SPECTRUM
ADVANCED LEARNING

HOST PARTNER BRIEF

SPECTRUM CAREER PATHWAYS

Career Pathways: Host Partner Brief

A six-month, personalised learning and practice programme for students who already know the career they want to pursue.

6	1	1:1	1
months	day a week on placement	professional mentor	capstone portfolio

PREPARED FOR

Prospective host organisations and mentors

Host Partner Brief · Ages 15–18 · Six months · One student, one mentor, one personalised plan

The programme on one page

AT A GLANCE

Career Pathways is for students aged 15 to 18 with a clear goal, such as becoming a lawyer, a policy researcher, a doctor or an engineer. Each student follows a personal learning plan for six months: one day a week with a host organisation in their chosen field, a weekly Spectrum tutorial, specialist skill modules, and a capstone that proves what they can do. It usually follows the six-week Junior Executive, AI or Cyber Security programme.

Who	Students aged 15–18 with a defined career goal, selected by application and interview
How long	Six months (about 24 weeks), alongside school
Time on placement	One day a week (or two half-days), about 6 hours
Mentor	One named professional mentor at the host; about 2 hours a week
Spectrum provides	Personal learning plan, weekly tutorial, skill modules, portfolio, safeguarding, assessment
Outcome	A professional portfolio, capstone, mentor reference and certificate

How the six months are structured

FOUR PHASES

Phase	Months	What happens
1 Discover and plan	Month 1	Career interview, skills audit and goals; the personal learning plan is agreed by student, mentor, parents and Spectrum; induction at the host
2 Learn the field	Months 2–3	Rotations through the host's main areas; weekly skill modules (research, writing, data, professional ethics); observation and supervised tasks
3 Practise and contribute	Months 4–5	A sustained, real (non-confidential) piece of work with the team; feedback cycles with the mentor; mid-point review
4 Prove and present	Month 6	Capstone project presented to professionals; portfolio review; reference letter; next-step plan for university and careers

A typical week

When	Activity
Placement day	Morning briefing with mentor; supervised work with the team; reflection log
Weekly tutorial (60 min)	Spectrum tutor: skill module, portfolio review, school links (EE, CAS, applications)
Independent study (2–3 h)	Reading, research and module tasks set in the learning plan

Career pathways we offer

EXAMPLES, CUSTOMISED FOR EACH STUDENT

Pathway	Example hosts	What the student learns and practises	Example capstone
Law	Law firms, legal aid clinics, courts, in-house legal teams	Legal research, drafting, client care, ethics; observing hearings	Mock trial or moot; a legal research memo
Policy and research	Think tanks, government departments, research institutes	Literature reviews, data analysis, interviews, policy writing	A policy brief presented to experts
Medicine and health	Hospitals, clinics, public-health bodies, labs (observation only)	Public health, research ethics, communication, shadowing	A public-health project or literature review
Engineering	Energy, construction, manufacturing, design studios	Design process, safety, CAD basics, project management	A design-and-build or feasibility study
Technology and AI	Software, data and AI teams	Coding, data, testing, product thinking	A prototype app, model or data project
Finance and economics	Banks, investment firms, central banks, auditors	Financial analysis, markets, risk, ethics	An investment or economic analysis report
Journalism and media	Newsrooms, broadcasters, digital media	Interviewing, fact-checking, writing, editing	A published feature or podcast
Environment and sustainability	Environmental agencies, NGOs, energy firms	Fieldwork, data, policy, communication	A sustainability audit or field study
International relations	Embassies, international NGOs, UN-related bodies	Diplomacy, negotiation, research, languages	A model negotiation and position paper
Business and entrepreneurship	Start-ups, incubators, family businesses	Business models, customers, finance, pitching	A tested business plan and pitch
Psychology and education	Schools, child-development services, research labs	Research methods, ethics, observation, learning design	A research proposal or learning resource
Architecture and design	Architecture practices, urban planners, design agencies	Design briefs, sketching, models, sustainability	A design portfolio project

Every plan is personalised: the student, parents, mentor and Spectrum agree goals, modules and the capstone at the start.

How it is delivered

PEOPLE AND PERSONALISATION

Spectrum provides	The host provides
A Pathway tutor who writes the learning plan and runs weekly tutorials	A named professional mentor (about 2 hours a week)
Skill modules matched to the field	One placement day a week and a safe workspace
Safeguarding, consent, insurance and risk assessment with you	Supervised, non-confidential tasks and observation opportunities
Portfolio, assessment, reviews and the reference process	Mid-point and final feedback; attendance at the capstone presentation

Personal learning plan (example: future lawyer)

Element	Plan
Goal	Study law at university; understand litigation and legal aid
Rotations	Litigation, corporate, pro bono clinic, knowledge management
Skill modules	Legal research, case analysis, advocacy, professional ethics, drafting
Sustained work	Research memo on a public legal question for a pro bono team
Capstone	Mock trial advocacy before two lawyers, plus the research memo
School links	Extended Essay in Global Politics; CAS project on legal literacy

