

Challenge Projects

Challenge projects and events are currently organised by a variety of providers. In some cases schools provide their own 'challenge' on a school or neighbourhood basis, while others are managed by a third party from the Education Department, a local business enterprise, or further and higher education. The challenge is shaped by the partners involved, the age of the pupils, and the curricular need. However, the common ingredients tend to be problem solving, teamwork, staff from outwith the education sector.

In recent years many 'challenges' that are either subject specific or cross curricular have been offered to secondary schools, for example:

Enterprising Mathematics Day

The CITB Construction Challenge

The MIS Challenge

The Stockmarket Challenge <http://www.stockmarketchallenge.co.uk/about.php>

BENEFITS FOR PUPILS

- Increased motivation for curricular work
- Opportunities to develop interpersonal and communication skills
- Access to additional human, physical and other resources
- Enriched methods of learning such as realistic simulations

ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES FOR SCHOOLS

An opportunity to have a 'whole school' or 'whole year group' event.
Involvement of senior pupils as facilitators/helpers could be considered.
Try to make use of areas other than classrooms.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Resources may be provided by partner or school, depending on theme.

BENEFITS FOR PARTNERS

- Positive public relations
- Increased awareness of their area of business
- An opportunity for staff development and improved motivation.
- Greater awareness of young people and the curriculum
- Access to potential recruits
- Increased self-esteem for participating

COMMITMENT REQUIRED FROM PARTNERS

Usually a 'one of' event, so that involvement is limited to a day maximum.

CERTIFICATION POSSIBILITIES

Locally devised certificates which include partner/business logos

YEAR GROUP TARGETED

S1-S6

EXEMPLAR + CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Copy and paste these links into your internet browser to find out more:

www.careers-scotland.org.uk - for details of organised challenges

www.eie-edinburgh.co.uk - for details of good practice among Edinburgh schools

<http://www.stockmarketchallenge.co.uk/about.php>

http://egfl.net/healthyschools/healthy_schools_in_Edinburgh.html