

INDUSTRY: STEM

PROGRAMME: FOUNDATION

APPRENTICESHIPS

ACTIVITY: INFORMATION EVENT



FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIP INFORMATION EVENT

DYW West Lothian, in partnership with DYW Edinburgh, Mid and East Regional Group, Skills Development Scotland, Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh College and West Lothian College, ran a Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) Information Event for employers, hosted at the Heriot-Watt University Campus.

The event aimed to inspire STEM sector employers to provide placements for FA students within Edinburgh and the Lothians and provided employers with information about the FA frameworks relevant to their areas of business. This includes sectors such as Accounting, Civil Engineering, Scientific Technologies and Creative Digital Media.

The event format included:

- An overview of Foundation Apprenticeships and frameworks (specifically those relating to STEM industries)
- Information about educational pathways and progression routes
- Information on the Graduate Apprenticeship frameworks offered by Heriot-Watt University
- Employer experience of offering Foundation Apprenticeships to school pupils
- Young person's experience of undertaking a Foundation and then a Graduate Apprenticeship (GA)
 - Q&A session
- Networking opportunity for attendees

Approximately 25 organisations attended the event, with a number of employers requesting more information and follow-up meetings with relevant partners in relation to getting involved with the FA and/or GA programme.

Attendees confirmed that the event provided them with a greater understanding of the FA and GA programmes and the support available to employers.

Employers were provided with information on how providing the work-based element of an FA can assist with:

- Meeting Corporate Social Responsibility targets
 - Building a partnership with the local authority
 - Raising business profile in the local community
 - Influencing career choices for S4/S5/S6 students
- Identifying potential young people who could apply for existing Modern Apprenticeship programmes
- Providing fresh ideas for the business, increasing diversity and productivity



"Tuesday's session was really informative – thank you!"

**FIONA CUNNINGHAM, HR MANAGER,
WITHERBY PUBLISHING GROUP**

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