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November 1st, 2012

Edinburgh Guarantee News

Scottish Enterprise, Glenavon & Scottish Widows recruit

Scottish Enterprise recruited twenty new apprentices as part of a national recruitment drive and two of them are based in the Edinburgh office. They completed their induction programme at the end of September and have now joined their sponsoring teams locally - one in the Company Growth Team and the other in the Sector Delivery Team.

Glenavon Insurance has recruited a trainee insurance administrator in a full time permanent role and Scottish Widows have identified three young people to join them on six month paid placements. We've also seen young people from the Inspiring Young People programme start with Mama Tea and with Advance To Go.



City of Edinburgh Council Apprenticeships update

As part of its own commitment to the Edinburgh Guarantee the Council recruited 50 new Modern Apprentices in the financial year 2011/12 and is well on the way to recruiting a further 50 before the end of March 2013. Interviews are completed for HGV Mechanic, Road Workers, Horticultural Engineer and Amenity Horticulture Apprentices and offers have been made to the successful applicants.

Over the next few months opportunities will be advertised through myjobscotland.gov.uk for Modern Apprentices in the following areas: Childcare, Outdoor Learning, Youth Work, Creative Industries, Hospitality, Social Care, Forestry, Gas Engineering, Plumbing, Electrical Engineering, Business Admin, Surveying and Stores.



Voluntary sector organisations join forces

Senior representatives from eleven voluntary sector organisations joined Martin Crewe, Director of Barnardos in Scotland, to discuss how the voluntary sector can improve the prospects for school leavers in Edinburgh. They focused not on the support they could give but on the employment opportunities they, as significant employers in the city, could provide. Together they agreed to rethink their attitudes to employing school leavers and their discussions identified several potential new opportunities. The group also agreed to spread the word through their own networks to maximise the voluntary sector employment opportunities on offer.



Jobcentre Plus seeks employers for work experience

Over 150 young people in Edinburgh have undertaken voluntary work experience since April, with many subsequently moving into employment. Jobcentre Plus is now seeking more employers who can offer 16-24 year old jobseekers the opportunity of a voluntary work experience placement. Placements last two to eight weeks, young people continue to receive their benefits and Jobcentre Plus can cover travel and childcare costs if required. For further details contact callum.grigor1@jobcentreplus.gsi.gov.uk



Positive Destinations

Sixty new pupils join Career Academies programme

Six more high schools have joined the successful Career Academies UK programme in the city. During September and October sixty S5 students have been selected to join the thirty students who were enrolled last year on this exciting programme. The business community has responded very well to the call for new partners in this initiative and sixty new mentors have come from organisations in all sectors of the economy including Santander, Cairn Energy, Hotel Missoni, Harvey Nichols, Logica and VisitScotland. Students meet their mentor every 4-6 weeks to begin exploring their career aspirations and learning about the world of work at first hand.



Harvey Nichols & Portobello High School

Working in partnership with Harvey Nichols, Portobello High School has started a new course in Retail as part of their curriculum. Four pupils from the S5/6 class were invited for interview at the store and two have been offered an extended work placement. Both are delighted to have been given this chance. All the pupils have been offered feedback on their



interviews with comments on their strengths and development points and the whole class has been invited for a tour of the store in November.

National Science & Engineering Week

In advance of the next National Science & Engineering Week in March next year, we met with partners from Edinburgh College to see how we can use this event to showcase science and the careers that it has to offer young people. Working with the Edinburgh College, we'll offer Crest Awards (Bronze Level) in local schools. They will be centred on a project while Applied Science students from the college will act as ambassadors, working alongside pupils in their schools. The programme will culminate with an event at the College during National Science & Engineering Week to link pupils, students and employers.



Events, events, events!

AAT accountancy and finance careers event

AAT is hosting an event on 1st November for pupils and their parents to find out about careers in accountancy and finance, and the different study routes available to them across different sectors. There will be presentations from employers, trainees and training providers, highlighting what accountants do, the benefits of balancing work with study, as well as what employers look for when taking young people into their business. The main employer supporting the event is Grant Thornton with Edinburgh College in attendance to represent training providers.

For more information, or to find out about AAT, contact Helen.mcgougan@aat.org.uk



Tourism & hospitality event

Springboard is hosting an event at the City Chambers on 6th November to showcase careers and opportunities in tourism and hospitality. There will be presentations, chef demonstrations, talks, and the chance for young people to meet employers and see just what the industry has to offer. Springboard is offering 100 opportunities to young people in Edinburgh including taster experiences, opportunities to shadow, employability skills and structured work experience. Employers supporting the programmes include Apex Hotels, Sodexo, Mercat Tours and Prestonfield House.

For more information contact Elise on 07824 567974 or elisem@springboarduk.org.uk



Inside Industry consultation

Inside Industry is a new careers tool. It provides an overview of jobs available within particular industries, the vocational and academic routes into these jobs and the companies that are providing the best opportunities for apprentices and graduates. The information provided is up to date, relevant and completely led by Industry and the people doing the jobs that are profiled. The product has been launched initially with the energy sector and teaching resources are to be created in consultation with teachers and industry partners. The company is hosting an event on 5th November to discuss with teachers and guidance staff across the country what sort of resources would be useful to them.

For more information contact Darren Peattie darren@inside-industry.org.uk



Edinburgh Guarantee Developments

A City-Wide Employability Award

Research and development into an Edinburgh Employability Award is underway. The Scottish Government use the following definition for Employability “The combination of factors and processes which enable people to progress towards or get into employment, to stay in employment, and to move on in the workplace.”

These factors and processes will form the foundation of the Award which may include basic skills development such as literacy and numeracy, development of personal attributes and attitudes, and a focus on self marketing and presentation of skills. The aim is to tailor an award which is not only of value to the individual but can be recognised as valuable to an employing organisation.



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