



I Can Be School Ambassadors Guide

About I Can Be

I Can Be brings seven and eight year-old girls into the world of work, broadening horizons and helping them to discover the breadth of opportunity around them.

Run through schools, the programme gives Year Three girls the opportunity to research, visit and interview a wide range of female professionals in their workplaces during their working day.

Targeting inner-city primary schools, I Can Be enables girls to explore jobs they otherwise may never be exposed to, building their curiosity and confidence along the way.

School Ambassadors

School Ambassadors are the members of staff who will champion the programme within schools and accompany the girls on the visits. They will often be a teaching assistant, assistant head or a non-class based member of staff.

This guide provides some practical tips and advice on the practicalities of how the programme runs and the role of School Ambassadors within that.

Pre-project training

Before the girls begin their programme of visits to workplaces, there will be a one-hour training session at our office in Westminster. This will be during the afternoon on a week day in early September.

This session will cover –

- The aims of and thinking behind I Can Be and why we think the project is important
- The role of the school ambassador throughout the two terms that the project will run
- How to prepare the children before each visit
- What to expect during the visits
- How to follow up the visits at school

There will be a chance for you to meet School Ambassadors from the other schools taking part and to ask the Project Director questions. Soft drinks and refreshments will be provided.

Helping girls to get the most from the project

Through your enthusiasm and interest, girls will know that they should be excited about taking part. On the way to each visit, talk to the girls about the women they are going to meet, asking how much they know and what they would like to find out.



We have kept the length of the visits very short, 30-45 minutes maximum, to try to ensure that girls are engaged for the whole visit and do not have time to get bored or tired. These sessions will be in three parts – a brief introduction to the volunteer and her role, a Q&A session and a short, practical activity, during which the girls will have the chance to ask the volunteer questions about their lives and their jobs.

Naturally they might find some jobs more exciting than others. If the girls, or one girl, is unenthusiastic, explore that with her. Encourage the girls to reflect on what they like and don't like about the job and why.

Our volunteers are not trained to work with children, so are relying on you as a member of teaching staff to maintain the same high standards as the girls display whilst at school.

Using our ready-made resources

The programme is being evaluated by a team of academics at the Unit for School and Family studies at Goldsmith's, University of London. They will visit your school during the programme to talk to the girls and to gather data.

In collaboration with them, we have developed the resources you will need. They will be supplied to you before the programme begins in September.

There are also additional resources on our website for a lesson and an assembly after the programme ends. Please go to <https://www.icanbe.org.uk/resources/> to find out more.