

Interview 2 Impress

An Initiative
of **ABCN**

THE CHALLENGE

Interview 2 Impress (i2i) is a one-day program designed to equip students from high-needs schools with the necessary, practical skills needed to engage in employment options beyond school.

Interview skills are an essential tool in successfully pursuing post-school employment options and careers. While most students are taught about interview preparation at school, the opportunity to explore this topic and learn from a corporate employee adds considerable value.



The focus of *i2i* is to allow students to experience realistic interview scenarios in a corporate environment. It enables students to test and practice the theory they learn at school by working with a mentor who is able to provide direct and relevant feedback and advice based on their own job interview experiences. Topics covered include effective non-verbal communication, building rapport, a typical interview structure and questions.

i2i workshops are held at a corporate venue. A facilitator will take participants through a series of activities designed to build students' understanding of job interview techniques and processes. Participants will be actively involved learning through activities based on 'doing' rather than theory.

THE RESULTS

- > 88% of students have a better understanding of what to do at a job interview.
- > 80% of students feel that they are better equipped to prepare for a job interview.

❖ The program is an excellent initiative because we were able to encourage the students, help boost their confidence and show them what the interviewer is looking for, which are all skills that aren't usually taught in a classroom!

Mentor

ABCN
Business Partnering with Education

THE PROGRAM

i2i is a one-day program that runs for three hours at a corporate venue.

Activity	Where	Who	Duration
Mentor Briefing	Company	Teacher(s), <i>i2i</i> coordinator, mentors, facilitator, ABCN	30 mins
Welcome and session commencement	Company	Teacher(s), students, mentors, facilitator, ABCN	2 hrs
Lunch	Company	Teacher(s), students, mentors, facilitator, ABCN	30 mins
Wrap up and review	Company	Teacher(s), students, mentors, facilitator, ABCN	30 mins

THE MENTOR'S ROLE

A key requirement of being a mentor is to act as an important role model in the student's lives. For some students participating in the program, their mentors may be the only positive and dependable role model in their lives. By agreeing to participate in the program, it is critical that mentors attend the session and remain for the duration of the workshop unless there are exceptional circumstances. If mentors experience an unexpected change to their work or personal schedule and they believe they may not be able to attend, they must inform their company champion as early as possible to enable a shared mentor to step in.

RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

- > No contact with your student(s) outside scheduled sessions.
- > Do not give your business card, home address or phone, email address or social media information to your student(s).
- > Do not reveal confidential information about yourself or your employer.
- > Do not give money or buy gifts for your student(s).
- > Talk to the school or ABCN if you are concerned about something said to you in confidence (eg child abuse, neglect).
- > Be sensitive to the financial and environmental constraints of your student(s) and their religious/cultural background.
- > Stay professional in conversation - refrain from comments about their physical appearance or dress.
- > Be respectful of the different values you and your student(s) may have.
- > You are required to complete the relevant *Working with Children* documentation for your state. Please contact your company champion for more information.



I really loved and enjoyed it. I am glad I got so much out of this; it was very uplifting to obtain the insight I need to develop in the future.

Student