

The BIG Futures Show

Schools Pack 2020



Tuesday 28 April 2020 (9.30am – 4.30pm)
Eastbourne Sports Park
www.bigfuturesshow.org.uk

Last updated 2 December 2019

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1. Introduction to BFS Schools Pack

Since its inception in 2016, The Big Futures Show has established itself as a key element in the Eastbourne annual calendar of events, and has been a great example of the collaboration between schools, employers and the Borough Council in assisting our young people to make informed decisions about their all-important futures.

The BFS philosophy has been dominated by the need to support and assist teachers in their already wonderful effort to provide excellent and appropriate careers education, information, advice and guidance.

As a not-for-profit charitable organization, the Eastbourne Education Business Partnership has mined its 30 years of experience in brokering the partnership between business and education in organizing the event, and has been greatly encouraged by the positive and constructive feedback received from teachers as well as exhibitors.

With amendments to the event that have been recommended by participants, BFS 2020 plans to be even more effective and beneficial to the schools and their students (and parents), especially relevant at such an exciting time for Eastbourne, given the massive economic developments taking place and the many careers and job prospects which such developments provides.

I hope this Schools Pack provides earlier and vital information for you to be able to plan ahead and take full advantage of BFS 2020.



Giles Entwisle
Vice Chair, Eastbourne Education Business Partnership

2. About the BIG Futures Show (BFS), Eastbourne Education Business Partnership and our Sponsors

The BIG Futures Show (BFS) is the largest employability, skills and jobs event in East Sussex for students aged 14 plus. It is also open to parents, carers and anyone looking for work or training.

BFS is organised by Eastbourne Education Business Partnership (EEBP) in association with Eastbourne Borough Council. EEBP is a registered charity consisting of a board and representatives from local schools, colleges and businesses and has successfully been delivering work-related learning activities for students in the local area for the past 30 years.

This year's Show is currently being sponsored by Eastbourne Borough Council, East Sussex College, Sussex Health & Care Partnership STP, Bexhill College, The Beacon, The Best of Eastbourne, East Sussex Careers Hub, Wave Leisure Trust, CCLI and Helen Owen Marketing Enterprise with more to be confirmed.

3. Why the BIG Futures Show has been established

Over a number of years, many East Sussex schools have organised their own careers fairs to which local colleges, training providers and businesses have been invited. Whilst these have been valued, such events can take a considerable amount of time to plan and deliver for each school, and some employers have said that they do not have the capacity to attend them all. It seemed sensible to consolidate all the effort made by schools into just one annual event, which would be large enough to cater for a much broader range of career interests across all sectors. A larger event (over 90 exhibitors) also attracts employers from out of the area who are more confident of a wider audience.

4. What are the benefits of attending BFS?

4.1 To schools and teachers

- Contributes to the overall **Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme**
- Provides students with the opportunity to have direct contact with over 90 exhibitors consisting of local colleges, training providers and employers, to enable them to obtain up to date information about a range of careers **linked to Labour Market Information (LMI)**. Exhibitors are provided with support to help them engage well with students
- Helps to address **DfE and Ofsted** requirements for a quality careers programme and supports criteria within Investor in Careers (part of the national Quality in Careers Standard) and the **Gatsby benchmarks** for quality careers guidance
- Offers a professional development opportunity for careers and subject teachers who can obtain up to date information about the **careers linked to their curriculum area** and develop links with employers who may be able to contribute to lessons and careers events

- Provides pre and post event student and **teaching materials**, including a comprehensive 32 page show guide which can be used in lessons as a stand-alone careers education resource
- Attendance at one high profile, externally organised and sustainable **careers event frees up time and resources within the school**
- Increases **student motivation** back in school after they have developed a clearer career plan

