

NEWS

Careers course to boost employment skills for young people

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Young people in Kent are set to benefit from a careers programme designed to help them into employment.

Sanctuary Supported Living residents across the east of the county are participating in ENGIE's Kick-start course, thanks to a partnership between the supported housing provider and construction firm.

The course is aimed at 16 to 25 year olds in Canterbury, Swale and Thanet who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, including children in care and care leavers.

Residents from Sanctuary Supported Living's Old Johnson House and Bridge House schemes in Canterbury were introduced to

the programme, which offers routes into employment, at a taster event with ENGIE staff.

They learned about different roles within the construction industry, routes into career paths such as apprenticeships, and will be given the opportunity to sign up for work experience placements.

The group will also be given a tour of the Cooks Lane site in Sittingbourne where Sanctuary Homes is building 242 new properties over the next three years. Residents who complete the Kick-start course will then take part in three days of mentoring when they get guidance on CV writing and interview techniques.

Fiona Lovelock, Sanctuary Supported Living's Service Development Manager, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for young people to find out more about potential careers and improve their employability skills, which are vital for them in their journey towards living independently. We hope this is just the start of a fruitful partnership with ENGIE that will see even more of our residents benefit."

Lorraine McMullen, Community Engagement Manager from ENGIE, commented: "The Kick-start programme has a proven track record of helping people into employment and we are looking forward to working with the young people from Sanctuary Supported Living."

