



EEUK ENTERPRISE EXCHANGE EVENT

Partner-Enabled Learning

Embedding industry partnerships into enterprise and entrepreneurship education

Wednesday 7 October 2026

10.00am–3.30pm

Kanaris Theatre, Manchester Museum

? How can we engage external partners effectively in the curriculum and create live learning experiences that work for students, educators and partner organisations?

About the day

Hosted by the Masood Entrepreneurship Centre at The University of Manchester as part of an Enterprise Educators UK (EEUK) Enterprise Exchange event, this interactive day brings together colleagues, students and external partners to explore different approaches to working with organisations through the curriculum.

While examples are drawn principally from enterprise and entrepreneurship education, the day takes a much broader view of partner engagement – with approaches that apply across disciplines and partnership types, including businesses and startups, social enterprises, community organisations, and live projects in areas such as life sciences and research commercialisation.

Through practical case studies, student and partner perspectives, discussion and collaborative workshops, we'll explore different models, the challenges involved, and approaches you can adapt. We'll consider the whole journey:

Finding & engaging partners Scoping projects
Preparing students Managing relationships
Supporting delivery Assessment Reciprocal value
Evaluating impact

Who is it for?

Colleagues involved in live projects, external engagement, work-integrated learning, authentic assessment, enterprise and entrepreneurship education, employability, civic and community engagement, consultancy projects and curriculum design.

You don't need to work in enterprise or entrepreneurship education. A central aim is to bring together different experiences, explore what works in different contexts, and identify approaches that transfer across disciplines.

Programme

- 09:30** ● **Registration, refreshments and networking**
10:00 *Informal networking and a chance to share what you'd like from the day and the challenges you face in engaging external partners.*
- 10:00** ● **Welcome and setting the scene**
10:15 Introducing partner-enabled learning, why engaging external partners in the curriculum matters, and the key questions we'll explore.
- 10:15** ● **Workshop: Engaging external partners – opportunities and challenges**
11:00 Exploring approaches to external engagement, institutional contexts, opportunities and common challenges. Delegates identify the questions and issues they'd most like the day to address.
- 11:00** ● **Refreshment break**
11:15 *Refreshments and informal discussion.*
- 11:15** ● **External engagement in practice: rotating case studies**
12:10 Focused examples of different models for engaging partners in the curriculum – live projects, partner engagement, assessment, scaling and delivery – alongside practical challenges for delegates to explore.
- 12:10** ● **Student, partner and practitioner perspectives**
13:00 A panel on the experience of live projects and external engagement: what creates value, what's challenging, managing expectations and relationships, and what students and partners need from universities.
- 13:00** ● **Lunch and networking**
14:00 *Continue conversations and explore examples and resources from the morning.*
- 14:00** ● **Workshop: Designing sustainable and reciprocal partner engagement**
15:00 A practical walkthrough of the partner-enabled learning process – partner engagement, project and brief design, student preparation, pedagogy, assessment, student agency, reciprocity and impact – drawing together approaches and challenges from the day.
- 15:00** ● **Pulling it together: effective practice and next steps**
15:15 Identifying transferable approaches, returning to delegates' challenges and capturing learning. Contributions will inform a shared post-event resource on engaging external partners in the curriculum.
- 15:15** ● **Refreshments and networking**
15:30 *Informal close and a chance for further conversations and connections.*

Registration

Free for University of Manchester colleagues through the University's EEUK membership. You'll still need to register through EEUK and select the **EEUK Member (£0) ticket**.

Register with EEUK →

enterprise.ac.uk/events