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Edinburgh Guarantee News

NHS Lothian Edinburgh Guarantee Internships begin

NHS Lothian has appointed 11 interns as part of their ongoing commitment to the Edinburgh Guarantee. The interns will undertake roles that will help them gain a better understanding of working in different environments within the health service. Each intern is supported by their own local mentor to provide guidance and support as required. There are also a number of organised training days aimed at increasing the intern's awareness of working in a team, communication and presentation skills. On demonstrating that they are capable of undertaking this level of role it is anticipated that a substantive appointment will follow.



Youth Employment Minister pays tribute to Capital staff

Angela Constance MSP, Minister for Youth Employment, visited Capital Document Solutions in recognition of the company's long-standing commitment to creating career opportunities for young people. She met with key members of staff, including apprentices and trainees recruited as part of the Edinburgh Guarantee. She acknowledged that training young people to become an integral and valued part of the business' success was a healthy model that was good for the business and for Scotland's economy. Tom Flockhart, Founder and Managing Director said: "It is good to be recognised and appreciated by the Minister for the success we have achieved through the career development and SVQ schemes we run for trainees and apprentices."



Industry experts work for young people

Sue Bruce, Chief Executive of the City of Edinburgh Council, has been invited to join a new Commission for Developing Scotland's Young Workforce led by Sir Ian Wood, former Chair of world leading oil services company, The Wood Group. Experts with backgrounds in business, further education, schools and trade unions will join forces with the Scottish Government to make recommendations to improve the readiness of young people for work. They will look closely at the links between Curriculum for Excellence, post 16 education and employers as well as routes into work after school and the success of programmes such as modern apprenticeships.



Career Academies UK in Edinburgh : Scottish Graduation

28 students from Forrester, Liberton and Tynecastle high schools were the first in Edinburgh to successfully complete the two year Career Academies programme. Alongside their counterparts from Glasgow schools, they celebrated their success with their families and business supporters in the Assembly Rooms. All of the mentors and the businesses that have generously provided internships and given their time and resources to support these young people are to be commended for the enormous impact they have made to their lives and futures.



Other good news from Career Academies is the announcement that Hollie Sword, who won the regional heat for the Sir Winfried Bischoff Award, went on to be one of 4 who won the national award at the London awards ceremony. Her prize is a trip to New York in September to visit Career Academies UK's sister organisation, the National Academy Foundation, and £500 per year for three years towards university costs.

Positive Destinations

Recruitment is ongoing across the city

The team continues to support employers advertising opportunities for school leavers. Currently recruiting are Standard Life (15 Internship positions), NHS Lothian (Trainee pharmacy positions), Aldi (Modern Apprenticeship positions), RBS (Modern Apprenticeship positions), Blackwood (Business Administration Modern Apprentice) and David Narro Associates (Trainee Engineering Technician position). Opportunities already successfully filled in the past couple of months include a trainee hairdresser (Live Laugh Love Hair and Beauty), a trainee maintenance assistant (Festival Theatre) and 2 trainee nursery nurses (The Edinburgh Nursery). Alongside this our partner training providers are supporting employers recruiting to other Modern Apprenticeships including a Seed Analyst position. All opportunities continue to be advertised on the <http://teenwork.co> website.



Shepherd and Wedderburn offer work experience

Shepherd and Wedderburn, one of the UK's leading law firms, is giving up to 8 Edinburgh school pupils in S5 the opportunity to take part in work experience in their Edinburgh office. The placement will run from 5-9th of August 2013. The project is specifically focusing on pupils who are interested in a career in the legal sector and who will be the first in their family to go to university. The work placement will offer the lucky pupils the chance to shadow staff in one of four areas: Law, Accountancy, Marketing and Finance. A comprehensive placement programme has been developed and participants will be able to work across all four areas or focus on the area they are most interested in. All participants will be mentored during the placement.



Retailers support young people

Sainsbury's has offered 15 part time roles to students at five high schools local to the new store they are opening in the Longstone area of the city. Each school has been offered three opportunities and Sainsbury's staff will interview up to 20 students from each school to give them practice in interview skills. The Edinburgh Guarantee team also visited IKEA this month and heard about their rolling programme of four week voluntary work experience placements. Successful applicants are given the opportunity to work in all departments in the store and support is provided throughout. Places are limited but contact Elizabeth.stanton@ikea.com for more information.



Events, events, events!

School Leaver Insight Day

On 20th June 2013 Deloitte hosted an insight afternoon designed to inform students of the opportunities available to them at Deloitte. Students were provided with detailed information on each scheme; they met with previous students and also played a business game highlighting essential skills needed for the business world. This was an excellent opportunity for students in S5 or S6 with an interest in professional practices. For more information visit <http://mycareer.deloitte.com/uk/en/schools/events>. or contact Debbie Wilson at djwilson@deloitte.co.uk



Employment Advice Day at Drumbrae Library Hub

Around 80 people attended an employability advice day earlier this month at Drumbrae Library Hub, organised as part an ongoing programme to address skills priorities in West Edinburgh. The event was targeted at all age groups with a particular focus on young people leaving school. The range and variety of employability support options and opportunities were highlighted by partner organisations who were represented on the day.



Modern Apprenticeship week

There was a lot of interest from young people and their parents attending our event in St Andrew Square garden during Modern Apprenticeship week. Over 100 people heard about our opportunities over the course of the two days, and through our partnership working with Skills Development Scotland and British Telecom we were able to provide a very rounded source of information. Apprentices from partner organisations gave live demonstrations of stone masonry, roof tiling/slate and sash and case joinery throughout the two days. Even the weather was kind!



Edinburgh Guarantee Developments

JET (Job, Education & Training) plus

Students in S5 who cannot leave school until Christmas will now be offered the opportunity to undertake a full-time work experience placement from August to December as part of the Curriculum for Excellence. The students will be placed with an employer in the city and supported by a JET+ co-ordinator for the duration of their placement. 90 students from 21 of the city's high schools will start this new programme in August. Employers who accommodate a JET+ student on a full-time extended placement will be encouraged to convert the placement into a job from January 2014 and may be eligible for a 50% wage subsidy for up to 6 months to help them do so. For more information contact Susan Milne on 0131 529 6900.



Sector Approach well underway

Last month we held a cross-sector evening event for employers interested in helping us develop our sectoral approach. Sue Bruce encouraged other leaders to be ambassadors for the Edinburgh Guarantee by spreading the word to businesses in their sector. Sandy Begbie, Group Operations Director for Standard Life agreed to be such an ambassador for the Financial Services sector. He subsequently hosted a business breakfast this month where other organisations were able to hear how Standard Life are supporting the Edinburgh Guarantee and hear direct from some of the young people they recruited about the difference it has made to their lives.



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