### Help give a generation essential employability skills

**Your staff can also gain new inspiration and qualifications**

THE WEX FACTOR is a boot camp that supports young people’s transition from school into the world of work. After successful pilots in schools across London Borough of Hounslow in 2010-12 Spark! is inviting corporate partners to join us in scaling up the reach and impact of THE WEX FACTOR to schools across London in 2012/13.

THE WEX FACTOR provides a line of sight to the future, giving young people:

* a lively, fun and bespoke journey that can ***awaken their thoughts, ideas and aspirations as to where and what they want to be******after leaving schoo****l* – from access to further education to a realistic view of employment opportunities.

**“The WEX Factor is a superb preparation for the workplace.”**

***Employer observer of programme***

* a structured programme to gain ***valuable and realistic insight*** how to successfully access employment in the future and succeed in the world of work.
* training to develop the ***employability skills*** needed to successfully enter a very competitive job market.
* support in ***aligning their education attainment with labour market opportunities***.
* ***work experience*** in a business setting to develop skills and experience that will help give purpose and direction for their life after school.

**Opportunities to become a partner**

1. ***Ad hoc employee volunteering*** – for example, supporting THE WEX FACTOR speed networking events, hosting Industry Insight Days or quality work placements.
2. ***Sponsorship and in-kind support*** – for example, becoming a sponsor of THE WEX FACTOR delivery team or providing venues for delivering training.
3. ***Structured programme of staff development*** – Training in the Level 4 Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) qualification to become an associate tutor on THE WEX FACTOR. For option three detail see over page...

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| For more information visit: **www.sparklondon.org/wexfactor**  Call or email Andrew Dakers, Director  E: andrew.dakers@sparklondon.org T: 07788 116159 |

### Developing your staff through The WEX Factor…

Every group of 30 students that complete THE WEX FACTOR need a dedicated tutor with an entry-level teaching qualification, at least 8 years of business experience and confidence with young people. Becoming qualified to do this work is a cost effective and motivating way to develop the skills and confidence of your staff.

Spark! Associate Tutors are integral to the successful delivery of the programme. In 2012/13 we are inviting our corporate partners to deploy their middle managers in the London-wide scale up of the programme. Your staff would complete the Level 4 Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) qualification and then deploy the new skills through four days of volunteering during the subsequent 12 months.

**Training**

The Level 4 PTLLS qualification enables associate tutors to identify learning needs, plan for learning, engage learners with differing characteristics, and assess learning. It also introduces more in-depth educational theories and principles.

The course comprises one mandatory and a range of optional units, including:

* Roles, responsibilities and relationships in lifelong learning
* Understanding inclusive learning and teaching in lifelong learning
* Using inclusive learning and teaching approaches in lifelong learning
* Managing learning and development in groups
* Principles of assessment in lifelong learning.

The training is a bespoke version of PTLLS that enables trainees to build their familiarity with THE WEX FACTOR course content and materials. It is delivered at the weekend - two consecutive Sundays as well as online activities.

**Costs of staff development partnership approach**

It will cost £249 for a member of your staff to complete THE WEX FACTOR PTLSS qualification. This is delivered by West Thames College in partnership with Spark!

**Interviews and screening**

Candidate associate tutors for THE WEX FACTOR are interviewed by Spark! and CRB checked, although they will be supported by a teacher in the classroom.