



Employer Advisory Board

Recruitment Pack

MAY 2025



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Join Arden University's Employer Advisory Boards

At Arden University, we're shaping a future where collaboration with industry is embedded throughout the student experience — creating a dynamic, future-ready ecosystem of lifelong learning built on innovation, opportunity, and real-world relevance.

As part of our strategy, we are establishing **Employer Advisory Boards across each of our Faculty Schools**. These boards will play a vital role in strengthening our partnerships with industry and ensuring our academic programmes remain aligned with the evolving needs of employers and society.

Why Join?

By becoming a board member, you will:

- Help shape the future of higher education and workforce development
- Influence curriculum design to ensure it reflects current and future industry needs
- Support the employability and social mobility of our diverse student body
- Collaborate with academic leaders and fellow industry experts to drive innovation and impact
- Gain experience of cross-sector collaboration to support social impact

Our Commitment

These boards reflect Arden University's commitment to academic excellence through partnership. By bringing employers into the heart of our decision-making, we ensure our programmes are not only academically rigorous but also practically relevant — preparing students to thrive in a rapidly changing world of work.

Together, we can create meaningful change — for students, for industry, and for society.

About Arden University

Our beliefs

The digital university that comes to you.

We believe that everyone everywhere has a right to higher education. Regardless of background or personal circumstances, our mission is to provide life-changing degree opportunities that are flexible, inclusive, and accessible.

We see technology as a powerful force for social change — a tool that breaks down barriers of time, place, and traditional educational models. By harnessing digital innovation, we're making education more democratic and more responsive to the realities of modern life.



With a proud heritage in flexible, digital-first higher education, Arden delivers a learning experience designed to fit around the demands of today's world. But we don't stop there.

We recognise that higher education must evolve to meet the shifting needs of employers, industries, and the economy. That's why we're committed to staying ahead of the curve — using technology and the power of university education to empower our students and employer partners to thrive in the future of work.

A supportive and inclusive university built for the modern world.

Arden University is a UK-based private institution specialising in flexible higher education through online and blended learning. Headquartered in Coventry, we also operate campuses in London, Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, and Berlin.

Our journey began in 1990 as a trusted online learning partner for universities across the UK. In 2015, we were granted full university status by the UK government — and Arden University was born.

Today, we are a responsive and flexible teaching university with our own Taught Degree Awarding Powers, giving us full control over the design, delivery, and awarding of our programmes. This autonomy allows us to work closely with industry and employers to develop courses that directly address skills gaps and workforce needs.

We now serve over 40,000 students worldwide, including more than 1800 apprentices across 90+ programmes, all designed to fit around the demands of modern life. Arden University courses have achieved accreditation and certification

from many of the UK's most recognised and respected professional industry bodies, as well as having extensive industry links and memberships.



Whether studying fully online or through a blended approach, our students benefit from a learning experience that is flexible, supportive, and innovative.

In 2024, we were ranked 16th in the UK for student satisfaction by *Times Higher Education*, and our Executive MBA was named best in its class in the UK and among the top 10 globally by *CEO Magazine*. In 2023, Arden University was named Higher Education Institution of the Year at the *EducationInvestor Awards* for our commitment to accessible, high-quality education. That same year, we received our first Ofsted report, which graded us 'Good'.

As of May 2025, Arden University has been shortlisted for several prestigious awards across a range of categories, reflecting our ongoing commitment to excellence, innovation, and impact in higher education.

Our Vision, Purpose and Values

Vision

Our Vision is to help people everywhere thrive and succeed **through 'real world relevant' education that is fuelled by technology, shaped by employers and built around our learner's lives.**

Purpose

To be the first-choice university for ambitious, career-focused, lifelong learners worldwide and gain a reputation for delivering **outstanding impact, convenience and relevance** to the graduates and workplaces of today and the future.

Our SPARK Values

Stand Out: Our creative thinking and willingness to do things differently shines brightly on the inside and is truly visible on the outside.

Progressive: We inspire our students and one another, igniting bright futures through developing our knowledge and innovative use of technology.

Accessible: We make education truly inclusive, creating an inspiring and welcoming environment for everyone to flourish.



Resourceful: We strive for the best for students and each other, finding ways to catalyse careers and accelerate development.

Kindness: We embrace a culture of togetherness and support that radiates through our teams.

Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging

At Arden University, equality, diversity, inclusion, and belonging (EDIB) are central to our mission and values. We are dedicated to creating an accessible learning and working environment where every individual feels respected, supported, and able to achieve their full potential—regardless of their background, identity, or circumstances. We believe that embracing diversity not only enriches the student and staff experience but also drives innovation, understanding, and positive change in society.

Our commitment to EDIB goes beyond our internal practices; it shapes the way we engage with the wider world. That's why we are proud to collaborate with employers who share our values and demonstrate a genuine commitment to fostering inclusive, equitable, and supportive workplaces. We believe that working together with such organisations creates stronger opportunities for our students and graduates, helping them enter environments where they feel a true sense of belonging and where their contributions are valued.

By building partnerships with employers who prioritise equality and inclusion, we are not only supporting the individual success of our students—we are also helping to influence a broader cultural shift towards fairness and representation in the workplace.

Our Student Community

Arden University's student community is diverse, driven, and distinctly different from that of a traditional university. Over 87.3% of our students are mature learners — aged 21 and over — many of whom are balancing their studies with full-time work, running businesses, or raising families.

Our students come from across the UK and around the world — from the Bahamas to the Middle East to the Philippines — forming a truly global learning community. They bring with them a wealth of life experience, professional insight, and a strong motivation to apply their learning in real time.

"Being able to continue working and get an education seemed like the best idea – and getting to put what I learn back into the company is really rewarding."
— Daniel Freeman, Digital & Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship

"The flexible nature of the programme and the ability to study when and where it suits me is amazing. The teaching is great and the course structure is easy to follow."

— Beth Jacklin, BA (Hons) Business (Finance) (Top-up)

“Blended Learning with Arden is very good and helps me combine both work and study as I live in London. The course has given me the confidence to take on promotion and change jobs.”

— Cemene Wellington, BA (Hons) Healthcare Management

Our students are not just learners — they are partners in shaping their educational experience. We actively promote the student voice across all areas of university life. Our student representatives play a central role in shaping the Arden experience, supported by training and development to ensure they can effectively represent their peers and influence decision-making.

By engaging with Arden, Employer Advisory Board members have the opportunity to connect with this vibrant, ambitious community — and help shape the future of work through the students who are already living it.

Our Faculties and Schools

Our Faculties and Schools provide academic structure for our education offer to our students.

Arden University has two Faculties:

- Faculty of Business & Innovation (FoBI)
- Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology (FoSST)

In each faculty there are three interdisciplinary schools. The schools encompass a range of related disciplines, bringing together expertise that fosters collaboration, innovation, and intellectual growth. **We are creating an Employer Advisory Board for each of our Schools.**

Please see below for an outline of the **Faculty of Business & Innovation**, its schools and interdisciplinary departments.

School of Business Management and Creativity

- Department of Business Management
- Department of Business Management Pathways
- Department of Business Management Top-Up
- Department of Design and Creativity

School of Management and Executive Education

- Department of Supply Chain and Project Management
- Department of Marketing
- Department of Executive Education
- Department of Finance and Accounting

School of Leadership and Service Industry Management



- Department of Health and Care Undergraduate
- Department of Health and Care Postgraduate
- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Hospitality and Tourism

Please see below for an outline of the **Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology**, its schools and interdisciplinary departments.

School of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Law

- Department of Undergraduate Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Department of Postgraduate Criminology and Criminal Justice
- Department of Investigation, Security and Defence
- Department of Law

School of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

- Department of Undergraduate Computing
- Department of Postgraduate Computing and Technology
- Department of Distance Learning Computing
- Department of Engineering

School of Psychology

- Department of undergraduate Psychology
- Department of Distance Learning Psychology
- Department of Psychology and Counselling
- Department of PG Psychology Studies

Our Campuses



Locations

Discover Arden
University Campus'

London

Ealing Campus

Santon House
53-55 Uxridge Road
Ealing
W55SA

Tower Hill Campus

6th Floor
Sceptre Court
40 Tower Hill
London
EC3N 4DX

Holborn Campus

4th Floor
Buchanan House
30 Holborn
London
EC1N 2LX

Stratford Campus (coming soon)

The Turing Building
Turing Street
Stratford
London
E20 1HZ

Birmingham

Crossways Campus

8th Floor
156 Great Charles
Street
Queensway
Birmingham
B3 3HN

Lock 14 Campus

39 Summer Row
Birmingham
B31JJ

Leeds

Leeds Campus

7th Park Square
Park Square East
Leeds
LS1 2LW

Manchester

Manchester Campus

2 Hardman Street
Manchester
M3 3HF

Berlin

Berlin Campus

Dessauer Str. 3-5
10963 Berlin

What does it mean to be an Employer Advisory Board Member?

