

Internships with purpose

"Internships with purpose" supports pupils (years 8/9) in a lengthy preparation process to find an internship that suits their interests and strengths. The focus is on consciously preparing young people for their first internship, thereby increasing the chances of a meaningful experience.

Tips & tricks for teachers

- 1. Start early: Begin preparations at least 7-8 months before the internship.
- 2. Use a talent check (or similar): Let pupils explore their strengths and interests to find suitable internship fields.
- 3. Formulate goals: Each student sets personal learning goals for the internship ("What do I want to find out?").
- 4. Involve parents: Hold discussions or parents' evenings to encourage support and exchange.
- 5. Open up career fields: Organise excursions, short company visits or input from experts.
- 6. Conduct application training: Practise telephone calls, applications and interviews with the young people.
- 7. Assist with the search for internships: Provide support with research and contacts, and give them checklists.
- 8. Ensure commitment: Work with clear deadlines for applications, contracts and feedback.
- 9. Prepare for reflection: Hand out internship diaries or reflection sheets to be completed during the internship.
- 10. Plan follow-up: Use the experiences for group reflection, career guidance lessons and application exercises.