“Speak up for others – A career as a Barrister”

Information for Schools

Background to the scheme - The Scheme started in 2003. To date there are approximately six hundred barristers on the scheme. Every School in England and Wales is invited to participate in the Scheme and last year there were approximately five hundred schools that requested a talk. The scheme is operated on a voluntary basis so there is no fee involved for the school. The scheme is aimed at students from years 11 to university to provide them with information about the training, work of and life of a barrister.

How the scheme works – To register interest, email careers@barcouncil.org.uk. The school would then be paired with a barrister in the local area if possible, some areas of the country can prove difficult, but please be assured we will do our best. We ask that the school contact the barrister as soon as they can even if they do not require a talk immediately. The date and time for the talk would then be arranged directly between the school and barrister. If you experience difficulties in arranging the talk you should contact the Bar Council. The schools and barristers will be asked to complete a feedback form to help monitor and improve the scheme.

What is expected of the School – When the school is emailed and paired with a barrister we ask the school to contact the barrister promptly. Perhaps the school may not want a talk immediately but it is best to keep them in the picture. If the school is unable to keep an arrangement then please let the barrister know as soon as possible, the vast majority of barristers are self-employed and do not get paid for their time away from court.

The scheme is designed for barristers to visit schools and give talks to the students, unfortunately it is not usually possible for barristers to attend careers fairs.

Please bare in mind that we will do our best to organise a talk for your school, but unfortunately there are a few areas of the country that prove difficult to visit, due to being so far away from the nearest chambers.

The School will be emailed a feedback form and our careers brochure ‘It’s Your Call’. If you would like hardcopies for the students please advise the Bar Council.

If you have any queries please contact:

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