



School Business Partnerships

Workplace Visits

Strategies for engaging students

Business hosts are encouraged to consider the following strategies to make the workplace visit engaging for students.

1. Establish rapport

- introduce yourself
- use student names where possible
- share information about yourself
- model excitement and enthusiasm
- positively reinforce student responses
- respect students and expect their respect in return.

2. Get attention

- explain the purpose and relevance of your work
- where appropriate, ask interesting and speculative questions of the students
- use images, video, objects or props
- generate discussion
- keep the pace brisk
- vary activities to avoid long periods of listening in a large group.

3. Positioning

- project your voice and make sure that students can hear you clearly
- use eye contact and make sure students are facing you when you are speaking
- if possible, move around the group.

4. Listening

- encourage the students to ask questions and make comments
- listen to student responses and ideas
- choose different students to respond to questions or report back.

In most instances, students will be accompanied by a teacher who has ultimate responsibility for the students. Take your cue from the teacher.

For further interaction ideas see *Presentation Content* and *Small Group Discussions* information sheets.