

Screen Industry Careers

Go-To-Guide

Supporting screen industry professionals to engage in screen career activities with young people

In order to develop a skilled and representative screen industry workforce for the future, young people first need to view the screen industries as a visible, viable and accessible option.

Young people are interested in screen careers but often feel roles are not accessible to them*, and typically don't understand the pathways into the industry and the breadth of opportunity that extends beyond the well-known creative roles.

* [bfi.org.uk/industry-data-insights/reports/bfi-eric-screen-careers-research](https://www.bfi.org.uk/industry-data-insights/reports/bfi-eric-screen-careers-research)

There is an appetite among young people and within schools and colleges to hear from screen industry professionals about what they do, how they entered the industry and what it takes to be successful in the workplace. Hearing from authentic, diverse industry voices has a range of benefits for young people, but inspiring the workforce of the future also brings benefits for you as well.

In this guide for industry professionals, we set out the key messages to help you feel more confident about raising awareness of screen careers with young people, explore how to have the most impact in any careers activities you choose to get involved with and explain how Into Film can support you.

Why get involved?

In addition to the huge benefits for young people, what's in it for you?

- ➔ Diversify the pipeline of talent entering the industry
- ➔ Share your love of the job
- ➔ Give back and contribute to something that might not have been available when you were at school
- ➔ Do something different and have fun

Feedback from careers activities is overwhelmingly positive.



‘I liked hearing from the casting director because I was really interested in how the people were selected. It was all very inspirational and will help me with my future career.’

STUDENT



‘Visiting the school today was a great experience. It was wonderful to see the kids engaging with the animation, and lovely to hear their (sometimes hilarious) questions. A great thing to be a part of!’

INDUSTRY PROFESSIONAL



‘I had a fantastic time at the event. We were given real industry advice to pass on to our students about ways to get into the creative industry and the skills and experience that students can gain.’

TEACHER



How can Into Film support you?

Into Film is the UK’s leading charity for film in education and the community. We provide screen industry careers information and advice, support young filmmakers and bring the power of moving- image storytelling into classroom teaching.

The core Into Film programme is free for UK state schools, colleges and other youth settings, thanks to support from the BFI, awarding National Lottery good-cause funding and through other key funders including Cinema First and Northern Ireland Screen. Across all UK nations, work is underway to ensure young people hear from employers throughout their time in secondary or post-primary school and college or sixth form. Employer activity is even happening in some primary schools

If you want to raise awareness of your corner of the screen industries and reach out to over 90,000 teachers via our established network of over 16,000 educational organisations across the UK, we can help you. We’ll support you to amplify your voice, maximise the impact of any activities you get involved with and ensure all activities keep you and the audience safe.



How can you help?

- ➔ Join our expert panel, speak at events or on panels, get behind the scenes in your workplace, support our courses or resources and deliver work experience and workshops
- ➔ Across the UK nations: support Screenworks work experience (NI Screen), Scottish Careers Week, activities in Welsh or English in Wales, Into Film Festival special events and regional screen industry activities
- ➔ Work with partners including Discover! Creative Careers, Access VFX or Futures for All

Get in touch with us at industrypartners@intofilm.org to find out more.

Your time and expertise are valued by schools and colleges, whether you can spare an hour, a morning or more. Schools and colleges tell us that they need:

- ➔ Support for activities that align with the school curriculum or careers programme: taking part in project work, setting project briefs, speaking or providing recorded content for lessons and assemblies and supporting careers events and employer encounters
- ➔ Willingness to work with younger students – career decision-making starts well before the age of 16
- ➔ Willingness to work with settings outside mainstream school or college: SEND/SEN/ALN/ASN specialist schools and colleges, pupil referral units and alternative provision are all keen to hear from you
- ➔ Content that includes what you do and how it fits into the screen industries, what a typical day involves, what you love about your job, challenges in your job, the skills you use every day, your pathway into the industry or top tips for young people wanting to get started
- ➔ Openness about barriers or challenges you've overcome often resonates with young people if you feel comfortable sharing them



We can support you with information on what young people can do next if they want to find out more.

- ✓ supporting a careers event
- ✓ offering work experience
- ✓ writing project briefs
- ✓ speaking on a panel
- ✓ supporting project work

Get in touch with us at industrypartners@intofilm.org to find out more.

What do young people need to know?

No matter what point you're at in your career, you'll have so much to share. There are many aspects of the screen industries that young people, and their teachers, aren't typically aware of:

- ➔ **Industry jargon: if you mention grips, dollies or DOPs, make sure you explain them too!**
- ➔ **Breadth of jobs: the screen industries aren't just for creatives**
- ➔ **Hidden and lesser-known roles**
- ➔ **Different ways of working in the screen industries**
- ➔ **The screen industries are for everyone**
- ➔ **The screen industries operate outside London**



Who do schools and colleges need to hear from?

It's important that young people hear about a wide range of roles and learn about a breadth of industry experiences from:

- ➔ Near-to-peer speakers
- ➔ A diverse range of industry voices
- ➔ Below-the-line roles
- ➔ People working across the UK
- ➔ People from all sectors, including games, VFX, TV and film

We provide guidelines to help you safeguard yourself and the young people you speak to.



What are the positives and challenges?

FOR EDUCATORS

- ➔ Schools and colleges are measured on their careers activities, so they welcome industry voices to bring roles to life, particularly in sectors like the screen industries that young people want to know more about
- ➔ Schools and colleges face tight budgets, competing priorities and, with a packed curriculum, limited time for young people to hear from industry. At Into Film, we try to ensure our resources can be used in different ways and use virtual and recorded activities to maximise reach

FOR INDUSTRY

- ➔ Schools appreciate some of the challenges you may face in getting involved but may not be aware of all of them. Schools typically plan activities months in advance, which can be challenging for freelancers
- ➔ Into Film can support by brokering activities that can be planned far in advance but with the flexibility to make adjustments if things change
- ➔ Into Film supports content and production that amplifies your reach and makes the best use of your time.

When is a good time to work with schools and colleges?

The school calendar is often planned months in advance. National Careers Week, Discover! Creative Careers, Scottish Careers Week, National Apprenticeship Week or Scottish Apprenticeship Week are great opportunities to shout about the screen industries. Preparation for activities like these starts long before, and careers activities take place year-round.

Get in touch

Get in touch with us at industrypartners@intofilm.org whenever you're ready to discuss your involvement or find out more. There are many different ways we can work with you. The schools, colleges and young people we work with value your input. You can make a real difference to young people through the Into Film screen careers programme.

