## Working with employers

The underlying aims of curriculum partnerships with employers are:

- to raise standards of achievement of students
- · to develop the employability skills of young people
- to provide young people with the opportunity to 'learn by doing' and to learn from experts
- to increase the commitment to learning, motivation and self-confidence of students
- to improve the retention of young people in learning after the age of compulsory schooling
- to enable young people to develop career awareness and the ability to benefit from impartial and informed information and guidance to support young people's ability to apply subject knowledge, understanding and skills
- to improve young people's understanding of the economy, enterprise, personal finance and the structure of business organisations and how they work
- We aim to encourage positive attitudes to lifelong learning. Our encounters with employers and employees is extensive and offers our students the opportunity to develop their understanding of employability. Every pupil has opportunities to learn from employers about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. Our curriculum includes a range of enrichment activities including visiting speakers, mentoring and enterprise schemes. Where possible students have the opportunity to experience workplace environments through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities, and expand their networks.
- This work has included Careers fairs, Business breakfasts, speakers at assemblies, visits to employers and their premises, mock interview and cv and employability sessions, These aim to bridge the gap with students and employer links both helping and supporting students, employers and the wider community.

**B.Prendergast**