

A day in the life of a financial services professional

Skills that this session will develop:

Knowledge - Routes In

By the end of this session the mentee will be able to:

- Explain what their mentor's profession is and routes into that role
- Describe a day in their mentor's working life, including the challenges they face as well as pros and cons to their role

Session Preparation:

1. Mentee to research their mentor's profession, including routes into the role.
2. Mentee to prepare questions for their mentor about their working life.

For more information on FPRS roles:

<https://targetcareers.co.uk/career-sectors/finance/18-what-types-of-jobs-and-employers-are-there-in-finance>

<https://targetjobs.co.uk/career-sectors/financial-services-and-insurance/438372-the-benefits-of-working-in-finance>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/jobs-and-work-experience/job-sectors/accountancy-banking-and-finance/overview-of-the-uks-financial-sector>

Session Plan:

Review the information below and then complete the tasks together.

What is the Financial Services Sector?

The financial, professional and related services (FPRS) sector encompasses many types of businesses involved in managing money and plays a vital role in the world's economy. The sector as a whole is vast and includes companies engaged in activities such as investing, lending, insuring, securities trading and issuance, asset management, advising, accounting, and foreign exchange. Key industries in the FPRS sector include investment banking, insurance, accountancy, corporate law and technology.

The UK has one of the largest and most developed markets for financial, professional and related services, and 1 in 14 UK-based workers (2.3 million people) work in FPRS. The world would not be able to function without money and consequently, some of the most important jobs in the world are in the financial services sector.

Careers in this sector can be extremely exciting and rewarding, but they can also be stressful and involve working under high pressure. This is something that is often reflected in the high salaries that characterise the sector. Due to its large and diverse landscape, the financial services sector offers a wide range of career options.

You will now have the opportunity to gain valuable in depth insight into one of these!

Task 1: Together, discuss the mentee's research and fill in any knowledge gaps.

Task 2: Together, discuss a day in the working life of the mentor and answer mentee's questions. After this, the mentee should complete the following profile:

Mentor's job title and industry:
What was your mentor's route/career path into their role?
What responsibilities are involved in this role?
What key skills are necessary for this role?
What is a challenging aspect of your mentor's work?
What is an interesting aspect of your mentor's working life?