

Media Release

December 4, 2006

Tomorrow's entrepreneurs kick start their careers
Photo Opportunity: Team Velocity showcase their new business between 12-1pm,
Wednesday, December 6 at Nissan Sports and Social Club

Primary school children are being given the chance to develop entrepreneurial skills at a two-day event. Youngsters will work with a number of businesses on a range of activities aimed at fostering their Attitude, Skills and Knowledge at the ASK the Juniors days organised by Sunderland-based Education Business Connections.

And as well as taking part in hands on activities they will have the opportunity of learning important lessons from two local Sunderland entrepreneurs who have just set up their own business. Team Velocity Sport is a new venture for Andrew Weatherall and Michael Gamblin. Using a specially adapted football goal the pair can tell how fast a child can kick a football.

Sarah Nicklin, Business Liaison Officer with Education Business Connections, which organised the event said: "It's great to have two successful, local entrepreneurs come along to our event to share their knowledge and expertise with the children. Hopefully this will help encourage them to become budding entrepreneurs."

More than 250 pupils will take part in the event. They will be working with businesses people from a number of well-known local and national companies including: Community Fire Safety Department, Reynolds Outdoor Centre, University of Sunderland, Pendragon Academy, Modis, Boots, Cerberus Risk Management Limited, Adam Cole Productions, IWK Consultancy, Ged Parker, Wates Construction, Frank Haslam Milan, JobCentre Plus, 2 Touch and B Skill.

Pupils will spend a day at the event, which will be held at Nissan Sports and Social Club. The schools taking part are: George Washington Primary School, Albany Primary School, Wessington Primary School, Usworth Colliery Primary School, Springwell Primary School, Usworth Grange Primary School and Barmston Primary School.

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).

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