

Youth employment in the UK: What are we missing?

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Youth employment in the UK: What are we missing?

- Problems facing young people looking for employment
- Problems I have experienced first hand as a young person in the industry
- Ways in which we, the cleaning industry, can combat issues of youth employment in our industry



Youth Voice Census 2022 – Published 6th September 2022

The biggest collection of youth voice and insight in the UK. It provides a unique understanding of the experiences young people are having in the systems around them



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- Age range from 11 to 30-year-olds to acknowledge the challenges young people are facing



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- Age range from 11 30 year olds to acknowledge the challenges young people are facing
- 4 keys findings found:
 - 1. Mental health emergency
 - 2. Difference is disadvantage
 - 3. Unprepared for the future
 - 4. Quality of work: employers and opportunities



- 1. Mental health emergency
 - Young people are in crisis
 - 28.5% of young people declared that they had 'social, emotional and mental health challenges'
 - 31.2% of young people in work struggle with their wellbeing
 - Young people currently in work, shared that their biggest barrier to accessing work had been anxiety (52%)
 - There is no statutory guidance for employers concerning the mental health support that they should be providing to their young workers



2. Difference is the disadvantage

- Being young is seen as a disadvantage by all respondents but this disadvantage is heightened by young people with protected characteristics, carers and care leavers
- Only 24% of those with English as a second language felt safe where they lived
- Young people are nearly three times more likely to be unemployed than the rest of the population, the latest ONS Labour market data shows the unemployment rate for 16-24 year olds to be 10.4% vs 3.8% for all ages



- 3. Unprepared for the future
 - 28.7% of young people thought that employers are supportive of hiring young people
 - Over half of young people looking for work think their biggest barrier to work will be a lack of work experience (56%) and only 36% of young people have access to work experience
 - When the questionnaire asked what skills the young person thought were important to an employer, most respondents answered that all skills listed were important
 - Young people aren't feeling prepared for work outside of education



- 4. Quality of work: employers and opportunities
 - Paying fairly, offering training and development and having a good reputation were the three most important qualities young people looked for in a job
 - 56.3% of young people believe they are paid fairly for the work that they do
 - 59.9% of young people agree they have been given enough training to do their job well
 - 50.4% of young people rated their induction as good
 - NEET data released in August 2022, reveals that there were 711,000 16 to 24-year-olds who were not in education, employment or training





Some comparisons

Mental health wellbeing has been pushed by our industry



- Mental health wellbeing has been pushed by our industry
- 20% of workers in our industry are foreign-born



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- Where is our youth voice?



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- Where is our youth voice?
- Too much is dismissed because of out of date experiences
- Are we famous for fair pay, development and opportunities?
- 711,000 young people looking for opportunity and 30% of our workforce missing





What stands out the most?

It is 50/50 in how people will treat you as a young person



- It is 50/50 in how people will treat you as a young person
- We (as the cleaning industry) don't know how to shout about ourselves



- It is 50/50 in how people will treat you as a young person
- We (as the cleaning industry) don't know how to shout about ourselves
- We are not speaking the same language as young people



- It is 50/50 in how people will treat you as a young person
- We (as the cleaning industry) don't know how to shout about ourselves
- We are not speaking the same language as young people
- There is more than one career in the cleaning industry



Positive and negative treatment because of my age:

- Assumption
- Questioning
- Listening
- Learning



We don't know how to shout about ourselves:

- How are you trying to onboard young people?
- A generation of technology
- Offerings
 - Sustainability groups
 - Associations
 - Councils
 - Youth voice



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Careers

CLEANING AND HOUSEKEEPING MANAGERS AND SUPERVISORS

Workers in this unit group manage and supervise cleaning and other housekeeping tasks within private households, hotels, schools, hostels and other non-private households, and in offices and other premises.



How do I get a job like this?

People in these types of job started their career paths after studying courses like the ones below.

Routes to this career

See all >

No courses found for this career - try looking at related careers or industry guides below for more options.



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We are not speaking the same language as young people

- Accessibility of our advertisements
- Understanding what youth have experienced and what they have achieved
- We can sell ourselves as an intellectual industry without using jargon to sell ourselves
- Projection is perception



- Ensure yourself and others undertake all cleaning duties diligently and according to statutory and regulatory specifications, including compliance with operational policies on H&S, HACCP.
- Report any hazards or potential failures to line manager
- Be responsible for the suitable storage of materials and equipment in line with Health and Safety and COSSH
- Customer satisfaction and relationship building
- Effective communication with all levels of staff
- Providing ad-hoc training to new team members
- You will need to accurately record and feedback results to the Facilities teams
- Encourage standardisation across departments and services, and communication of best practice in the department
- Develop a thorough knowledge of the site
- Participate in training courses to develop knowledge

You must have:

- *
- Previous experience in a similar role within a face paced environment e.g. Hospitality
- Knowledge and awareness of COSHH and working to set standards and procedures. It would be advantageous if you are BICS trained



John Smith – 18/03/2003

112 Baker way Thornton Lancashire Fy5 1AA

Hello, my name is John. I am a hardworking and motivated young person looking for a career where I can develop and grow with a company. I am flexible and ready to work.

Work experience

2020 – Now : Volunteering at Charity shop

I am responsible for replenishing stock in the shop and serving customers. I have learned through this job how to be reactive and work efficiently, while working as a team and dealing with customers.

Qualifications

BTEC Business Management DDD GCSEs:

English 8 Maths 8 Business 9 French 7 Science 8



There is more than one career in the cleaning industry

• What is the perception?



There is more than one career in the cleaning industry

What is the perception?

"I thought the only jobs available were cleaning operative and supervisor"

"When you said cleaning industry, I thought you were joking"

"Are there actually jobs that I can utilise my qualifications in?"



There is more than one career in the cleaning industry

- What is the perception?
- What do we show?







There is more than one career in the cleaning industry

- What is the perception?
- What do we show?
- What do we want to show?









What can we do to attract more young people to the cleaning industry?

Understand the needs of young people and be active in our response





- Understand the needs of young people and be active in our response
- Learn where to shout in the right places



- Understand the needs of young people and be active in our response
- Learn where to shout in the right places
- Learn to shout positively



- Understand the needs of young people and be active in our response
- Learn where to shout in the right places
- Learn to shout positively
- Utilise our experience as a tool of development, do not use it as a separation tool



Thank you for listening





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