

ASK THE JUNIORS+



Investing in early exposure to enterprise education and work related learning can reap significant long term benefits for young people - regardless of their age. Indeed the earlier pupils are given the opportunity to learn about the world of work, the better.

EBC's ASK the Juniors+ offers is an innovative programme designed to provide such learning opportunities to Key Stage 2 pupils. 'ASK' stands for Attitude, Skills and Knowledge and 'the Juniors' reflects the target age ranges - Years 5 and 6.

Each ASK the Juniors+ programme sees up to 120 primary school pupils from up to four primary schools - with the schools selected from linked feeder secondary clusters taking part. The programme has three interlinked elements:

- Classroom Enterprise - a 2 hour classroom based activity introducing pupils to notions of enterprise in an entertaining and informative way through role play and collaborative activities.
- ASK the Juniors Event Day - delivered over a full day in a large venue with pupils spending up to 30 minutes on each activity before moving onto the next. Activities are all designed to increase pupils' awareness of key employability skills and knowledge of enterprise and the event culminates in a mini-enterprise which involves pupils using enterprise, creativity and negotiation skills developed earlier in the day

Each ASK the Juniors Event Day is supported by around 12 different businesses recruited and supported by EBC. Activities help to introduce pupils to key employability skills including dexterity, communication, teamwork, problem solving and task and time management skills as they work in groups, under time constraints to complete the challenging activities designed for them.

Pupils are split into teams, selected to ensure that pupils are given the extra challenge of 'working with a stranger' from another school - adding an additional challenge to the group dynamics. Each team is scored with points

being awarded for teamwork, communication, application, Health and Safety, initiative and attitude. In addition to providing activities and manpower for the event, businesses usually show their support for the event through provision of prizes and large numbers of 'freebies' for the pupils to take away.

The end of each event sees an 'awards ceremony' with prizes (mainly provided by businesses) going to:

- Best team overall.
- Best girl of the day.
- Best boy of the day.
- Best overall pupil.

Component three - ASK Us - We Know the Answers - sees EBC creating a permanent souvenir of the work done by pupils through the loan of cameras to schools to record their activities, plus filming of them at work during both the workshops and the event day and production of a short CD Rom with a copy being provided to each participating school. The CD Rom charts pupils' learning and their experiences throughout the programme.

Education Business Connections provides:

- Pre-event Classroom Enterprise sessions
- Recruitment of businesses to deliver activities at the ASK the Juniors Event Day.
- Practical advice and guidance to companies on the development of their proposed activities at the large scale event.
- Full event organisation, including arrangements for venues, transport, and all related housekeeping aspects.
- A camera loan service for the schools taking part.
- Filming of pupils' activity and learning throughout the programme and production of a short commemorative CD.
- Full post-programme evaluation.