



Media Release

May 30, 2007

Pupils first taste of top careers at basic skills event
Photo opportunity: Nissan Sports & Social Club, June 6 and 7
Best times between 10am and noon, or 1.30pm and 2pm

TEAMS of students will be given the chance to taste various careers with one of Britain's biggest supermarkets at a special event. Pupils from five primary schools will work with business people to improve their communication skills, team work, literacy and numeracy.

Almost 200 schoolchildren will participate in the Basic Skills event organised by Sunderland-based Education Business Connections (EBC). One of the businesses supporting the two days is Sainsbury's Savacentre – pupils working with them will have a go at some of the supermarkets own team building exercises, used to introduce new staff to the company.

Schools taking part include George Washington Primary and Usworth Colliery Primary on Wednesday, June 6. On Thursday, June 7, pupils from Albany Village Primary, Springwell Primary and Usworth Grange Primary will be at Nissan Sports and Social Club.

Businesses supporting the event include: Sainsbury's Savacentre, Ian Lowe Children's Entertainer, Community Fire Safety Department, Sunderland University, Northumbria Police, Holiday Inn, Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, Ocean Beach Pleasure Park, St John Ambulance, Extended Play, Arts Centre Washington, Washington Leisure Centre, Ropers Caravan World, Washington Town Centre Library and North East Roofing Training Group.

Event organiser Sarah Nicklin, Business Liaison Officer with EBC, said: "This is a great opportunity for children to find out about the working world first hand.

"We have a good variety of local businesses represented, including some who are coming along to one of our events for the first time such as the Holiday Inn, Ropers and Washington Leisure Centre."

Education Business Connections was formed eight years ago to support closer working between schools and businesses in Sunderland. It's success means that now the team delivers innovative educational programmes to children across Tyne and Wear. Programmes are funded from a variety of sources, including from the European Social Fund and Tyne & Wear Education Business Links Organisation (TWEBLO), but EBC's

ongoing development is supported by Futurebuilders (for more details go to www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk).

FROM: Emma Kingswood, Programme Officer, Education Business Connections
Office: 0191 516 6411 Mobile: 07812 974961
Sarah Nicklin, Business Liaison Officer, Education Business Connections
Office: 0191 516 6411 Mobile: 07812 974956