

Being a Sector Role Model

What is the Future Frontiers Programme and where does the Sector Role Model fit in?

Future Frontiers deliver a transformative two-year programme of coaching, advice and guidance to equip disadvantaged young people to realise their potential at school and take positive steps into education or training at age 16. We do this through matching pupils with volunteers from our partner businesses to explore careers over 4 meetings.

In the fourth meeting, our coaches organise a short video call between their pupil and a professional (Sector Role Model) working in the area their pupil is interested in. This conversation will help the pupil understand more about that career and get practice speaking to a professional. The students will come prepared with questions and curiosity about the job that you do on a regular basis. Your only job is to answer questions and give them an insight into your world!

The commitment

Your commitment as an SRM is a 20 minute phone call, video call or meeting with the student and their Future Frontiers coach. Some examples of previous questions are:

- What does a typical day look like?
- What are the advantages and challenges of your job?
- How did you decide this industry was right for you?
- What kind of skills does this industry look for in a person?

A coach will be in touch with you about timings for the session and further information.

Safeguarding

- As you are not background checked, your call will need to be supervised by a coach someone from Future Frontiers or the school **at all times**
- Contact details must not be exchanged with the student under any circumstances - this includes your contact details being given to the student or being displayed on the video call. If you would like to send your student any further resources or information, this must be done through Future Frontiers
- Be appropriate- please remember you are speaking to a 14/15 year old so please keep the conversation within the remit of education and careers.
- Please read our Safeguarding policy [here](#), which includes a code of conduct, before working with a pupil

Top tips for a great SRM call

- Remember: you are the expert in the conversation! The students (and their coaches!) are likely to know little to nothing about industry, so don't hesitate to break it down to the very basics
- Be honest. The student you are speaking with may have a misunderstanding of what the job/industry really entails. If you have any constructive advice to offer them based on their interests, don't be afraid to give them it
- They are not likely to have spoken to a stranger over video call like this before - this may be an intimidating prospect! Do your best to make them feel comfortable by remaining professional but casual