

# Southwark Hospitality Skills Hub

## Newsletter – Summer Issue 2025

### Welcome to our Summer Newsletter!

Spring has been a busy season filled with exciting activities and career fairs across Southwark.

The hub continues to bring together schools and local employers to educate students about the exciting career opportunities in hospitality, raising awareness and inspiring the next generation.

Collaborating closely with Westminster Capital City and Lewisham Colleges, The Hub continues to promote and support their excellent hospitality training courses.

With over 190 Southwark residents signed up to The Hub to date we continue to actively promote weekly job openings, provide access to hospitality careers education, provide comprehensive support with employability skills and offer guidance on hospitality career pathways.



In June, The Hub hosted our first Steering Group and Employer Advisory Board Meeting, where industry experts shared their knowledge and experience to help us shape and hone our provision.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us so far, your commitment makes a real difference in our community. Together, we look forward to creating more opportunities and brighter futures for Southwark residents.

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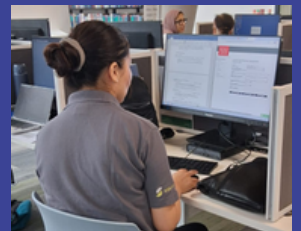
### Opening Doors in Hospitality

The Hub is helping local residents gain confidence, skills, and access to hospitality careers. We offer free employability support and connect residents to live job and training opportunities.

The Hub provides access to free accredited courses from barista and food safety training to front-of-house and customer service. These courses often include a week of work experience and a guaranteed interview - an amazing opportunity for our candidates.

One of the key challenges we face is the shortage of entry-level roles, with the current job market demanding experience and a broader skill set. Training helps participants explore different departments, build practical skills, and increase chances of employment.

Whether you're new to hospitality or ready to return, the Hub is here to support your journey.



# Southwark Hospitality Skills Hub

## Hospitality Business Support

At the Hub, we support businesses with free recruitment support. We know how challenging and time-consuming it can be for businesses to find the right candidate with the right skills, attitude and motivation.

Through our 1-1 tailored support, we can identify which individuals will be the best fit for your business, while practical industry specific training ensures they have the skills to hit the ground running.



[Scan to Register](#)

We're launching a free Level 2 Leadership & Team Skills course this October for Southwark hospitality SMEs, in partnership with Southwark Adult Learning Centre.



## Day-in-the-life-of experiences for schools

We have continued to organise our popular day-in-the-life hotel workshops for borough schools; including Ark Globe Academy at Hilton Bankside, Notre Dam school at Park Plaza London Waterloo and St. Saviours & St Olave's School at Leonardo London Royal St. Pauls Hotels.

We want to say a huge thank you to these hotels, the workshops were outstanding, and the staff went above and beyond to inspire the students and show them how rewarding this career path can be - starting as a housekeeper and working your way up to general manager, anything is possible!

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“I want to say a big " Thank you" for organising this workshop and the staff at Leonardo Hotel. I am Careers Lead at St Saviours and St Olaves so I have organised lots of workplace insight days and I would say this is one of the best we have attended as a school.”

~ Stephen Young

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We have received huge demands from schools looking for employer workshops, to educate and inspire the younger generation. If you are an employer and would like help to organise this, please get in touch.

## Careers Fairs

Careers fairs are a great way for us to spread the word to local residents and business about the support we offer.



# Southwark Hospitality Skills Hub

## Spotlight - Lumberjack Cafe

We are shining a spotlight on the incredible work happening at Lumberjack Café in Camberwell. With a welcoming indoor space, a downstairs co-working area, and a sunny outdoor space, it's the perfect spot to grab a coffee and soak up the summer vibes.

Lumberjack Café is part of London Reclaimed, a charity that runs a year-long traineeship programme for young people (aged 16-25) facing barriers to employment. Through this experience and support, the café helps participants build the skills and confidence they need to take their first step in the hospitality industry.

It's a brilliant initiative with a real impact. During our visit, we loved the warm atmosphere and had the chance to chat with a few team members and see the difference this programme is making first-hand.



## Success Story

Adella was working part-time and finding it hard to get by on limited hours. She made the most of every opportunity with the Hub and even completed a hospitality training course alongside her job.

When a Hospitality Assistant role came up in our network, we knew she'd be a great match! After support with interview prep and confidence building, Adella got the job!

She's now working full-time and earning above the London Living Wage. She's shared how much the role means to her, and we know she has a bright future in this industry.

*'I'm really enjoying my new role and am excited to see how I can progress at Kings College! Thank you so much to The Hub for all of the help and support' ~ Adella*

## Careers Fairs Continued...

Recently The Hub were invited to two exciting career events hosted and organised by Diana Barranco, Elephant & Castle's community director and William Harwood, DWP Borough Partnership Manager at Southwark College.

An additional thank you to Cathleen Xuereb, head of services at the Southwark Adult Learning Centre, who hosted a fantastic job fair where we got the chance to meet Peckham residents of all ages.

We are also working closely with the Southwark Adult Learning Centre on a Level 2 Award in Leadership & Team Skills to upskill current hospitality staff and support local SME's.



Thank you to all the employers, charity organisations, and training providers who have supported the Southwark Hospitality Skills Hub. This work wouldn't be possible without your ongoing support.

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