At Arden University, our Employer Advisory Boards (EABs) play a vital role in shaping the future of education and employability. These boards are central to our strategy, helping us strengthen industry partnerships, enhance curriculum relevance, and improve student outcomes.

Purpose and Role

EABs are **advisory in nature** — they do not hold formal governance or decision-making authority over the University, its finances, or academic programmes. Instead, they provide **insight, guidance, and recommendations** that help ensure our courses remain aligned with industry needs, regulatory expectations, and the future of work.

Each board operates under a defined **Terms of Reference (ToR)**, which outlines its purpose, responsibilities, membership structure, meeting frequency, and reporting lines.

Who Can Join?

EABs are composed of **external members** from relevant sectors who bring valuable insight into industry trends, workforce needs, and graduate employability. Members may include:

- Employers and business leaders
- Alumni
- Professional body representatives
- Public sector leaders
- Entrepreneurs

Internal university staff (e.g. Deans or academic leads) may attend in an **ex officio** or observer capacity.

We look for individuals who:

- Align with Arden's values of inclusivity, innovation, and opportunity
- Demonstrate professionalism and ethical standards
- Are committed to supporting education and social mobility

Boards typically consist of **4–10 members**, with at least one external advisor per department, though this may vary depending on the faculty's scope. The Employer Advisory Boards will meet virtually two-three times per year.

What You'll Do

As a board member, you'll volunteer your time and act as a **strategic advisor, advocate, and ambassador**. Your responsibilities will include:

- **Providing expert insight** on industry trends, skills needs, and future workforce demands
- **Advising on curriculum** design, programme development, and learning outcomes
- **Supporting employability initiatives**, such as internships, live briefs, mentoring, or job opportunities
- **Offering feedback** on student performance, graduate success, and Arden's reputation in your sector
- **Championing partnerships** between Arden and your organisation or network

Time Commitment

As a valued member of Arden University's Employer Advisory Board, we ask for a modest but meaningful time commitment. This includes attending 2–3 virtual meetings per year, each lasting approximately half a day, and spending some time in advance to prepare for discussions. Between meetings, we may occasionally reach out for your input on key initiatives—such as reviewing course materials, offering feedback on proposals, or having a conversation with an academic colleague or employability. Your insights help ensure our programmes remain relevant, practical, and aligned with industry needs.

Recognition of Employer Advisory Board Members

Employer Advisory Board members are welcome to Arden University events throughout the year, both virtual and in person, including a flagship 'thank you' in person event each summer that will bring together all members with key university staff.

Term of Membership

Members typically serve for 2 years, with the possibility of renewal. To maintain continuity and fresh perspectives, terms are staggered, ensuring not all members rotate off at once. A maximum service period (e.g. six consecutive years) may apply, after which a break is expected unless an extension is approved.

Members may resign at any time or be asked to step down if circumstances change (e.g. conflict of interest, non-participation). All members serve at the discretion of Arden University.

Appointment Process

We see joining Arden University's Employer Advisory Board as a two-way partnership.

Potential members are typically identified through industry outreach, peer nominations, advertising, or professional networks. From there, we'll arrange a mutual conversation—a chance for us to learn more about your experience and interests, and for you to explore how the Board works and where you might contribute. We'll also share a simple skills matrix to help us understand your breadth of expertise and check for any potential conflicts.

As we build our Boards, we're committed to selecting members based not only on individual qualifications and alignment with our mission, but also with a view to ensuring diversity, balance, and a strong collective fit. If it's a good match on both sides, you'll receive a formal invitation from our Provost, along with a clear outline of the role and an Onboarding Pack to get you started.

Appointments are voluntary and unpaid, though reasonable expenses (e.g. travel, parking) will be reimbursed. The primary reward is the opportunity to shape education and support the future workforce.

How to Apply

To express your interest in joining the Employer Advisory Board, please apply to the School—or Schools—that best align with your professional experience and expertise using the link to the role on our website.

Should you wish to express your interest or discuss the role in strict confidence, please contact Stacey Hayes-Allen, Director of Employer Engagement at sallen@arden.ac.uk or +44 (0) 7535140278



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