

Further Information

Encouraging more people into the early years sector

If you are already working in the childcare and early years sector and want to get involved in raising awareness of a career in the sector there are several ways you can do this:

The **Education and Employers Charity (EEC)** runs the “inspiring the future” programme that encourages sector volunteers to go into schools and colleges to speak to students about their career – e.g. what inspired them to work in their chosen sector/profession and the educational route they took to get there.

The aim is to raise awareness among students about careers they may not have considered previously. See <https://www.inspiringthefuture.org/about/>. EEC matches/connects schools/colleges with volunteers from a range of sectors/professions via an online match-making platform. If you're interested in applying to take part in the programme as a volunteer you can use the following links. The platform is secure and easy to use, and the service is free and available to every state primary or secondary school or college and every individual or employer wishing to volunteer their time. The commitment from volunteers is 1 hour per year.

- Teachers [register](#) their school or college on the platform and give some details about what they want to do in their school.
- Volunteers [register](#) on the platform and select a number of areas of expertise that might be of interest to students.

Tinies are a childcare company running a campaign to encourage more people into the early years sector. They have linked in with the EEC to encourage people working in the sector to volunteer on the match-making platform. See <https://www.tinies.com/inspiring-a-future-in-childcare>. People can get involved in the campaign in various ways, which the campaign page details. This includes having a testimonial sharing their own story on the website <https://www.tinies.com/testimonials.html>.