

Have you heard about the Government's new Kickstart scheme?

The government have recently announced a new scheme to support unemployed young people called Kickstart - a way to enable businesses to offer job placements for a period of 6 months.

What do these job placements involve?

These job placements are for 25 hours per week and government will fund 25 hours per week minimum wage, plus NI and pension contributions. In return, businesses are expected to support the young person, provide learning opportunities, develop their CV, work with them around job search and progression that will follow the placement. The government will provide some funding to enable this too. There is a minimum application size of 30 job placements.

Kickstart for schools:

We are developing an offer that will support schools to take on Kickstart placements in a way that ensures the process works as easily and simply as possible. We will ensure schools understand what is involved, place their Kickstart employee in an appropriate role in their setting and set up the right support around the placement. This will ensure that the young person gets the best opportunities for them and that the setting receives value and is not distracted from its core educational purpose.

We think there are several areas a Kickstart placement could really work in a school setting:

- **Office Support:** helping the office team to manage the front facing elements of the school especially with maintaining a digital presence through the school website, social media accounts, and communications to parents.
- **Resources Support:** acting as educational resource development support. Providing capacity to support teaching teams to develop the learning resources, both digital and paper based.
- **Activity Support:** providing classroom and or lunchtime support in a socially distanced learning environment. Providing support for learning bubbles and creating the extra classroom capacity teaching teams will need.
- **Project Support.** Working with the relevant staff to make particular time bound projects happen from developing the community programme to starting a school garden project or developing the outdoor learning environment.

The Real Ideas Offer:

To act as an intermediary and apply to DWP on a school's behalf (unless you want to employ 30+ placements you will need an intermediary). There is no cost for this.

Schools will receive an upfront payment of £1,500 to support each placement which is intended to provide induction, training and support. Schools can choose to use this funding to deliver this themselves or use it to take advantage of our support offer:

Support with the recruitment, induction and role planning process. Ensuring your placement is school ready. Covering safeguarding, basic H&S training, DBS processes and basic workplace training.

Providing a virtual training and support package alongside your placement that will support them to grow, develop and provide more value.

This virtual training and development will be split into strands designed to support the roles outlined above:

- **Office Support: office working, customer service training, social media management.**
- **Resources Support: educational resource development, e-learning, appropriate software use.**
- **Activity support: classroom practice; managing in a socially distanced learning environment; TIS training; elements of TA training.**
- **Project Support: project management; problem solving; making things happen in a school environment.**

Personal progression support. Giving your placement access to the Real Ideas Connect membership through which they can access one to one progression support, opportunity hacks and also be in touch with potential post-placement employers.

Support to recognise and celebrate their success during the placement. We will register your school as a digital badge issuer and support you to issue each placement with a collection of digital credentials that recognise their achievements and act as a digital employer reference, supporting them to identify their portable skills and progress into new employment after their placement.

Want to find out more?

Email Kerry Cork - kerry.cork@realideas.org - with contact details, location and, if able, how many placements you feel you'd be able to offer. To discuss further, please contact Jonathan Clitheroe - Jonathan.clitheroe@realideas.org