4.2 To students

- Direct contact with employers, colleges and training providers and the chance to network and initiate work experience and other opportunities
- Opportunity to engage in interactive activities at exhibitor stands
- Students can meet people working in careers that are currently of interest to them, to find out more about what the job entails as well as entry requirements
- Raised awareness of careers, jobs and organisations not previously known about
- Can challenge pre-conceived ideas about what a job involves (including gender stereotyping)
- Provides information about further education and training
- Up to date information about individual sectors and routes and pathways into that area of work
- Learn about local and national Labour Market Information (LMI)
- Talking to someone 'doing the job' can often 'light a spark' of interest with students
- Awareness of alternative routes into employment e.g. Apprenticeships
- Meet local employers and practice communication skills
- Increased confidence in job research skills
- Opportunity to match personal skills and qualities to selected career possibilities

5. How the BIG Futures Show links to Department for Education (DfE), Ofsted, Investor in Careers and other national recommendations and requirements

1. 'Careers Guidance and Inspiration in Schools': statutory guidance for governing bodies, school leavers and school staff (DfE April 2017).
 - '*The statutory duty requires governing bodies to ensure that all registered pupils at the school are provided with independent careers guidance from Year 8 to Year 13.*'

- *'Provide access to a range of activities that inspire young people, including employer talks, careers fairs, motivational speakers' etc.*
2. Ofsted requirements (pages 43 and 44)
 - *'Staff promote employability skills'*
 - *'Staff are quick to challenge stereotypes'*
 - *'Pupils are prepared for the future'*
 3. Ofsted requirements - Pupil Destinations (page 50)
 - *Students can proceed to the 'next stage of their education, training or employment'*
 - *Students can 'progress to further/higher education or employment'*
 4. 'Getting Ready for Work' (Ofsted 2016) – *the research showed that links with business and industry and direct contact with employers continue to be an area of weakness.*
 5. 'Investor in Careers' award – part of the national Quality in Careers Standard – *nearly all schools in East Sussex have achieved the award and most are at the reassessment stage. Direct contact with people from business and industry is a requirement and is often identified as an area for development during assessments.* (See Appendix 4 for more detail)
 6. 'Framework for careers, employability and enterprise education 7 – 19' (CDI 2018) *17 learning outcomes for KS3, KS4 and Post-16*
 - *3 aims: self-development/awareness, career exploration, career management.*
 7. PSHE Programme of Study: Key stages 3 and 4, page 31
 - *Students are able to 'evaluate own personal strengths'*
 - *Students consider a 'range of opportunities available for career progression'*
 - *Students are aware of the 'changing pattern of employment'*
 8. The eight Gatsby Benchmarks for 'Good Careers Guidance' (Gatsby Charitable Foundation 2014):
 - *2. Learning from Career and Labour Market Information (LMI)*
 - *5. Encounters with employers and employees*

6. Preparing students for their attendance at BFS

Preparing students before they come to BFS is an important part of the process to enable them to gain the maximum benefit from attending the event. A few weeks before the Show, schools are provided with a lesson plan which links to national career learning outcome requirements, and copies of the 32 page BFS Show Guide (one per student), to enable staff to deliver preparation activities. The Show Guide provides detailed information about all the exhibitors (colour coded according to the sector they represent), a site map and 7 pages of student material. Suggested student workbook activities cover:

- How BFS can help me
- My career ideas (before and after BFS)
- Exhibitor stands to visit
- Questions to ask exhibitors
- Careers within each sector

Students are also asked to evaluate their experience and think about what they have learnt, back in school. A post-event lesson plan is available for this purpose.

The BFS Show Guide is in itself a useful resource and can be used afterwards to support other careers education activities, such as Labour Market Information (LMI) research.

