

PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY: EMPOWERING YOUR BUSINESS WITH SHIPLEY COLLEGE TALENT

LIFE-CHANGING LEARNING



HOW PARTNERING WITH SHIPLEY COLLEGE EMPOWERS YOUR BUSINESS

AT SHIPLEY COLLEGE, WE BELIEVE THAT TRULY EFFECTIVE EDUCATION IS BUILT HAND-IN-HAND WITH EMPLOYERS. BY WORKING CLOSELY WITH US, YOUR BUSINESS DOESN'T JUST BENEFIT FROM A SKILLED WORKFORCE; YOU ACTIVELY SHAPE IT.

PARTNERING WITH THE COLLEGE HELPS YOU TO:

DIRECTLY INFLUENCE THE SKILLS PIPELINE:

Have a powerful voice in shaping our curriculum – from the content and specific units students study, to the order in which they learn them. You can be confident that our College is teaching the precise skills your business, sector, and district needs, both now and in the future.

RECRUIT AND NURTURE FUTURE TALENT:

Develop a robust talent pipeline to fill current and future skills gaps. Engage directly with the next generation of professionals through guest lectures, industry visits, and real-world projects, enabling you to identify and attract new talent.

ENHANCE EMPLOYABILITY & SOFT SKILLS:

Provide invaluable work placements and real-world experiences where students apply classroom learning. This practical immersion helps students develop the essential soft skills (like communication, critical thinking, and teamwork) that employers demand, giving them tangible experiences to discuss in interviews.

BOOST YOUR BRAND & SOCIAL IMPACT:

Elevate your company's profile by actively contributing to the development of highly employable individuals within the Bradford District. This not only keeps vital talent in the area but also powerfully supports your corporate social responsibility agenda and fosters a diverse workforce that truly represents Bradford's vibrant culture.

KEEP YOUR TEAM & OUR STAFF CURRENT:

Invite our teaching staff into your business for industry updating, ensuring their knowledge and our curriculum remain cutting-edge and relevant to your sector's latest practices.

Access Bespoke Solutions & Training:

Explore opportunities for co-designed employee development programmes tailored to your specific needs, and discover specialised leadership and management training to cultivate visionary leaders within your organisation.

Gain Strategic Insight: Influence our strategic direction by applying to become a College Governor, gaining Board experience, developing networks, and making a real difference to the communities we serve.

WHAT OUR STUDENTS BRING TO YOUR BUSINESS

OUR STUDENTS ARE EAGER, INNOVATIVE, AND READY TO LEARN. BY COLLABORATING WITH SHIPLEY COLLEGE, YOU EMPOWER THEM TO APPLY THEIR ACADEMIC KNOWLEDGE AND FURTHER DEVELOP CRUCIAL WORKPLACE QUALITIES THAT ADD IMMEDIATE VALUE TO YOUR BUSINESS:

REAL-WORLD READY:

Equipped with foundational knowledge from their studies, they are keen to put theory into practice.

DEVELOPED SOFT SKILLS:

Through classroom and placement experiences, they cultivate vital employability skills such as:

- **Communication & Collaboration:**
Working effectively in diverse teams, sharing responsibility, and adapting communication styles.
- **Critical Thinking & Problem Solving:**
Applying logic and reasoning to generate solutions and achieve goals.

- **Initiative & Self-Direction:**
Demonstrating focus, accountability, greater independence, and a proactive approach to tasks.
- **Adaptability & Flexibility:**
Navigating new environments, embracing change, and adjusting strategies.

ENTHUSIASM & FRESH PERSPECTIVES:

Bringing new energy, ideas, and a desire to contribute positively to your team.

“SHIPLEY COLLEGE IS AN OUTSTANDING PLACE, PRODUCING EXCELLENT STUDENTS WHO OFTEN SECURE EMPLOYMENT WITH US IMMEDIATELY AFTER GRADUATION.”

Ben McKay, Education Manager for Patient Safety Training, Bradford Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust



REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE: STUDENT PLACEMENTS & ENGAGEMENT

SHIPLEY COLLEGE WORKS HAND-IN-HAND WITH LOCAL EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE TRANSFORMATIVE REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCES FOR OUR STUDENTS. THESE OPPORTUNITIES ARE VITAL FOR DEVELOPING A SKILLED WORKFORCE AND CAN BRING IMMENSE BENEFITS TO YOUR BUSINESS:

WORK PLACEMENTS:

Our students undertake placements across a wide range of sectors (e.g., business, health & social care, childcare, education, media, esports, art, travel and tourism.) These placements introduce new talent to your business, raise awareness of your sector's opportunities, and help you identify future recruits.

