MAKING THE LEAP

University graduates used to shy away from working for an SME but are now more aware of the benefits of being employed by one.

While pursuing a career in a large multinational can be attractive, there are also benefits to working in an SME. SMEs often offer a more flexible work environment and can provide opportunities for growth and development.

The SME Talent Programme, for example, was launched to attract top-tier talent from overseas and provide them with a pathway to work in an SME. The programme is open to those who have completed their tertiary education and are willing to work in an SME for a period of 5 years.

SMEs also offer a more personalized work experience, with employees having more direct interaction with decision-making and being part of the company culture. This can be particularly appealing to those who are looking for a more meaningful and fulfilling work experience.

In addition, SMEs can offer a more hands-on learning experience, with employees having the opportunity to take on a variety of roles and responsibilities. This can be particularly beneficial for those who are looking to build a diverse skill set and develop their career.

However, it’s important to note that working for an SME may not be conducive to all career stages. For those at a later stage in their career, working for a large multinational may offer more opportunities for advancement and a wider network of contacts.

In conclusion, while working for an SME may not be for everyone, it’s important to consider the benefits and drawbacks of each option and make the decision that aligns with one’s career goals and values.