



Showcase Jigsaw

Steve Richardson
External Funding Manger
Thomas Rotherham College

The Job Interview Guarantee scheme (JIGSAW) is a programme of subsidised work placements to help employers in South Yorkshire's high growth sectors to recruit and train suitable staff, filling vital skills gaps that are currently preventing business development.

The scheme started in 2004 and initially focussed on the Creative and Digital and IT industries and run by the Creative Industries Agency in Sheffield. Following the success of the first run of the scheme the contract was awarded to Thomas Rotherham College to continue the work and extend it to other high growth sectors in the region, such as engineering, finance, administration, sales, health and social care and marketing.

JIGSAW looks to help people start a new career or find one that better suits their skills, while also meeting the needs of employers. Trainees are matched to a suitable position with an appropriate company where they spend 6 months in a salaried work placement and gain options for relevant accredited skills training. At the end of six months each trainee is guaranteed an interview with his or her placement employer or elsewhere.

So far, 572 people have been successfully matched into work placements through JIGSAW. Steve Richardson is the External Funding Manager at Thomas Rotherham College and manages the scheme; **“Our aim is to get people into permanent jobs, not just work experience. The key to success is being able to engage with a lot of employers and help many people develop workplace skills and get good jobs. By doing this we will also be encouraging the development of industry in South Yorkshire.”**

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Jigsaw
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