

Career-related learning at primary level

What?

Career-related learning is the term used to encompass early childhood activities in primary schools designed to give children a wide range of experiences of and exposure to education, transitions and the world of work. Career-related learning could include activities that:



Develop pupils' **knowledge** about work.



Develop pupils' **skills** for work life.



Challenge stereotypes formed about careers and the world of work.



Enable pupils to **make the link** between what they are learning and the world of work.

Why?

The Careers & Enterprise Company is committed to preparing and inspiring young people for the fast-changing world of work. This mission extends to primary level where we know career-related learning is important.



The age at which children start to adopt stereotypes based on gender, ethnicity and social background. Such stereotypes can go on to influence career and subject choices.



The age at which children start to abandon fantasy careers and start to become more aware of potential constraints on their futures.

Career-related learning can have a positive impact on:

1. **Challenging** stereotypical views.

2. **Academic and aspirational** outcomes.

3. **Preparing** for transition.

4. **Parental** engagement.

5. **Contextualising** learning.

What works?

In 2018, The Careers & Enterprise Company, in partnership with Education & Employers, published a What Works report identifying six key lessons of practice for career-related learning at primary level.

1. Involve employers and parents.
2. Start early.
3. Ensure activities are personalised and relevant to the age group.
4. Embed into the curriculum.
5. Embed in a whole school approach and driven by senior leaders.
6. Open to all.

How?

The Careers & Enterprise Company are passionate about supporting primary schools to deliver effective career-related learning to their pupils.

We allocated £2 million of Government funding to increase the sector's understanding of the impact of career-related learning activities on primary school children:

- Two thirds of the fund was used to scale and evaluate existing programmes.
- One third of the fund was used to develop and test new programmes through incubation and support.

We have launched a Primary Careers Resources Platform providing easy-to-use tools, information and resources that will help primary educators to deliver career-related learning:

- Free and available to all.
- Designed with input from parents, teachers, governors, senior leaders and employers.
- Resources provided by organisations included in the fund.



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To find out more information or share the work that you're doing around career-related learning, contact:

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To access our Primary Careers Resources Platform and school assessment tool, [click here](#)