7. Feedback from those who attended BFS in the past (2016-2019)

Exhibitors

“Great opportunity to promote your business or industry to the next generation.” Hailsham Roadways Construction (first BFS in 2019)

“It was great, really well organised and a perfect opportunity for Neilson to showcase what we can offer.” Neilson Active Holidays (first BFS in 2019)

“BFS is a fantastic opportunity for students to be able to meet organisations like ours for support in making future career decisions, as well as speak directly to employers and training organisations. The hands-on interactive nature of the event means that students always have something to get involved with.” Generation Medics (2019)

Sponsor

“I just wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed The BIG Futures Show. It was a great event and I felt that we had some meaningful conversations with the young people who attended. It was also a great opportunity for the exhibitors to network, which is always a very useful part of these events.” NHS (Health Education England)

Students

“The people were very friendly, helpful and informative. They definitely provided insight and helped me feel more certain and secure in my future career path.”

“I learnt a lot about the qualifications you need to get jobs”.

“I learnt about jobs that I wouldn’t normally look at.”

Parents/carers/others

“Was well set up and informative. As a parent I also found out information about further updating in my trade, which I didn't know about, so will probably use that company. It was good to know that there are so many different options out there for different ways into careers.” (2017)

“I thought the supporting brochure with careers planning is extremely useful. I accompanied my 15 year old son. We were amazed at the variety of exhibitors and all the opportunities represented. I am looking forward to returning with my younger son next year.” (2018)

“Congratulations on an excellent ‘BIG Futures’ show in Eastbourne on Wednesday. It was a terrific occasion and it was so good to see first-hand the massive number of stall holders and so many youngsters showing such an interest.” Peter Field, the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex (2017)

Teachers

“A thoroughly recommended experience for students, a great opportunity to engage with a wide range of employers.” Uckfield College (first BFS 2019)

“A very well organised and inclusive event providing young people with invaluable information about career pathways and training opportunities.” Hazel Court School (2018)

“A very inspirational and informative event for all our pupils.” Roedean Moira House (2019)

8. Costs and booking procedure

It is necessary to make a small charge per student to enable them to attend the BIG Futures Show as such a large scale event incurs costs associated with the venue, Show Guide and student material, marketing and the employment of staff to plan and deliver the show over a lengthy period of lead up time.

Costs for 2020 are as follows:

- For group bookings, £4.00 (plus VAT) admission per student (inclusive of all support materials) plus subsidised coach travel at £3.00 (no VAT) per student.
- Discounts are available for groups of over 100 and as well as for afternoon bookings.
- Entry for individuals or families on the day, £3 with Show Guide.

8.1 How to book places and deadlines

Places can be booked via the website at www.bigfuturesshow.org.uk

The duration of the visit for group bookings will be 90 minutes. Arrival times are at 30 minute intervals starting at 9.30am. Pre-registration is required for all school groups and early booking is recommended to secure the preferred choice of visit time and to discuss available discounts.

The deadline for group bookings and associated coach travel is **Friday 13th March 2020** (unless individual arrangements have been agreed). Confirmed bookings will be invoiced and **must be paid by 31st March 2020**.

9. Marketing information for schools (see Appendices)

1. Appendix 1: Sample letter to send to parents/carers
2. Appendix 2: Sample newsletter article
3. Appendix 3: Sample content for school website

Free BFS advertising posters and postcards will be available and can be ordered through: hello@bigfuturesshow.org.uk.

10. Further information

Tim Sorensen: tim@eastbournebp.org.uk

Website: www.bigfuturesshow.org.uk

Email: hello@bigfuturesshow.org.uk



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And Finally,

The team at BFS looks forward to welcoming you and your students (and perhaps parents) on Tuesday 28th April 2020 to find out more about their **BIG** Future.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Sample letter to send to parents/carers about BFS

Dear Parent/Carer

The BIG Futures Show – Eastbourne Sports Park

Tuesday 28th April 2020 (9.30am – 4.30pm)

On 28th April 2020, your son or daughter will have the opportunity to attend the BIG Futures Show (BFS), along with other students from the school and accompanied by staff, during a pre-booked time slot within the school day. This is the largest employability, skills and jobs event in East Sussex, with over 90 exhibitors and offers students the opportunity to meet with a wide variety of further education and training providers and prospective employers. BFS will provide young people across the county with information, advice and guidance about a broad range of careers and opportunities.