- **Flexible Options:**
Placement durations are flexible, ranging from short, intensive blocks (e.g., 5-day employability placements for Level 1/2 students) to regular days over one or two years for Level 3 and T Level students (T Levels require a minimum of 45 days). We can tailor to your needs.
- **Practical Application:**
Especially in vocational areas like Health & Social Care or T Levels, students apply course skills directly in your setting.
- **T Level Advantage:**
T Level industry placements offer an extended opportunity for students to become a truly valued team member, often working alongside apprentices.

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS:

For students with additional needs ready for work, these structured, work-based programmes offer a fantastic match between intern skills and role demands. A dedicated Job Coach from the College provides support to both the intern and your business, potentially leading to a trained, reliable, and committed employee.

APPRENTICESHIPS:

Employ an apprentice and mould them to your business needs while they earn a wage. Our flexible models (including online and face to face learning) ensures they gain valuable training through shadowing, mentoring, in-house training, and visits. Apprenticeships support succession planning and can reduce recruitment and training costs.

BEYOND PLACEMENTS: DEEPER EMPLOYER INVOLVEMENT

WE VALUE YOUR EXPERTISE AND OFFER NUMEROUS FLEXIBLE WAYS TO ENGAGE THAT DIRECTLY BENEFIT BOTH YOUR BUSINESS AND OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF:

WITH OUR STUDENTS:

- **Career Preparation:**
Support students by giving feedback on CVs, conducting practice interviews, and mentoring them on their journey into employment.
- **Industry Insights:**
Speak to individuals or groups about your business, the different roles within it, and industry career pathways.
- **Real-World Projects:**
Provide real-life or simulated work briefs for students to tackle, watch their pitches, and offer valuable feedback.
- **Business Immersion:**
Invite students to tour your premises, or host mock recruitment events and assessment centres at your location to give them a true taste of your industry.

WITH OUR STAFF:

- **Curriculum Collaboration:**
Advise staff on current skills gaps in your business and sector, supporting them to plan courses and content that perfectly reflect your needs.
- **Industry Updating:**
Offer work placement opportunities or shadowing for our teaching staff to ensure their skills, knowledge, and experience informing their teaching remains current.
- **Employer Forums:**
Attend our employer forums to provide updates about your business, current needs, and emerging opportunities or significant changes in your sector.

FLEXIBLE INVOLVEMENT:

We understand busy schedules. Shipley College makes involvement incredibly flexible:

- **Location & Format:**
We facilitate remote or in-person opportunities, either at your site or ours.
- **Time Commitment:**
We appreciate any time you can offer – from an hour-long workshop to regular student visits or longer-term commitments. Your involvement genuinely makes a difference to the future of young people in Bradford.
- **Targeted Expertise:**
Work with students or staff in your preferred sector on upskilling or curriculum development, ensuring our courses continually meet skills gaps. You can engage with a specific group/sector or get involved across the College.

BECOME A SHIPLEY COLLEGE GOVERNOR

Becoming a Governor is an exceptional opportunity to develop and capitalise on your professional skills, gain valuable Board experience, and expand your networks. It's also hugely rewarding, allowing you to make a tangible difference to the communities served by the College, help people gain vocational qualifications, and collaborate with fellow professionals.

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- A strong desire to contribute to the effective running of our College.
- A valuable set of skills or professional experience to share.
- The ability to spare approximately 20-25 hours per year for evening meetings (usually Tuesdays).

In particular, we are keen to recruit new Governors with experience in:

- Education environments (e.g., high school, university, FE, apprenticeships).
- Finance, accountancy, or audit.
- Working with a large local employer.

Our Board comprises diverse backgrounds, from Accountancy to IT Consultancy. We meet five or six times a year as a full Board, plus Governors typically join one of the sub-committees (Finance, Audit, Curriculum & Quality, Search) for an additional three or four meetings annually. We are always interested in hearing from individuals with different skill sets. Full support and advice are provided to new Governors.

If you're interested, please contact our Director of Governance, **Danielle Carter**: dcarter@shipley.ac.uk



PARTNER WITH US: GAIN INSIGHTS, SHAPE SKILLS, AND FUTURE- PROOF YOUR BUSINESS

At Shipley College, we understand that for your business to thrive, you need a clear picture of the talent landscape and future trends. By partnering with us, you're not just supporting education; you're gaining a direct line to critical Labour Market Information (LMI) and actively contributing to the economic vitality of Bradford and the wider region.

