

PART-TIME PERKS

Beyond the obvious financial advantages to having a part-time job, there are many other benefits that you might not have thought about. Regardless of what type of role you are in, there are many skills that simply working part-time can offer you that will be invaluable for your future.

Part-time jobs can help you by:

- Enhancing your confidence and self esteem
- Helping you to understand your personal strengths and weaknesses
- Developing your social and professional networks
- Enabling you to gain useful knowledge and independence, and exercise greater responsibility and self-reliance
- Instilling a work ethic and attitude that will help you in any future role
- Allowing you to develop your work and organisational skills, including time management skills

STRIKING THE BALANCE

When you are applying for work, it's important to think about whether you can meet the demands that come with a part-time job.

Some questions that you should ask yourself are:

- What other commitments (sports, clubs, family, study, etc) do I have?
- How many hours will I be able to work?
- Will I be able to juggle the demands of school with a job?
- How will I get to and from my place of work?

It is really important for you to maintain a good balance between work, school, sport and your social life. Having a part-time job and a bit of extra cash in your pocket can be great, as long as you are keeping up with your schoolwork and getting enough sleep!

PATHWAY POSSIBILITIES

Part-time work can open your eyes to career possibilities that you might never have considered before, and enable you gain experience and valuable contacts for your future.

Why not look at a part-time job that will help your career prospects in the long run? If you have a particular passion for writing and books, for example, write a letter to your local bookshop asking if they may have any work you could do.

If you are an animal-lover, you could ask the neighbourhood veterinary practice if they would hire you as a practice assistant or receptionist.

You'll be able to further develop your knowledge in an area you love, and share what you already know in an enthusiastic way.

HELPFUL TIP:

Just because an employer hasn't advertised a position, doesn't necessarily mean that there isn't a place for you. If you introduce yourself and show that you're interested, an employer may be particularly impressed by your enthusiasm and passion and decide to create a new position for you!