

PRESS RELEASE

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A lesson in leadership

Founders4Schools introduces new service to empower students to directly access business leaders into their schools to learn about the world of work.

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Govtech charity, [Founders4Schools](#) in partnership with The Evolution Education Trust and Villiers Park have extended their original service, previously used by the teachers, to invite business leaders into their classrooms can now be used by the students to set up events themselves.

With the generous funding of the Evolution Education Trust, we were able to partner with fellow education charity - [Villiers Park Trust](#) so students can take the initiative to prepare for their own future careers by booking a range of encounters with Founders4Schools' diverse network of successful business leaders. Students can grow critical soft and hard career skills through a range of encounters, such as speed mentoring, career talks and mock interviews.

[Founders4Schools](#) built a unique student journey, in co-development with Villiers Park to take into account the safeguarding and protection of these students. Students are able to design, organise and drive the event, thus building their leadership abilities, confidence and transferable skills at the same time.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

Company status

- Companies must be active and registered in the UK.
- Women-led includes Non-executive directors.
- Companies with less than £ 1 Million & > £ 250 Million turnover are excluded from the analysis.
- Companies that were not growing were excluded from the analysis.

Sector benchmarking

Having identified the long list, the eligible companies are then separated into their LinkedIn Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) grouping.

Within each SIC sector, the companies are ranked by their individual growth rate; and those that have most outperformed their sector averages are identified.

Size and age

Independent company or consolidated group revenues must be between £1m-£250m, based on latest Companies House filings which were obtained via the DueDil Fintech startup.

For further information:

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About Founders4Schools:

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Founders4Schools (F4S) builds smart connections between schools and the world of work. As a GovTech charity operating in the education sector, it is dedicated to improving the ecosystem for scaleups by closing the skills gap.

F4S works with enterprise advisors, school coordinators and head teachers in primary and secondary schools throughout England and Scotland to help their pupils aged 8 to 16 reach the milestone of at least four encounters with employers each year and to help their pupils aged 16-24 reach the milestone of 140 hours of work experience placements.

F4S works nationally and locally with organisations including the Science Park Association, the LEP Network, LinkedIn, Duedil, Careers and Enterprise Company (CEC), the CBI, FSB, IoD, DWY, Royal Society, British Chambers of Commerce, LEPs and Local Authorities. National partners include the BBC, Barclays Bank, The Hunter Foundation, Villiers Park Educational Trust, The Evolution Education Trust, Prince's Trust, UFI, Peter Cundill Foundation and Nominet Trust, FutureLearn, Freeformers, Career Ready, TeachFirst and Young Enterprise. Local partners include regional government such as Camden Council, as well as public, private and third sector business, and community support groups and networks. Their programmes help

educators to connect with successful, growing businesses through a wide variety of career and business encounters.

Their work-experience service, Workfinder, which is available on mobile phones, puts the young person at the centre of the search process and enables them to gain work experience and apprenticeship roles with fast-growing businesses within their local communities.

The programme is sustained by more than 2,000 partners and 35,000 business leaders of startups and scaleups who volunteer their time. More than 120,000 young people have had on average two encounters with business leaders. After such encounters, 96% reported feeling inspired by the speakers, 87% said they wished to go into business (versus the national average of 60%) and 54% were keen to go on to study STEM subjects (twice the national average).