

Media Release

July 4, 2006

Enterprising students set their sights on skills success
PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: Tuesday July 11; 11am-12 or 1-2pm
Nissan Sports & Social Club

PUPILS are aiming to learn a host of new skills which will help them in the future with an event on Tuesday July 11. Young people will be taking part in a range of activities and working with a variety of business people to gain skills they can use when they enter the world of work.

Around 140 pupils from Year 10 of Ferryhill Business and Enterprise College, Ferryhill, will be taking part in the event. They will be learning from the expertise of 16 business people who have agreed to attend the day and run activities. During the day pupils will work in small teams and carousel around different tables to give them the opportunity to try new work related learning activities. All of the activities on the day will work build up the students' key employability skills, help build team work, or use their basic skills such as numeracy, literacy and communication.

The businesses who have agreed to help at the event include: HCTC, Reynolds Outdoor Centre, St John's Ambulance, Jobcentre Plus, B & Q, University of Sunderland, Durham Police, McDonalds, Lloyds TSB, NECC, Renolit UK Ltd, The Industry Centre, Durham County Council & Museums, Health & Safety Executive, Asda, and Tyne & Wear Fire Services Department.

The Skills for Work Day at Nissan Sports and Social Club has been organised by Sunderland-based charity Education Business Connections Ltd (EBC). Business and Finance Co-ordinator for EBC Julie Kelly said: "The day is all about the pupils learning skills which they can use at school, but that will be useful for them when they leave and begin their careers. The activities on offer will build up their confidence as well as their literacy and numeracy skills."

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 and County Durham.

Programmes are funded from a variety of sources, including from the European Social Fund, but EBC's ongoing development is supported by Futurebuilders (for more details go to www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk).

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