

AUTOMOTIVE

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars sponsors "Be the Change" effort to mentor students in local community

November 5, 2019



Getting into the spirit: Rolls-Royce Motor Cars employees will mentor local-community school kids who face challenges in their studies. Image credit: Rolls-Royce Motor Cars

By STAFF REPORTS

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars will be the headline sponsor of 'Be the Change' in 2019-20 as part of its community outreach and philanthropy.

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Be the Change is an employability and self-development program for Year 9 pupils facing challenges in schools in the English county of Sussex where the automaker's Goodwood factory is based. It also doubles as an opportunity to support local communities and nurture future talent.

"We are delighted to become a headline sponsor of Be the Change, which has such a transformative effect on young people's attitudes, motivation and employability," said Mark Adams, director of human resources at Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, in a statement.

"As a company, we believe we have a fundamental responsibility to extend opportunity, unlock potential and invest in future talent," he said.

"We are also committed to working with our local community in Sussex. Although our business operates all over the world, this is our true home, where every Rolls-Royce motor car is hand-built. Our global scale and resources put us in a highly privileged position and we're determined to use it to make a real difference in our local community."

Steer the right way

Employees from across **Rolls-Royce Motor Cars** will act as mentors over the next six months. They will be involved in activities with schools across Sussex and Goodwood.

Currently in its sixth year, Be the Change was created for Year 9 students across Sussex who may face challenges and difficulties within the school environment.

The program focuses on happiness, confidence, hope, relationships and employability, encouraging students to

identify their personal barriers to success, before helping them to find ways of overcoming them, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars said.

As a headline sponsor, Rolls-Royce Motor Cars said it will help open children's eyes to the world of work and the wealth of possibilities and career opportunities in and beyond Sussex.

During the year, 10 Rolls-Royce employees will act as mentors or business guides, working with students in groups and one-to-one, both in schools and at Goodwood. They will also attend three plenary conferences, bringing together participants and supporting partners from Sussex, the company said.

BE THE CHANGE extends and expands Rolls-Royce's long-term commitment to creating opportunities and developing talent among local young people.

This year, a record 26 applicants were accepted as apprentices in a company program that has offered vocational training and education for more than 200 candidates since its 2006 launch.

Rolls-Royce Motor Cars also offers work placements for more than 100 university students every year, and runs a graduate program.

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