

Adam Marshall: transition from education to work 'a national imperative'

Director General, Adam Marshall, opens the BCC's Business and Education Summit by calling for action to improve the transition from the world of education to the workplace.

6 July 2019

In his opening address to delegates at the BCC's Business and Education Summit, Director General Adam Marshall calls on education and business to work together to solve the skills gap by improving the transition from education to the workplace. Dr Marshall said:

"Unless we improve the transition from the world of education to the world of work in the UK, we won't fix our long-standing issues around productivity – which stop us paying our way in the world as a nation; our firms will be less competitive against their global peers – as businesses struggle to fill skills gaps, and have to divert their training focus to fixing basic skills; and crucially, the burning question of fairness between generations – one of the biggest issues facing our country today – will not be fully addressed.

"These are not left-wing or right-wing issues. They are national imperatives.

"We as business need to do more. Together with colleagues from educational institutions of all stripes, from local government, and from national government, we have a duty to ensure that all young people at school – and indeed far more of our teachers – have regular and repeated interactions with businesses, with industry, and with life in the workplace.

"We have a duty to help school- and college-leavers access the world of work and opportunity, and find their route to personal fulfilment and success.

"A duty to generate confidence between businesses on one hand, and potential recruits on the other – revitalising the social contract between them.

"And finally, we also have a duty to continue to build partnerships between our educational institutions and firms across the country – with a shared focus on the success not just of individuals, but also of the places that they call home."

Ends

Notes to editors:

The BCC Business and Education Summit takes place today at etc venues, 200 Aldersgate, London, EC1A 4HD. For details of the full agenda, please click: <http://www.bccbuisineseducation.com/business-education-summit/business-education-summit-programme/>

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) sits at the heart of a powerful network of 52 Accredited Chambers of Commerce across the UK, representing thousands of businesses of all sizes and within all sectors. Our Global Business Network connects exporters with nearly 40 markets around the world. For more information, visit: www.britishchambers.org.uk

Media contacts:

Allan Williams – Senior Press Manager

020 7654 5812 / 07920583381

Orla Hennessy – Press and Communications Officer

020 7654 5813 / 07825746812