

INTRODUCTION

This scheme is primarily targeted at ethnic minority and disadvantaged 13-17 year olds. However, it will benefit all children in this age group.

WHY

The experience of many qualified black minority ethnic (BME) lawyers is that during their schooling their career advisers actively discouraged them from pursuing a career in law. The view held by many career advisers is that the law is beyond the reach of BME children and that such children should be more realistic in their choice of career. Experience has however shown that those who disregarded such negative advice have gone on to have successful legal careers.

BLD believes there is a need to mentor and support young people through schools and university to empower them to make sound career choices. Young people need to feel confident about their chosen career and have the opportunity to seek guidance from experienced practitioners.

The aim of this scheme therefore is to target young participants, arm them with information, raise their expectations, support their aspirations and make these a reality.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Educate and inform about what the legal profession has to offer and the available wide ranging opportunities
- Raise aspirations and empower participants
- Assist participants in making informed choices and being open to the many available options

WHAT

Assisting 13-17 year olds students by providing information, primarily via DVD, podcasting and possibly webcasting which will include the following:

- Different routes into the legal profession.
- Academic requirements and other attributes required
- The various career options available on qualification
- Jargon busters
- Seeing/hearing from those who have qualified or are in the process of qualifying
- Work experience
- Mentoring

WHEN

All year round. Accessible both on-line and DVD, widely distributed, including to schools and libraries.

HOW DELIVERED

Primarily by DVD and podcasting.

WHO – THE TARGET

13-17 year olds, including those interested in a career in law and/or wish to find out whether a legal a career is for them and/or want to be armed with the relevant information to make an informed choice.