Outcomes

FOR THE STUDENT AND FOR YOUR ORGANISATION

For the student

- Deep, realistic understanding of the career
- Professional skills practised with real feedback
- A capstone and portfolio for university applications
- A mentor reference letter
- Links to the Extended Essay, CAS project, IAs and TOK

For your organisation

- An early relationship with a committed future professional
- Real, useful work over six months
- Mentoring experience for your staff
- Community and ESG impact
- Early access to strong future applicants

Assessment

Component	Weight
Professional conduct and commitment	20%
Skill modules	20%
Sustained work (mentor-assessed)	25%
Capstone and presentation	25%
Reflective portfolio	10%

Safety, ethics and getting started

COMMITMENTS

Ratios
One Spectrum supervisor for every 8 students; Spectrum staff present all day.

Checked adults
Spectrum staff are background-checked; host mentors receive a safeguarding briefing.

Never alone
No adult is alone with a student behind a closed door.

Confidentiality
Students sign a confidentiality pledge and never see personal or commercially sensitive data.

Insurance
Spectrum holds public liability and personal accident cover; hosts confirm their own cover.

Specialist rules
Medicine and health: observation only, with consent, no patient data. Law: no client confidential material. Every field follows its professional code.

Getting started

When	Step
8 weeks before	Discovery meeting; agree pathway, mentor and day of the week
6 weeks before	Student shortlist and interview (mentor invited)
4 weeks before	Learning plan agreed; risk assessment; mentor briefing
Month 1	Induction and first placement day

Spectrum partnerships contact	
Email	
Phone	

Explore more with Spectrum

YOUR NEXT STEP

More ways to partner with Spectrum.

Organisations that host one programme often go on to shape others. Each one is planned, staffed and supervised by Spectrum.

Partnership opportunities

SIX WEEKS IN REAL ORGANISATIONS

Placements

Host an industry, community, AI or cyber security placement week.

PERSONALISED · 6 MONTHS

Career Pathways

Mentor one ambitious student in your profession for six months.

IN-HOUSE · 3.5 WEEKS · 4 DAYS A WEEK

Skills Studio

Give a guest masterclass in the Spectrum Skills Studio.

Why organisations choose Spectrum

Low effort, high value
Spectrum plans, supervises and assesses; your people share their expertise.

Safe by design
Supervision at all times, safeguarding training for mentors and no access to confidential data.

Fresh thinking
Students leave you a practical idea or prototype built around a real need you set.

Visible impact
An impact report and recognition you can use in community and ESG reporting.

Talk to us. Book a free consultation through the Spectrum website or ask your Spectrum programme lead. We listen first, then recommend the right pathway.

THE SPECTRUM FAMILY OF PROGRAMMES

One family. Every stage of learning.

Every learner is different. Spectrum finds where each one is, and builds the path to where they want to go.

Mastery

ENGLISH AND MATHS · GRADES 1–11

Find the exact gap and close it for good, one skill at a time.

Math Mastery · English Mastery

MYP

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAMME · MYP 1–5

Understand the criteria, meet them with confidence and arrive at eAssessment ready.

IB MYP Support (Years 1–5) · MYP 5 eAssessment Accelerator

IB Diploma

DP1 AND DP2 · GRADES 11–12

Separate SL and HL support for every paper and every component.

IB Diploma Support · TOK, EE and IA guidance

Placements

SIX WEEKS IN REAL ORGANISATIONS · AGES 10–17

Week 1 Academy, four placement weeks in industry or the community, then a project week.

JEP Industry · JEP Community Immersion · AI Programme · Cyber Security Programme

Skills Studio

IN-HOUSE · 3.5 WEEKS · 4 DAYS A WEEK · AGES 10–17

Fourteen hands-on days on the Spectrum campus: the future skills every student needs.

AI Studio · Cyber Security Studio · Digital Office Skills · Speak, Debate, Lead

YOU ARE HERE

Career Pathways

PERSONALISED · 6 MONTHS · AGES 15–18

For students who know their goal: a personal plan, a specialist mentor and real practice.

Law · Policy and research · Medicine and health · Engineering, business and more

SAT and ACT

UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS · GRADES 10–12

Diagnostic-led preparation, timed practice and a clear target-score plan.

SAT Preparation · ACT Preparation

Teacher Academy

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING · EDUCATORS

Practical training for teachers in IB-style teaching, assessment and future skills.

1-week Intensive · 3-week Certificate

SPECTRUM
ADVANCED LEARNING

Start a conversation

Book a free consultation through the Spectrum website or ask your Spectrum programme lead. We will listen first, then recommend the right pathway.

Spectrum Advanced Learning is independent and is not endorsed by or affiliated with the IB.