Potential employers will be offering interactive exhibits and guidance aimed at inspiring tomorrow's workforce. They will be looking for tomorrow's talent and be explaining what qualifications they are looking for and what training and apprenticeships they can offer in the workplace. Colleges and Universities will also be on hand to show what they have to offer, where it fits with employers requirements and what they are looking for in students. Other training providers will be available to discuss the wide range of other possibilities available between full time education and workplace training.

Students will take part in preparation activities before the day in school and will be provided with a comprehensive Show Guide which will help them to make the most of this valuable opportunity.

You are also welcome to attend BFS at any time during the day, to enable you to find out more information about the opportunities open to your son or daughter, after they leave school.

Costs for attending the BIG Futures Show:

- For group bookings, £4.00 (plus VAT) admission per student (inclusive of all support materials) plus subsidised coach travel at £3.00 (no VAT) per student.
- Entry for individuals or families on the day, £3 with Show Guide.

Your contribution to the costs for this event would be very much appreciated.

Students who have attended BFS in previous years have found it to be an invaluable experience to help them with career choice and their next steps in education or training.

For further information please go to: www.bigfuturesshow.org.uk.

Yours Faithfully

Head Teacher/Principal

Appendix 2: Article for the school newsletter

The BIG Futures Show – Eastbourne Sports Park

Tuesday 28th April 2020 (9.30am – 4.30pm)

The BIG Futures Show (BFS) is the largest employability, skills and jobs event in East Sussex for students aged 14 plus, organised by Eastbourne Education Business Partnership in association with Eastbourne Borough Council. It is also open to parents, carers and anyone looking for work or training.

The event will be attended by over 90 exhibitors including colleges, training providers and businesses from a broad range of sectors, who will provide information about careers and available opportunities. Students will be able to take part in interactive tasks and find out about the skills, qualities and entry requirements for a range of professions.

They will also be provided with a Show Guide in advance of the day and will take part in preparation activities in school to help them to gain the maximum benefit from attending BFS.

Students will be able to find out about the careers that currently interest them and about jobs that they didn't know existed. They will be able to talk directly to employers and ask questions, as well as meeting representatives from local colleges and training providers to discuss their next steps in further and higher education.

Further information:

Website: www.bigfuturesshow.org.uk

Email: hello@bigfuturesshow.org.uk



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Hashtag #BIGFS2020

Appendix 3: Content for the school website

The BIG Futures Show – Eastbourne Sports Park

Tuesday 28th April 2020 (9.30am – 4.30pm)

The BIG Futures Show (BFS) is the largest employability, skills and jobs event in East Sussex for students aged 14 plus, organised by Eastbourne Education Business Partnership in association with Eastbourne Borough Council. Students will be invited to attend in school groups but parents, carers and anyone looking for work or training can also come along. The entry fee for visitors other than school groups is £3.00 per person or family group, to include the Show Guide. The event will be attended by over 90 exhibitors including colleges, training providers and businesses from a broad range of sectors, who will provide information about careers and available opportunities.

Further information:

Website: www.bigfuturesshow.org.uk

Email: hello@bigfuturesshow.org.uk



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Appendix 4: How the BIG Futures Show can support schools as they work towards the achievement and maintenance of the INVESTOR IN CAREERS quality award

Investor in Careers (IiC), part of the national Quality in Careers Standard, is a recognised quality award which highlights excellence in careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) provision within a school, college of further education and work-based learning provider. Formal assessments against the IiC criteria are carried out by an external assessor and the award lasts for 3 years.

Nearly every secondary school in East Sussex has achieved Investor in Careers, which compares very well to the national situation. Many have already been reassessed or will shortly be due for reassessment. The main areas covered by Investor in Careers are outlined below. Further details can be viewed on the IiC website at www.investorincareers.org.uk.