HOW YOUR PARTNERSHIP PROVIDES STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE:

- **Access Tailored Labour Market Intelligence:** We continuously analyse vital data for you, drawing insights from the West Yorkshire Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), regional labour market reports, key sector analyses, and detailed assessments of skills levels within our community. As a partner, you'll receive information about emerging local and regional skills priorities directly relevant to your sector, giving you a competitive edge.
- **Influence Future Skills Provision:** Your voice is powerful. By actively participating alongside us in regional skills boards, employer forums, and economic development meetings, you directly contribute to shaping the future skills agenda. We participate in these boards, ensuring that your business's needs are represented where it matters most.

- **Contribute to a Stronger Regional Economy:** We formally outline the College's annual contribution to addressing regional skills needs in our Accountability Statement and diligently assess our contribution through our Local Needs Duty. Your collaboration provides the essential, real-world data that allows us to demonstrate our collective impact, ensuring public investment truly supports industry.
- **Future-Proof Your Talent Pipeline:** By working with us, you help us identify not just current, but also future skills demands. This foresight enables us to adapt our curriculum proactively, ensuring a steady supply of new talent equipped with the precise skills your business will need tomorrow.

HELP SHAPE BRADFORD'S
ECONOMIC FUTURE.
YOUR INSIGHTS AND
COLLABORATION ARE VITAL
FOR SHAPING AN EDUCATION
SYSTEM THAT DIRECTLY
SERVES YOUR BUSINESS AND
STRENGTHENS OUR REGION.

EMPLOYER TESTIMONIALS

“SHIPLEY COLLEGE IS PASSIONATE ABOUT GETTING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH THE DOOR, GIVING THEM OPPORTUNITIES THEY WOULDN'T NORMALLY HAVE, AND KEEPING THOSE DOORS OPEN SO THEY CAN HAVE A REALLY SUCCESSFUL CAREER. WE'VE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE COLLEGE, FOUND SOME FANTASTIC STUDENTS AND WHEN THEY CAME TO US ON PLACEMENT, THEY DID SUPERBLY WELL.”

Tom Mott, Lloyds Banking Group

“ALL THE STUDENTS WE'VE HAD ON PLACEMENT HAVE BEEN ADAPTABLE AND CREATIVE. THEY ALWAYS COME UP WITH IDEAS AND ARE READY TO GET STUCK IN ACROSS DIFFERENT AREAS. THEY GIVE THEIR ALL AND LISTEN WELL - ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS. THEY CONTRIBUTE MASSIVELY, STAY DEDICATED, TURN UP WHEN THEY'RE SUPPOSED TO, AND HELP OUT IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.”

Gareth Thompson, Kingdom Wrestling

“SHIPLEY COLLEGE HAS A PASSION FOR ITS STUDENTS AND WANTS TO GIVE THEM THE STRONGEST PLATFORM AFTER THEY LEAVE. THE COLLEGE IS INVESTED IN STUDENTS' CAREERS AND DOING THE BEST FOR THEM.”

Rachel Stevens, Morrisons



“WHEN WE ENGAGED WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM SHIPLEY COLLEGE, IT WAS CLEAR THEY WERE GENUINELY FOCUSED ON ALIGNING THE NEEDS OF LOCAL EMPLOYERS WITH THE OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS. THEY WANTED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT EMPLOYERS WERE LOOKING FOR SO THEY COULD HELP STUDENTS DEVELOP THE RIGHT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCES FOR THE FUTURE.”

Adam Noble, Senior Production Manager, Northern Rail

ENDORSE A COURSE AT SHIPLEY COLLEGE: OUR EMPLOYER ENDORSEMENT SCHEME

We are thrilled to introduce our new Employer Endorsement Scheme , proudly carrying the strapline: “Developing the Professionals of Tomorrow, Today.”

This fantastic new opportunity allows organisations that actively partner with Shipley College – for example, by providing invaluable placements, offering employer-set briefs, or engaging in other collaborative activities – to be formally recognised and celebrated for their commitment to education.

AS A ‘SKILLS EDUCATION LEADER’, YOUR ORGANISATION WILL RECEIVE:

- **A prestigious certificate** acknowledging your vital contribution.
- **A digital badge** that can be proudly added to your company letterheads, email signatures, and website, clearly signifying your status as a leader in skills development.

Beyond this, our most engaged employer partners also have the unique opportunity to endorse a classroom within the college.

