

Site visits

The Construction Youth Trust creates opportunities for local communities to connect with construction employers, by engaging with our industry partners to provide valuable site visits to young people in a range of different areas.

How you, as a construction employer, can become involved:

Your company could host visits for

- School groups who could be introduced to construction projects with a guided tour that explains what you do, pitched at a level that reflects their studies.
- College groups on a construction course that your company could help by providing valuable insight on what really happens on site.
- University groups who may be aiming for professional roles in the industry. A site visit that provides them with an understanding of the delivery and management of one of your projects would be immensely valuable.

Benefits to your company

- Valuable engagement that can enhance your Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme while it is relatively cost free – other than staff time and perhaps refreshments.
- Evidence of community engagement that could score you points at the pre-selection process when tendering for contracts and with potential clients.
- Opportunity for your staff to reflect on their roles and facilitate their professional development as they practice their presentation and communication skills.
- Connection with the local community, to develop your local brand identity, present your vision and dispel possible grievances due to disruptions and noise.
- Free advertising through press coverage.
- A certificate for your contribution and much appreciation from us and the young people you help.
- Opportunity to spot potential employees!



Who we are and what we do

The construction industry is the largest employer in the UK and offers young people a wealth of opportunity to follow rewarding and fulfilling careers. **The Construction Youth Trust** assists young people and adults under 30 years of age, who face barriers in entering the construction industry due to finances, lack of awareness, ethnicity or gender. We support our beneficiaries in gaining confidence, skills and experience, and in accessing training and employment in the industry.

The Trust has unrivalled expertise and an outstanding record of success gained through its work in partnership with both key construction employers and local communities.

Benefits to the young people

For a young person, the opportunity to visit a construction site is not only an exciting and stimulating opportunity; it also provides real benefits related to their learning and potential.

- Inspiring and eye-opening, presenting the construction sector as an interesting and rewarding career.
- Increased understanding of the complicated nature of construction projects, multi-agency teamwork and the vital communications between client, contractor and sub-contractor.
- Creates a feeling of involvement in local redevelopment and an understanding how construction and your company in particular, shapes their surroundings.
- Places the techniques and principles learnt in the classroom or workshop into a real context.
- Construction tutors rarely get the opportunity to engage with the industry. A site visit provides them with a real understanding of the work at the coal-face, allowing for higher standards of training and careers advice.
- The knowledge that local construction businesses are investing time in them, can be particularly inspiring for young people, reviving their commitment to enter the industry and now even your company!

“Skanska has found its involvement with the Construction Youth Trust a rewarding experience. We are delighted to be sharing the experiences of our exciting and diverse industry with the next generation of construction professionals.”

PAUL O'SHEA *Skanska*



FAQs

● What is of most interest to a group on a site visit?

The points of interest and learning will differ according to the level of students. Try to enter into conversation with the teaching staff, or the Trust, prior to the visit, to discuss what the students understand already. With more advanced groups, such as those who are studying at college or university, you may be able to go into much more depth. The key here is communication with the teachers and trainers.

● How long does a site visit generally last?

There are a number of variables that exist here, most notably concerning the capacity of the site and the time allocated by the school, college or university. However, an hour's visit allows you to talk about the work that you do (perhaps an indoor presentation if facilities allow), followed by a tour of the site to place the information in context. Please allow time for student's questions, as they may have many! Site visits of more than an hour are common, but it really depends on the circumstances. The Trust can advise you on what is most suitable.

REMOVING BARRIERS: INSPIRING AND SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

What next?

It might help you to think about the projects that you are currently delivering and the schools and colleges near to your sites that you can engage with. Assess your staff's availability and identify the appropriate person to show young people around your site. The Construction Youth Trust can refer you to relevant contacts or can organise the site visit for you.

For more information on the opportunities we offer, advice, or to arrange your engagement, please contact:

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