- School demonstrates commitment to careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) and the Investor in Careers Standard.
- School has a current CEIAG policy which is consistent with statutory guidance and relevant national frameworks, contributes to whole school aims and recognises the value of impartial careers education, information, advice and guidance.
- CEIAG programme is delivered to all students in the institution.
- CEIAG programme includes finding out about and preparing for the world of work within the curriculum and through work experience and Labour Market Information.
- The school demonstrates a commitment to meet the statutory duty by ensuring all students from year 8 have access to independent careers guidance.
- School monitors and records students' achievements and progress, working with partners, external IAG provider, parents and carers to ensure that all students make informed choices and effective transitions.
- Staff involved with CEIAG are appropriately trained and developed.
- CEIAG programme is systematically monitored, reviewed and evaluated to ensure that CEIAG delivered is effective in meeting the needs of all students.

Some of the ways in which the BIG Futures Show can help schools to provide evidence for their Investor in Careers assessment or reassessment are as follows:

- Attendance at the event indicates that Senior Management and Governors are committed to the delivery of good quality careers education, information, advice and guidance
- The opportunity to learn about local, regional and national labour market information (LMI) and trends
- The BIG Futures Show is a work-related learning event. Schools are required to demonstrate that students take part in a range of work-related and enterprise learning experiences
- Meeting exhibitors at the event can help students to make effective career decisions and can also challenge them to review ambitions and reappraise their goals
- Students will have DIRECT contact with employers and work-based learning providers at the event. This is particularly helpful now that Work Experience is no longer a statutory requirement for schools
- All students are required to produce an Individual Learning Plan or careers action plan, which encourages personal research

- School teaching staff who attend the event have the opportunity for professional development. This can be to increase their knowledge of careers and employment generally or can help them to see the practical application of their curriculum subject in the workplace



The Big Futures Show (BFS) and the Gatsby Benchmarks

Gatsby 1 – A stable careers programme

Attendance at BFS, particularly for a whole year group, demonstrates commitment to CEIAG from the Senior Management Team and the Governing Body. BFS can become a regular annual feature of careers work, as part of the CEIAG programme published on the school/college website. Student/staff feedback after attending BFS can contribute to the overall evaluation of CEIAG at the school.

Gatsby 2 – Learning from career and labour market information

Attendance at BFS will enable students to access up to date information about the labour market directly from local employers, across all business sectors. This will help students to make informed decisions about their subject option choices and future career paths.

Gatsby 3 – Addressing the needs of each student

All students can access BFS, including those with special educational needs and disabilities and gifted and talented students. Schools will be able to record individual attendance at the event, which will help to build up a picture of each student's CEIAG programme.

Gatsby 4 – Linking curriculum learning to careers

Students will be able to see the practical application of the subjects they are studying, particularly Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM), by talking to exhibitors about the requirements of the workplace. This will help to increase their motivation back in the classroom. Subject teachers will be able to connect with employers and establish a working relationship back in school.

Gatsby 5 – Encounters with employers and employees

Talking to exhibitors at BFS will contribute to the requirement for students to have at least one meaningful encounter with an employer per year. Students will be able to find out about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace.

Gatsby 6 – Experience of workplaces

Every student should have first-hand experience of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience. Through attendance at BFS, students and school/college staff can establish contacts with employers which can lead to work experience or an apprenticeship, at a later stage.

Gatsby 7 – Encounters with further and higher education

All students should understand the full range of learning opportunities that are available to them. Representatives from local FE colleges, training providers and universities will be present at BFS for students to talk to and find out information about the broad range of academic and vocational courses available to them.

Gatsby 8 – Personal guidance

Every student should have a guidance interview with a careers adviser. Attendance at BFS will help to broaden students' ideas about the wide range of careers open to them, which will help them to focus during a careers guidance interview. Students who have already seen a careers adviser can use BFS to take forward any action points identified during the interview.

www: bigfuturesshow.org.uk –  : BigFuturesShow –  : @BIGFuturesShow – #BIGFS2020

The BIG Futures Show is organised by Eastbourne Education Business Partnership
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