

CAREER INSPIRATION

Students Supported

395,607

Hours Volunteered

19,941

Student-Employer Encounters

1,291,681

A Case Study - Online Career Event at Meldrum Academy



IMPACTS:

- 25 pupils - mixed ability
- Aged 14-16
- Local Authority: Aberdeenshire

CAREER EDUCATION STANDARD

Learners, I Can Statement:

- I can draw appropriately on evidence from my skills profile to help me complete application forms, create CVs and when practising interview techniques.
- I can describe all aspects of typical recruitment and selection processes and how to best prepare for and manage these.

Teachers will:

- Develop and maintain an awareness of the opportunities in the labour market and the attributes and skills needed to take advantage of these.
- Develop young people's understanding of their responsibilities and duties
- Make use of relevant digital and online resources, Founder4Schools and Teams
- Encourage diverse thinking in young people to consider a broader view of subject choices, career options and job opportunities.

Key Curricular Impacts

- Learners are now equipped to complete their skills profile and have a better understanding of what is meant by 'giving' examples that demonstrate the skills
- Learners gained more insight in what is expected for their Mock Interview.

Working Together for Success

Mrs Simone Coetser booked an online career event to help students attain Level 4 - Steps to Work.

The aim of this encounter was for learners to expand their understanding of soft skills as part of their Steps to Work curriculum which focuses on employability skills needed for success in the workplace.

Two speakers from local construction and engineering industries were invited to speak.

The Covid-19 Pandemic meant that the school was unable to have the speakers physically present in the class, but the Teacher ensured pupils were not disadvantaged by booking and running the event online through F4S Digital.

Raise your student's aspirations by booking a Career Inspiration Event at:
dywscot.founders4schools.org.uk

How did it Work?

Teacher: Mrs Simone Coetser

After attending an F4S Webinar to support Educators in delivering Career Education, the Teacher booked an event and F4S set up a Teams Meeting. The event lasted 30mins, the speakers each spoke for 10mins and then learners asked questions. Some questions were asked via chat function as well as verbally. The best question asked: What advice would you give to your younger self?

TEACHER FEEDBACK

I was very well supported by F4S, and appreciated email communication from the speakers in preparation for the talk. The event was relatively easy to set up and it ran smoothly on the day.

I am really excited to share this experience with my colleagues and organise events for my other classes.

Inspiring Speakers

John Cairns is a Community Benefits Advisor | Balfour Beatty | Scotland & Ireland

John said: " it was great to speak about the importance of both soft & transferable skills as well as discussing Balfour Beatty and our support for young people in their progression into the world of work. The session provided an opportunity to highlight the importance of being flexible to change ."



RigNet



Balfour Beatty

Dave Hibberd is a Systems Integration & Automation - Bids & Proposals Engineer for Rignet

Dave said: "I hope that I was able to show that good soft skills are invaluable to success in the workplace. Good communication, keenness to learn and develop, teamwork and the ability to work under pressure make for great people. As an interviewer, I will often try to learn whether the candidate is aware of skills they need to develop ."

What did the young people learn?

The learners felt that both speakers gave good examples and shared relevant information which complemented what they have been learning in class. They liked the fact the that speaker made good eye contact despite not being able to see us. One speaker used a PowerPoint which helped them to concentrate and understand the information that he was sharing. It also gave them the impression that he was well prepared. They were interested in the what the speakers shared about what they would be looking for in an employee and how to present oneself in an interview.

Key messages:

"Upskilling is a life-long process", "Learn as you go along", "Its ok to be lost, you can fall into something new", "Be curious and be fun".

A positive approach and attitude will help you a lot especially when you realise that you were wrong. Flexibility and a positive attitude will help you in the ever-changing landscape. Some jobs that exist today did not exist 20 years ago. Be willing to ask for help and to take responsibility.

