

Enterprise experience

Enterprise experiences can include simulated mini-enterprises in which students are organised into a 'company' offering a service or product. They might also include a series of shorter activities aimed at developing enterprise skills, an understanding of entrepreneurship or social enterprise. Introducing enterprise activities into the curriculum can serve a variety of different purposes. It is important that the aims and learning objectives are well defined. Refer to City of Edinburgh's Enterprise in Education website for more information Copy and paste this link into your internet browser: <http://www.eie-edinburgh.co.uk/> .

BENEFITS FOR PUPILS

Pupils find the change of context very motivating for their learning. Sometimes demonstrate much higher levels of 'core skills' in this style of activity.

BENEFITS FOR BUSINESS

- Contact with potential recruits.
- Young people become more aware of employers' needs and expectations.
- Staff development opportunities such as increased knowledge of the education system and the further development of organisational, management and communication skills.

ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES FOR SCHOOLS

Sometimes 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.

COMMITMENT REQUIRED FROM COMPANIES

Involvement can be advisory, in the preparatory stage of a project. It could be in the evaluative stage, where an 'outsider' comes in to school to judge a competitive aspect. A company might even provide resource support.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Depends on the scale of the activity. School's Enterprise Co-ordinator could be involved.

CERTIFICATION POSSIBILITIES

Get into Enterprise, Young Enterprise Scotland, Get into Business, and many other enterprise courses/activities have either SQA or local certification.

YEAR GROUP TARGETED

S1 to S6

EXEMPLAR + CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

See <http://www.eie-edinburgh.co.uk/>