Developing the Talents of the Next Generation

The youth unemployment rate (16.6%) is almost three times that of total adult unemployment (6.2%) - ONS

Stronger links between business and the education system will help young people make the transition into the workplace. Our 2014 Workforce Survey suggests the following measures are needed to achieve this:

- High quality experience of work in all schools
- Universities, colleges and schools focused on employment, supported by business
- Support for businesses to offer more opportunities for young people

76% of businesses say lack of work experience is the reason young people are unprepared for work

48% Offer work experience placements

54% of firms believe graduates are not prepared for work

88% of firms believe school leavers are not prepared for work

27% of firms have not recruited a 20 year-old in the last year

Only 39% currently offer apprenticeships

An additional 32% would consider offering them in future

25% of secondary schools require business work experience

23% of secondary schools require a business day

22% lack of information about what's required

57% Self-discipline such as communication, team working, resilience

46% teacher only

53% focus in educational establishment not the skills needed for work

54% say funding for additional training would encourage them to hire more young people

Recommendations:
- Introduce experience of work in all schools, including business placements and visits
- Low cost training opportunities for businesses in each country

The British Chambers of Commerce Workforce Survey conducted by CMI which consists of 800+ interviews from businesses across the UK.

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