TILLICOULTRY QUARRIES

BUILDING FUTURES

PARTNERING WITH SCHOOLS

A Guide for Teachers & Careers Advisors

WELCOME TO TQ

Thank you for taking the time to read this guide. Whether you're planning your careers programme for the year ahead or just heard about us at a careers fair, our aim here is simple: to show you what TQ can offer your students, what a visit actually involves, and how easy it is to arrange.

Tillicoultry Quarries (TQ) is a long-standing local employer, producing the materials that build the roads, homes and infrastructure of the communities around us. We're a modern, safety-led operation, but we're also one of the few employers who can offer young people a genuinely hands-on, skilled career with no requirement for a university path.

We're investing in the next generation because our future depends on it, and because we believe quarrying deserves a place in every conversation schools have about careers, not just the obvious ones.

WHY WE WANT TO WORK WITH SCHOOLS

We're upfront about our reasons for reaching out, we think a genuine motive makes for a better partnership than a sales pitch.

Awareness, not persuasion, is the real barrier

Most young people don't reject quarrying as a career, they've simply never been shown it exists. Schools are where the first introduction to our industry happens.

We want to build a local talent pipeline, responsibly

TQ needs skilled people over the next decade, and we'd rather grow talent from the communities we operate in than recruit from further afield. That starts with young people knowing we're an option.

Career guidance needs more real employer contact

Face-to-face encounters with employers are proven to widen the range of careers young people consider. We want to be one of those encounters, not a leaflet, a real conversation.

We can offer something not every employer can

A working industrial site, real machinery, and employees who are only a few years older than your students themselves, the kind of access that's hard to arrange without a direct partnership.

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUR STUDENTS

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1. A genuine alternative to university.
Skilled, well-paid careers with structured progression, no fees, no debt, paid from day one.

2. Early earning potential.
Students can be earning a wage and gaining a qualification simultaneously through our apprenticeship routes.

3. Transferable, in-demand skills.
Plant operation, engineering, logistics and trade skills that stay valuable throughout a working life.

4. A clear ladder for progression.
Many of our supervisors, engineers and managers started in entry-level roles, the path up is real and visible.

5. Local opportunity.
A career close to home, with a company that's part of the community they already know.

"I didn't think this was a real career option until I actually saw what the job looked like."
— Callum, 19, Plant Operator

WHAT WE OFFER SCHOOLS

We can be flexible to you, so you can pick what fits your timetable rather than committing to something open-ended. Everything below can be adapted to suit the year group and the time you have available.

Most partnerships start small: a talk in the classroom or a stand at your careers fair. Where there's appetite from staff and students, we can build up from there, into teacher site visits, taster days and full site tours.

ACTIVITY	WHAT IT INVOLVES	TYPICAL LENGTH	SUGGESTED AGE
TQ Employee Talk	TQ employees speak to students about their own route in	1 lesson period	Any age
Careers fair attendance	TQ stand with staff, video content and printed guides	By event	Any age
Teacher site visit	Bringing teachers on to site to inspire bringing it into the curriculum – hour tour/information session (based on resources)	1 hour	Staff/careers advisors
Site visit & tour	Guided walk-through of an active site with a full safety briefing	S3 and above (14+)	S3 and above (14+)

SAFETY, SAFEGUARDING & SUITABILITY

We know this is often the first question on a teacher's mind, so we've addressed it directly rather than leaving it to be asked.

1. Every visit is risk-assessed in advance.
We provide a full risk assessment ahead of any site visit and can work with your own school's paperwork requirements.

2. Full supervision, always.
No student is ever near active machinery unsupervised. Hands-on equipment use is limited to age-appropriate, closely supervised activities.

3. PPE provided.
Hi-vis, hard hats and any other required protective equipment are supplied on-site.

4. Insurance in place.
TQ holds appropriate public liability cover for group visits, details available on request for your own school records.

WHY THIS FITS YOUR CAREERS PROGRAMME

Supports employer-encounter requirements.
Direct contact with a real local employer contributes to the kind of structured, employer-linked careers guidance schools are expected to deliver, including Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) priorities.

Widens what students think is possible.
Especially valuable for students who aren't planning on university and may feel their options aren't well represented in typical careers content.

Low effort, high value.
We handle the content, the safety briefing and the logistics — your job is simply to get the group there.

Built for an ongoing relationship.
We're happy to make this an annual fixture — repeat visits, a standing invitation to your careers fair, and one point of contact whenever it's useful.

EXAMPLE HALF-DAY VISIT

A sample itinerary to give you a feel for how a typical visit runs, this can be shortened, lengthened or adapted around your timetable.

TIME	ACTIVITY
09:30am	Arrival, welcome & safety briefing
09:45am	Guided site tour
10:30am	TQ Employee Q&A / talk - “How I got into quarrying”
11:15am	Wrap-up, careers guide handout, group photo
11:30am	Depart

HOW TO BOOK A VISIT

1. Get in touch.
Email or call our schools liaison with your school name and rough year group.

2. Call to discuss.
We'll suggest activities and a date that works around your timetable and group size.

3. We handle the paperwork.
Risk assessment, safety briefing content and logistics are sorted on our end.

4. Visit day.
We'll run the session and the pupils will learn about the industry.

5. Follow-up.
We'll check in afterwards and can supply photos, quotes or feedback for your own reporting.

TILLICOULTRY QUARRIES

Thank you for taking the time to review this information.

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