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**Developing the Young Workforce - Interesting Practice in Skills (3-18) exemplar:**

**Work-based learning opportunity at Jas P Wilson, Dumfries and Galloway**

The following document provides a brief summary of the key elements of this project.

For more information please access this exemplar on the National Improvement Hub here: <https://education.gov.scot/improvement/searchresults?k=DYW>

**1. Introduction**

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| **Establishment / title** | Jas P Wilson |
| **Contact name and details** | Work experience co-ordinator  [Workexperience@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:Workexperience@dumgal.gov.uk) |
| **About the establishment** | Jas P Wilson was formed in 1964 by a former Dalbeattie School pupil. Originally a contracting business it has grown to become a national supplier and manufacturer of forestry equipment, machines and spare parts. They employ a workforce of around 50 with various skills and trades and are looking to grow and expand over the coming years. Based on the outskirts of Dalbeattie the Company is aiming to attract ambitious and determined students from in and around the town to become involved. |
| **Main tags** | Secondary,  Employability  Employer engagement  Senior phase |

**2. Project information:**

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| **Overview** | **Work placements at Jas P Wilson**  Through their work experience programmes, in partnership with Dalbeattie High School, the company hopes to encourage local students to consider a career within Dalbeattie. They want to see more highly skilled Dalbeattie school leavers coming to work with them, who they can retain long term through enjoyable career paths and on the job training.  They are currently offering a work experience placement in an administration role and ongoing site visits for rural skills students discussing land based opportunities. |
| **How was this done?** | The Work Experience Co-ordinator and Senior Staff responsible for pupil support met with the Company to explore options and discuss proposal for closer partnership working. As a result of these meetings a plan of action was formed which would be both beneficial to the students and the Company. |
| **Impact** | Close partnership working between Jas P Wilson and Dalbeattie High School has provided clear benefits for students by offering work experience, careers and training on the doorstep. This in turn has led to increased employment opportunities and a template for others to follow. |
| **Curriculum links** | Students who attended demonstrated the following attributes across the 4 capacities of CfE   * I can identify the skills I have learnt across the curriculum, how these relate to the world of work and can apply these appropriately during work placements and other work-related learning. * I can confidently access and interpret the information I need to make well informed choices about my learning options, pathways and how these relate to possible future careers. * I can work towards achieving qualifications which support me to achieve my future career aspirations. * I can share, evaluate and evidence my skills for learning, life and work to help me make successful future choices and changes. * I can draw appropriately on evidence from my skills profile to help me complete application forms, create CVs and when practising interview techniques. * I can describe all aspects of typical recruitment and selection processes and how to best prepare for and manage these. * I can consistently demonstrate the skills, attributes and behaviours needed to sustain   and progress my career. |
| **Wider DYW context** | This project is part of our Dumfries and Galloway Youth Guarantee which aims to support every young person in Dumfries & Galloway into a positive destination. It features in our Pathway to Employability toolkit which supports schools in building on skills developed in the broad general education as part of CfE. This case study exemplifies our partnership working, linking employers and schools in order to provide our young people with the information and experience they need to make an informed choice about their future.  Please refer to the ‘[Guide to work-based learning in Dumfries and Galloway’](https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Pages/dyw12-work-based-learning-in-dumfries-and-galloway.aspx) for more information on the wider DYW context of this exemplar. |
| **Partnerships** | Jas P Wilson  Dumfries & Galloway Council, Education Service  Dumfries & Galloway Council, Employability & Skills Service |
| **Next steps** | We aim to continue to develop the programme and agree a similar format for future developments with other local companies.  They have built an on-site classroom and are working with the school to develop programmes that link with the following topics:- Business Studies, Rural Skills, Design & Manufacture and Graphics and Engineering Science. |
| **Quotations** | **Pupil 1:** “Although at first I was unsure of the value of going to work in an office, my attitude changed considerably after experiencing first-hand the demands of running a successful small business.  The office manager tailored my Work Experience to meet my needs and as a result I have been trained in using the SAGE package.  This helped me when on a week-long placement at an accountants firm.  I was able to hit the ground running and complete tasks without any initial training at the Accountants and confirmed my interest in accountancy as a future career.”  **Pupil 2:** “My work experience has been based in the workshop.  I have been able to build an engine kit from scratch and work out and fix a problem with the engine itself.  I was given the chance to design a tool box using the software package and then make the tool box.  This involved working on the workshop floor.  I am now in the process of completing this task.  I have learned lots of new skills and have enjoyed being part of a team working together to produce an end product.” |
| **Standards and guidance materials** | Did you/your staff use any of the following documents in preparation or alongside the development of this project:  [Career Education Standard](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/CareerEducationStandard0915_tcm4-869208.pdf)  x  [Work Placements Standard](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/WorkPlacementStandard0915_tcm4-870517.pdf)  x  [School/Employer Partnership Guidance](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/learningandteaching/thecurriculum/dyw/schoolemployerpartnerships/index.asp) |

**3. Additional information**

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| **Resources** | On-site classroom |
| **Web links** | [www.jaspwilson.co.uk](http://www.jaspwilson.co.uk) |
| **Contacts** | Ann McCulloch  Employability Development Officer  [workexperience@dumgal.gov.uk](mailto:workexperience@dumgal.gov.uk) |