2WORK programme please contact:

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BRIDGES PROJECT

WAY2WORK

“As a responsible employer with a strong commitment to our local community, Ikea is delighted to support Way2Work for young people. We welcome the opportunity to play a part in developing the skills of those who face barriers to employment. The high degree of flexibility in the design of the programme to meet the needs of the young people appeals to us and has helped us to think differently about training and staff development.”

WAY2WORK is an innovative programme designed to enable young people (aged 16-21 years) to learn and practice, in work place settings, the ‘soft’ skills which all good employees need if they are to match up to the requirements of the modern job market.

HOW ABOUT WORKING WITH US?

We are seeking employers who understand that sometimes people need a little help to become job ready. Would you be willing to work with us in our employability skills programme?

Our clients are young people who:

- are disadvantaged (aged 16 – 21 years) and living in East Lothian and Midlothian
- lack confidence and employability skills
- have unrealistic expectations
- need to experience a real work environment

How does the programme work?

The programme sets out to give these young people a realistic, manageable experience of the workplace which will eventually help them to get and sustain a job. This will be done through local employers offering flexible work practice placements.

What is our role?

- To prepare the individual for placement
- To assess the young person’s needs
- To complete an action plan setting out the steps the young person needs to become more employable
- To support both the participant and employer through the programme
- To provide a dedicated member of staff to oversee the programme and to organise placement timetables