2024 - 2027

Employer Engagement Plan

Careers and Employability Service
Introduction

The Employer Engagement Plan outlines how the Careers and Employability Service will engage with employers to deliver on the needs and requirements of our student community as part of the Student Employability Strategy. This strategy sets out the institutional approach to ensure that all our students are provided with the opportunities and support they need to develop into highly employable graduates.

Enabling the employer voice and presence across the University of Leicester ensures students are prepared and ready for life after university through access to knowledge and experience which is vital to support a successful transition into next steps.

Engagement between student and graduate employers with universities has become increasingly important to enhance preparation for the workplace through access to knowledge and building of skills, vital for students to make a successful transition from university to employment.

The Careers and Employability Service provides a high quality of service to students and employers and has been recognised by professional bodies, associations and at award ceremonies including the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, Institute of Student Employers, National Graduate Recruitment Awards and Matrix Standard.
Our principles

The Careers and Employability Service will implement the Employer Engagement Plan with the following core principles:

**Informed: data driven to shape our engagement**

– Student aspiration: use the aspirations and interests of Leicester’s student population to inform the partnerships and engagements with employers, aiding the targeting and promotion of activities and opportunities.

– Labour market information: understand the skills and industry needs to guide the continued development of information provided to students to inform their career plans and provision of activities to ensure Leicester is providing a supply of talent that meets the workforce of the future.

– Student and graduate destinations: report the destinations of our students and graduates to focus engagement with employers and alumni who have successfully transitioned into positive student and graduate level employment locally, nationally and globally.

– Application and hiring data: harvest information from employers on the number of Leicester applicants and hires from previous cycles to aid support for future applicants to be successful in the recruitment and selection processes.
**Partnership: working together to achieve collective goals**

- Recruitment led: drive relationships with employers to focus on supplying student and graduate talent to meet their recruitment needs.

- Collective purpose: build a shared commitment to the values of inclusivity, inspiration and impact; and enable effective engagement across relevant areas of the University support to businesses.

- Civic universities: utilise the network of local universities and employers to drive an increase on the number of graduates retained in the area following their studies.

- Employer voice: direct engagement with students and the University to ensure feedback from employers is used to ensure continual developments.

**Connect: supporting employers to engage with students**

- Inspire: promote the benefit of role models and professional networks through collaborations with employers, alumni and professional membership bodies.

- Experiential learning: enable a range of opportunities that provides learning and developmental experiences locally, nationally and globally for students to inform future career plans.

- Talent identification: connect employers with students through high-quality, impactful interventions to develop skills, build experience and identify a source of future talent.

- Talent conversion: encourage students to convert attendance of in-person or online engagements with employers into being an competitive candidate in application, assessment and selection processes.
Our measures of success

The Employer Engagement Plan will be measured on the following performance indicators:

– The number of graduates reported in graduate level employment with partner employers via the Graduate Outcomes Survey.

– The number of local, national and global partner employers.

– The number of unique employers connecting with students through attending and participating in person and online engagements annually.

– The number of opportunities available for students and graduates to apply for annually through the online jobs portal.

– The number of exclusive opportunities made available to students and graduates annually.