



# The LocalBiz Project Overview

## What is The LocalBiz Project?

The LocalBiz Project is a set of learning programmes built around activities which involve research, communication, risk assessment, creativity, and the use of ICT in business. In some programmes, students may work in teams and make real business decisions. The LocalBiz Project has as its central theme the management of a community website, which combines social and business enterprise. Students collect information about businesses operating in their community, events which are taking place, items of news, and publish these on a ready-made, easy-to-use website which they promote within the community.

The ultimate outcome of the student's activities is a vibrant community website. However it is the process students must undergo to achieve this outcome, which makes these learning programmes special. A description of the programmes available can be found overleaf.

**Key Skills** The Project provides opportunities for the students to develop their vocational skill set, preparing themselves for the world of work. This includes problem solving, time management, leadership, effective communication plus the planning, doing and reviewing process. Working on the Project also provides students with direct hands-on experience of using ICT in a business context that will improve their future employability.

## The Project is Flexible

The flexibility of the Project means that a customised programme can be developed to deliver specific learning outcomes, which have not themselves been collectively addressed in the programmes already being offered.

“ Our key learning experiences were; working in a team, being professional, making decisions and discovering the importance of planning.”



The Project is suitable for use with Year 8 through to Year 13, and for students with different abilities and a range of motivations.

## The Project is Sustainable ...

... because each year a new student cohort can be introduced to the Project, and given the challenge of making it bigger and better. They will quickly learn that the local business scene is for ever changing, and that servicing existing customers is as equally important as discovering new ones. The community website will become a key enterprise activity, providing long-term links between the school, local businesses, and the community.

“ Building on last year's successful launch, two groups of Year 11 students got a real sense of achievement in extending and improving the site.”  
**Barry Mordue, Prince Henry's GS**

## The LocalBiz Project delivers ...

- ◆ Real work with real customers
- ◆ Development of an Enterprise culture
- ◆ Links with local community & businesses

**More Information at**  
**[www.TheLocalBizProject.com](http://www.TheLocalBizProject.com)**  
or call 01943 434343





# The LocalBiz Project

## ☆ Programmes ☆

### **The Enterprise Day Programme.**

This runs during a collapsed timetable, typically seen when a year group has an "Enterprise Day". There are practical limitations on the number of students who can participate, as each team (of up to 10 students) will need access to the internet throughout the day. In this respect, each school will be different in terms of student numbers, depending on the availability of PCs and the internet.

### **The Short Enterprise Programme**

This takes between 8 to 12 hours to complete. It can be run in as a focused programme in as little as 3 days, or over a complete term, at one hour per week.

### **The Teamwork Programme**

This programme takes between 20 and 30 hours, and can therefore be completed in an academic year at only 1 hour per week. It generates the evidence required for the "Working With Others" Key Skill, worth points equivalent to  $\frac{3}{4}$  GCSE. This accredited qualification can be obtained from all of the major examination boards, and is non-examinable. Students must demonstrate through a portfolio of work that they have both the required knowledge for working with other people, and the ability to put that knowledge into practice. The student workbook which accompanies this programme is designed to provide that evidence.

### **The ICT Programme**

This programme takes 15 to 20 hours, and could be completed in a single term at 2 hours per week. The ICT Key Skill qualification has an examination, and an optional portfolio of evidence. The full accredited qualification is also worth a points-equivalent of  $\frac{3}{4}$  GCSE. This programme provides the practical experience which helps to reinforce the knowledge required for the examination, and - as with Teamwork - the workbook provides the portfolio of evidence to gain the full qualification.

### **The Full Enterprise Programme**

Aimed at schools who have already completed one of the above programmes, and feel ready to involve a large number of students across a Key Stage group. This cements the Project as part of the school's involvement in the local community (Social Enterprise), and embeds many enterprise activities within core curriculum subjects.

### **Customised Programmes**

All of our programmes can be amended to bring in (or omit) particular learning outcomes, depending on what is required. This could be to cover the other Key Skill qualifications, specific requirements, or courses, such as DIDA and other Diplomas. It can also be linked to Work Experience. Contact us for further discussion on how The LocalBiz Project can benefit your students, your school, and the community it serves.