



Bank of England

Introduction to Financial Services – suggested activities

Introduction

Thank you for inviting a Bank Ambassador to visit your school/college. We have developed a series of short tasks to support the visit. Completion of the pre-visit activity will help prepare students for the talk and generate questions that the Bank Ambassador can answer during the session (please email these to your speaker in advance).

The post-visit activities are designed to encourage students to explore more about the work of the Bank and careers within the professional and financial services sector.

Pre-visit activity

History of the Bank of England

The Bank of England has a long history dating back over 300 years. Visit the [Bank of England website](#) to explore our timeline and answer the following questions:

1. In what year was the Bank of England founded and why?
2. What did the Royal Charter say the Bank was founded to do?
3. What happened to banknotes in 1725?
4. During the Restriction Period (1797 to 1831) what could happen to people who forged banknotes?
5. The Bank Charter Act of 1844 restricted banks and companies from doing what?
6. 1894 marked an important first for the Bank of England – why was this?
7. In 1946 the Bank was nationalised – what does this mean?
8. Identify three banknote ‘firsts’ that took place between 1960 and 2016.

Post-visit activities

Activity 1: Exploring careers in professional and financial services

Visit the careers section of organisations within the professional and/or financial services sector e.g. www.bankofengland.co.uk/careers and carry out the following tasks.

1. Look at the Future Talent webpage and identify different entry routes into the organisation e.g. apprenticeships and internships.

2. Explore the entry requirements for each of the programmes
3. What does the employer/website tell you about the recruitment process/ interview preparation?
4. Look at several programmes/roles – can you identify any requirements/skills common across these roles?
5. Think about the programme/subjects you are studying now (or would like to study in the future) can you map any skills developed on these courses to the requirements of the programmes/roles you have seen?

Activity 2: Professional and financial services and the jobs of the future

Write a short report identifying key factors shaping the professional and financial services sector and how these will impact the jobs of the future. You will need to conduct relevant research, which might refer to:

1. Job creation and declining roles
2. Technological advancement e.g., digitisation, automation, and artificial intelligence (AI)
3. Environmental changes and the 'green economy'
4. The skills likely to be in demand in the future
5. The role of education and training

You may wish to look at the following sources as a starting point:

World Economic Forum – [Future of Jobs report 2023](#)

National Foundation for Educational Research – [The Skills Imperative 2035](#)