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Skills Builder
PARTNERSHIP
UK

Skills Builder Accelerator Programme

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Charity Overview

Skills Builder Partnership) is a not-for-profit with a clear mission: *One day, everyone will build the essential skills to succeed.* We exist to bridge the "skills gap" seen in our economy and break the "skills trap" that heavily impacts young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Alongside leading organisations like the CBI, CIPD, and the Careers & Enterprise Company, we co-developed the **Skills Builder Universal Framework**. Backed by the UK government in statutory guidance, this open-source framework de-mystifies soft skills by breaking down eight highly transferable essential skills—*Listening, Speaking, Problem Solving, Creativity, Adapting, Planning, Leadership, and Teamwork*—into 16 teachable, measurable steps.

School Offer

Our flagship **Accelerator Programme** supports secondary schools to build a sustainable, long-term strategy for embedding essential skills into everyday education. The fully managed curriculum package for participating schools includes:

- **Strategic support:** Delivery and coaching from a dedicated Skills Builder expert to align curriculum to development of essential skills.
- **Teacher training:** Training for an appointed lead practitioner ("Skills Leader") to equip them with deep change management strategies and essential skills pedagogy and training staffing group to deliver that pedagogy
- **Curriculum resources:** Complete access to the Skills Builder Hub, which includes all structured interactive lessons, Challenge Days, and student projects.
- **Skills Builder Award:** Schools compile case studies to work toward earning national Bronze, Silver, or Gold Awards that recognise best practices.

Eligible Students

The programme adopts an inclusive, whole-school approach, meaning there are no structural restrictions or barriers to eligibility. We encourage schools to involve as many year groups and learners as possible.

Timings/Delivery

- **Programme Duration:** The year-long Accelerator programme runs across the full academic calendar year, typically commencing in May and running through until July.
- **Delivery Integration:** Training slots and planning meetings are integrated flexibly within the school day. Teachers frequently deploy the core essential skills modules during morning registration, weekly tutor slots, assembly blocks, or dedicated Personal Development (PD)/PSHE curriculum timings.

Key Outcomes You Can Expect

By synchronising school curriculums with the Accelerator framework, the following verified outcomes are achieved:

- **Accelerated Student Progress:** Learners at Accelerator schools make an average of 3.3x more progress in their essential skills compared to peers at non-participating schools.
- **Uplift in Teacher Confidence:** On average, 85% to 92% of trained school teachers report a measurable increase in confidence when delivering essential skills education.
- **Long-Term Life and Economic Impacts:** Rigorous cross-sector research shows that individuals with higher proficiency in essential skills are 52% less likely to face unemployment and earn an average wage premium of £6,100 more per year.

Resource Needed

- **Staff Release:** Releasing the designated Skills Leader for 2 full days of virtual training, and senior leadership for 3 hourly planning sessions.
- **Timetable Slots:** Finding and protecting a regular slot within the school timetable (e.g., tutorial or subject lesson slots) to explicitly teach the framework.
- **Internal Point of Contact:** An active staff lead to facilitate communication, capture digital assessment logs, and help align the framework with the school's wider careers or work experience provisions.