

Introduction to the HITZ Programme

The Gloucester Rugby Foundation enhances the lives of young people through sport, with a particular focus on those with social and other disadvantages. Utilising the relationship with Gloucester Rugby, the Foundation is a force for positive change for the citizens of Gloucestershire and beyond. Reaching people at key times in their lives to make a positive impact. Funded through donations, sponsorship and fundraising, the Foundation provides opportunities for organisations and individuals to fulfil their community, charity and volunteering objectives. One of the programmes we run is HITZ.

HITZ uses rugby's core values of teamwork, respect, enjoyment, discipline and sportsmanship to get young people back into education, training, apprenticeships and/or employment, and is delivered nationally by England's 12 professional rugby clubs. The course runs for 15 weeks, with 3 cohorts per year.

Gloucester Rugby proudly introduced the HITZ Learning Academy in 2014 with the intention of making an impact to assist at risk young people. 89% of the young people who completed their HITZ Learning Academy programme transitioned within 6 weeks into education, employment and/or training. 6 of these successful young people represented Gloucester Rugby & the HITZ Learning Academy at the Parliamentary Awards and have also attended National HITZ annual awards ceremonies.

As part of the programme we look to work with local businesses to support our young people, this can be in different ways including employment skills and work experience opportunities. Many of these young people will not have had any previous experience but are keen to learn.

There are many benefits for your business to be involved with a CSR programme, 88% of consumers said they were more likely to buy from a company that supports and engages in activities to improve local society. We use various communication platforms to showcase the work we do with young people, both locally and nationally, this would actively promote your business.

If you would like to be involved with this programme we would be delighted to share more information and meet to discuss options.

Opportunities available:

- Long term work experience over the course duration
- One off work experience days
- Industry days
- Tour of Facilities
- CV writing skills
- Mock Interviews

More Information:

- <https://www.premiershiprugby.com/in-the-community/breakthru/hitz/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-0AU0ASz57w>
- <https://www.gloucesterrugby.co.uk/2019/07/26/jared-spence-reacts-to-winning-breakthruachiever-of-the-year-award-winner/>