

Name: David Rowley

Organisation and role: Mount Pleasant Hotel, Deputy General Manager

School experience: Hungerhill School

Catering students at Doncaster's Hungerhill School took advantage of an invitation from Mount Pleasant Hotel to see the professionals in action thanks to links created as a result of the Partnership for Employers project.

Deputy General Manager of the hotel David Rowley invited the students and their tutor to experience the kitchen skills of a Sous Chef, have a tour of the hotel and its facilities and departments and enjoy a two course buffet lunch.

In a letter of thanks, tutor Gillian Jones said the visit had lifted the students' spirits and 'spurred them on even more', giving them 'a wonderful sense of pride'. Two weeks earlier David had visited Hungerhill School to see the catering students in action, making pizzas and fresh fruit salads, and talked to them about their ambitions to work in the hotel and catering trade.

He described the DE4L training programme as 'first class'. He said: "Every session was full of information and I always found it interesting. It definitely made me far more aware of the way schools operate and the problems they have to overcome." David said he hoped other employers would get on board and support the Partnership for Employers scheme as both parties have a lot to gain from working with each other.

"It's really opened my eyes," he said. "I'm so enthusiastic about the working relationship between myself and the school and I can't wait to meet up with the wonderful students soon to catch up on what they've been doing and seeing where I can help."

