

PRESS RELEASE Black Country Chamber of Commerce

**THIS RELEASE DATED 5th January 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Black Country Chamber Calls on Local Businesses to Support Innovative Careers Speed Networking Event

Q3 Academies Trust in partnership with Black Country Chamber of Commerce are organising a careers speed networking event to raise aspirations and employability skills by showcasing as many occupations as possible to students. The event will take place on the morning of Monday 27th March at Q3 Academy Great Barr.

Based on a "Speed Networking" concept, we are seeking employers who are passionate about their business to donate half a day of their time to talk to young people about working in their industry. Each business volunteer will have their own station and students will take turns to carousel around in small groups to find out more about different career paths and ask questions to gain an insight into the world of work.

Dr Caroline Badyal, Chief Executive of Q3 Academies Trust, commented: "We are really looking forward to working with the Black Country Chamber on this event and giving our students the opportunity to learn about a range of Black Country businesses and the sorts of career paths available to them."

Black Country Chamber of Commerce encourages local employers to get involved in this vital work and support raising the awareness of the skills, qualifications and potential routes into different careers.

Corin Crane, Chief Executive of the Black Country Chamber of Commerce, added: "Black Country businesses are always letting me know about the shortage of skilled workers and lack of transferable skills from young people. It is now time for businesses to support young people and inspire them to work in their particular industry. The Careers Speed Networking is a really interesting way of businesses engaging with young people, and provides a fun and informative way of finding out potential career options for the students. I urge local businesses to take part and shape the future workforce."

For more information please visit <http://www.blackcountrychamber.co.uk/bcc-events/chamber-events/careers-speed-networking> or contact the Black Country Chamber on 0330 024 0820.

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Notes to Editors:

The Black Country Chamber is 1 of 52 accredited Chambers of Commerce. As a membership organisation, we represent businesses across Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton. Owned by our members, we are passionate, focused and committed to our members' success. We offer businesses help and support on a huge range of business issues whilst helping to raise their company profile and develop a wider sales network.
www.blackcountrychamber.co.uk

Q3 is not just another Multi Academy Trust. We are passionate about education and want to work closely with other stakeholders to create a unique experience for all our students. Q3 Academy Great Barr is a vibrant and exciting place to learn and grow, where we strive for excellence in all that we do.

- Delivering Excellence is more than mere words on a page; it is based on 4 key principles:
- A clear and defined purpose for every student
- Uncompromising standards
- Building right relationships - people matter most
- Recognition and rewards.

We are proud of our track record of ensuring students move on to employment, training or university, reflecting our drive for no student to be 'left behind.' For more information please visit our website: www.q3academy.org.uk

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Lisa Bird on 07810 377 833 or email: lisabird@blackcountrychamber.co.uk