THIS SCHEME NOT ONLY CELEBRATES YOUR PARTNERSHIP BUT ALSO POWERFULLY DEMONSTRATES TO PROSPECTIVE LOCAL STUDENTS THE INCREDIBLE BUSINESS CONNECTIONS THEY CAN ACCESS THROUGH SHIPLEY COLLEGE, WHILE PROVIDING YOUR ORGANISATION WITH A STEADY STREAM OF NEW TALENT.

- This special recognition includes:
- **A prominent plaque outside the classroom,** showcasing your connection to Shipley College.
 - **A clear listing of the top ten skills needed to excel in your industry,** inspiring and guiding our students towards relevant career pathways.

EXA NETWORKS BACKS T LEVEL STUDENTS

Exa Networks, based in Bradford, has welcomed T Level students from Shipley College for industry placements. The company provided invaluable opportunities for students to apply their technical skills in a modern and exciting work environment.



“THE STUDENTS EXCELLED...
THERE’S DEFINITELY A CHANCE
OF EMPLOYMENT AFTER A
PLACEMENT WITH US.”

Lewis Aird, Customer Operations Manager, EXA Networks

CONNECT, COLLABORATE, THRIVE: INTRODUCING THE SHIPLEY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIPS TEAM!

AT SHIPLEY COLLEGE, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUCCESS OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES IS THE HEARTBEAT OF OUR COMMUNITY. THAT'S WHY OUR DEDICATED PARTNERSHIPS TEAM IS HERE TO FORGE DYNAMIC, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS THAT DRIVE GROWTH FOR YOUR BUSINESS AND CULTIVATE THE TALENT OF TOMORROW, TODAY.

WHY PARTNER WITH SHIPLEY COLLEGE? WE MAKE IT EASY AND IMPACTFUL FOR YOUR BUSINESS TO:

- **Communicate & Collaborate:**
Working effectively in diverse teams, sharing responsibility, and adapting communication styles.
- **Shape Your Future Workforce:**
Get directly involved in work placements that allow our enthusiastic young students to apply their classroom learning in a real-world setting, gaining vital experience and soft skills that employers like you value. You'll gain fresh perspectives and identify potential future recruits.
- **Influence the Curriculum:**
Be introduced directly to our curriculum teams. Your insights and voice are crucial in ensuring our courses, the units students study, and even the order they learn them, are perfectly aligned with your current and future business needs.
- **Promote Your Business:**
Showcase your organisation to the next generation of professionals. Whether it's through guest speaking, business visits for students, or participating in college events, you'll inspire and attract new talent.

- **Invest in Your Own Staff:**
Discover opportunities to train your existing employees and support internal progression. We can help co-create bespoke development programmes that address your specific skills gaps and leadership needs, ensuring your current workforce remains at the forefront of your industry.
- **Stay Ahead of the Curve:**
Volunteer your time to work with our students or participate in initiatives like Apprenticeships Unlocked. We also invite you to engage in our business needs analysis, helping us understand your evolving requirements and offering our teaching staff opportunities for industry updating so they stay current.
- **Become a Recognised Leader:**
Attend our employer events and explore our new Employer Endorsement Scheme, celebrating your commitment to skills education.

STRONG EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIPS ARE CENTRAL TO OUR MISSION TO DELIVER 'LIFE CHANGING LEARNING.'

That's why our Partnerships Team is headed up by our Principal and CEO, Diana Bird, along with Sonia Patel (Partnerships Manager) and Lucy Ratcliffe (Partnerships Officer).

GETTING INVOLVED WITH SHIPLEY COLLEGE ISN'T JUST ABOUT GIVING BACK - IT'S ABOUT GAINING A COMPETITIVE EDGE.

You'll directly contribute to a vibrant local economy, secure a pipeline of skilled talent, enhance your corporate profile, and ensure your business has the expertise it needs to thrive.

READY TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES? GET IN TOUCH WITH OUR PARTNERSHIPS TEAM TODAY

We're here to make collaboration simple, flexible, and incredibly rewarding for your business.

partnerships@shipley.ac.uk / 01274 327 272



Diana Bird and Anna Dixon MP, Presenting Czajka Care Group with an Employer Partnerships Award certificate



Sonia Patel and Shabnam Balques, Presenting Alchami Accountancy with an Employer Partnerships Award certificate

ShIPLEY College, Salt Building, Victoria Road,
Saltaire, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD18 3LQ

Office: 01274 327 272

Sonia Patel: 07814 792 906

Lucy Ratcliffe: 07969 686 881

partnerships@shipley.ac.uk

shipley.ac.uk

