

14th March 2012

Free training for jobseeking youngsters in Blaenau Gwent

Up to 15 young jobseekers from Blaenau Gwent will have the opportunity to gain experience and qualifications in food management thanks to an initiative by youth charity The Prince's Trust and food firm Tillery Valley.

'Get into Food Management is a two week programme aimed at young people from 18 to 25 who are unemployed. The Prince's Trust course, which is free, will be run by food production company Tillery Valley in Abertillery and will provide a full programme of job preparation activities including interviewing skills, CV writing, and health and safety training. Attendees will also have the opportunity to complete an accredited food safety qualification and will spend time in a range of different departments across the site to gain on the job experience.

Tillery Valley provides meals to the public sector across the UK, delivering daily to schools, hospitals and local authorities. Its advanced production plant in Abertillery has the capacity to produce one million meals per week, and the site employs 350 people from the local area.

Rick Libbey, Director of The Prince's Trust Cymru, said: "We run the 'Get Into' programme, in partnership with employers, to give young people who are work-ready a helping hand by giving them a mix of vocational skills, practical training and hands-on experience, then supporting them as they look for work. We are delighted that so many businesses are supporting our young people by offering work placements for this programme."

A taster session will take place on Tuesday 27 March at the Tillery Valley site in Abertillery for anyone interested and the course begins on Monday 2nd April and runs for two weeks.

Site Director at Tillery Valley, Phil Hall said: "This programme provides young people with a great opportunity to improve employability skills and get some real insight into the way a large food management business operates. Structured work placements such as these give young people a much better chance of standing about when applying for jobs and we are delighted to be working alongside the Prince's Trust on this initiative. We hope to offer an exciting and challenging programme for all."