

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

**Busby Primary School : Skills development at the core of the curriculum**

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

Here are the key headings we intend to use to capture and display your information:

**1. Introduction**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Establishment** | Busby Primary School |
| **Contact name and details** | Sharon Hunter  Headteacher  Busby Primary School  [schoolmail@busby.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@busby.e-renfrew.sch.uk)  0141 570 7040 |
| **About the establishment/ programme** | Busby Primary is a non-denominational school within East Renfrewshire. At present the school role is circa 300 pupils, with an additional 40/40 split in the Nursery. Our Skills Academy Programme involves all pupils from Nursery to P7. Pupils are involved every week, working within/across Early, First and Second Levels. |
| **Main tags (please delete / add)** | Early learning and child care  Primary  Employability  Employer engagement  Equalities and inclusion  Parents  Career Management Skills |

**2. Current developments:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Current practice** | The Skills Academy is an integral component of the school week and organised in CfE Levels under the five cross-cutting themes:   * Food Technology * Community, * Design & Manufacture * Creativity * Lifeskills   Throughout the academy programme pupils collaborating with each other across Early, First and Second Level. Its successful implementation is based on the following principals:   * Strategic planning and support provided by the school’s leadership team including staff CPD. Identified staff strengths are catered for and relevant CLPL opportunities sought to further enhance skills. * Dedicated time each week to allow focussed teaching and learning * Skills Academy planning incorporates skills for learning, life and work as the main focus within teachers’ short and mid term plans. * Learners’ are involved in the planning and evaluation of sessions and developed skills enhance their ability to work and lead their peers. * Planning enables a skills progression across the whole school. * Strong business/community links formed to relate to real life careers and prospects. * Parents are key supports and participants in the Academy programme. |
| **How was this done?** | Initial idea from Headteacher, but programme initialised collaboratively in conjunction with staff and parent body. |
| **Impact** | Skills Academy forms the nucleus of our curriculum at Busby, with pupils’ motivation being enhanced through real life experiences. This transfers to the rest of the provided curriculum. Pupils are able to relate their learning to the world of work and are able to identify and describe the links and benefits. As a result learners are progressively developing a wide range of employability and career management skills throughout their primary education. |
| **Lessons learnt** | Skills Academy is a framework that continues to evolve in response to the growth in the pupils’ skill sets. It is responsive to needs and planning has to reflect this. |
| **CfE/Curriculum link/ skills development** | A variety of subject specific experiences and outcomes are tackled through the Skills Academy programme, along with the skills associated with them. It is the Skills for Learning, Life and Work that form the main focus for planning and assessment. |
| **Partnerships (**employers, industry, organisations etc.) | The Skills Academy programme has allowed us to develop strong, long-lasting partnerships with a number of local businesses e.g. pupils undertake hospitality training at the local restaurant. We also have forged links with industry, inviting qualified professionals in to support specific learning outcomes, as well as provide real life examples of where the acquired skills could take the pupils. The partnerships that we have managed to foster bring colour to the programme, bring the learning alive and give the pupils a realisation of the importance of skills for learning, life and work. |
| **Standards and guidance materials** | Did you 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) Yes  [Work Placements Standard](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/Images/WorkPlacementStandard0915_tcm4-870517.pdf) Yes  [School/Employer Partnership Guidance](http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/learningandteaching/thecurriculum/dyw/schoolemployerpartnerships/index.asp) Yes |
| **Watch this space!** | Skills Academy will continue to develop and grow at the heart of Busby’s Curriculum, a core element in preparing our pupils for the future and in helping to reduce the attainment gap. |
| **Quotation/comments** | Parents have commented on how work undertaken by the pupils through Skills Academy has impacted positively on family life outside of school e.g. families cooking and eating together. |

**3. Added value**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Web links** | https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/er/Busby/ |
| **Contacts** (in case people want to find out more) | [schoolmail@busby.e-renfrew.sch.uk](mailto:schoolmail@busby.e-renfrew.sch.uk)  0141 570 7040 |