



Media Release

July 6, 2007

Pupils taking first steps on career path

Photo opportunity: Nissan Sports and Social Club

Wednesday, July 11 and Thursday, July 12. Best times between 10am and noon, or 1.30pm and 2.30pm.

PRIMARY pupils will be taking their first steps along their career paths by having a hands on attempt at orienteering, checking each other's blood pressure and designing jewellery.

The aim of the First Steps to Work event, organised by Education Business Connections (EBC), is to show pupils the wide range of jobs available and the type of skills that are needed. Four primary schools will take part over two days and both days are being supported by local businesses.

The business supporters will work with teams of students on activities which help improve their key skills such as literacy, numeracy and team work. They will also showcase some of the specialist skills needed for specific careers.

Schools taking part in the event are Castletown and Bexhill Primary Schools on July 11 and Town End and Hylton Castle Primary Schools on July 12. The event has been funded by the Sunderland Partnership through the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund

The event is being supported by businesses including: Setpoint, Reynolds Outdoor Centre, Health and Safety Executive, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, Extended Play, Boots, Geraldine's Gems, Gentoo, Nexus, Community Fire Safety Department, CCAMHS, St John Ambulance, McDonald's, 2k Communications, Wearable, RNLI and Thompson Building Centres.

Sarah Nicklin, Business Liaison Officer for EBC, said: "This is a great opportunity for primary school children to have their first taste of the working world. "We have a fantastic range of businesses working with us and I'm sure everyone will have fun, as well as learning a lot."

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, European Regional Development 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