

The LocalBiz Project

Linking Education with Enterprise

The LocalBiz Award for Teamwork

We will shortly be launching *The LocalBiz Award for Teamwork*.

This follows discussions in the past few months with QCA, an examination board, and local teachers.

It can be run as an independent course which can be started immediately after the completion of the 3 week evaluation period, or as a logical continuation of the Short Programme.

Some business studies teachers see this Award as a good starting point to introduce The LocalBiz Project into the wider school curriculum, bringing with it the Enterprise concept. They are also considering running the

LocalBiz Award For Teamwork to provide a series of practical activities which supplement existing GCSE or First Diploma business/IT style courses. In doing so, the students can gain an additional vocational qualification.

This Award can be conducted stand-alone, or alongside other courses, generating evidence which can be used for case studies, course work etc.

The Award is aimed at the "Working with Others" key skill. Most examination boards offer this qualification, which is worth the equivalent of $\frac{3}{4}$ GCSE.

Student documentation is simple to follow, and gen-

erates the evidence for the key skill. The Teacher's Guide is comprehensive.



Teachers have remarked that The LocalBiz Project offers a 'stealth' learning opportunity. The reward is achievable without the students fully realising its additional role in the teaching of key skills or work-related learning.

The award is teacher assessed, and all students completing *The LocalBiz Award for Teamwork* will receive a certificate.

April 2005

Visit to QCA

In March, we were able to meet up with Gary Forrest, Programme Leader for Work-related Learning at QCA.

He was very excited about the Project, and gave us a number of interesting ideas for its further development.

NEN Conference

The National Enterprise Network conference will be taking place in Daventry on July 4. We will be present, and are holding a workshop. If you are there, make sure you come and visit our stand.

Learning Benefits

- Meeting and talking to business people
- Developing innovation skills and being directly involved
- Taking responsibility based on risk assessment.
- Real work experience
- Nurturing and developing confidence

Website Developments

As a result of feedback and suggestions, your LocalBiz website is constantly being improved.

This Easter was no exception, with a mix of changes and new features. You should have received an email detailing these.

One of the new features has been put in place as a result of a request from Prince Henry's GS, Otley. They were looking for an easy way to print directory entries added by the previous group of students, so that they could be sent to

the businesses for update.

The new feature allows you to select the businesses, and to include some opening and closing lines for the letter.

Please keep your suggestions coming!

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September 2005 - your next student cohort

Your planning for the next academic year will by now be well under way. Have you thought about which group, or groups, of students will be running the Project? What might your options be?

- You could stick with the same year group to extend the directory.
- You could combine different year groups, perhaps giving the more senior group greater responsibility.

Why not consider offering your students the opportunity to gain the Teamwork Award?

- You could, if you have not done so already, introduce the community element (see the Prince Henry's story, below).

ELCs ... Enterprise Funding ... what are they?

Schools have different philosophies for funding The LocalBiz Project. Electronic Learning Credits are only available to approved products—and The LocalBiz Project is one of them. If your school has some unused eLC's for the current year, (which will be lost if not used) why not contact us before the end of term, to renew for next year. If not, have you "bid" for next year?

From September 2005, additional funds are being made available to all schools, in order to deliver Enterprise in schools. This is in addition to eLCs. The LocalBiz Project can clearly play an important role in helping the school build an Enterprise culture. Why not talk to us to find out what additional resources could be made available to make your LocalBiz Project more successful.

Featuring ... Prince Henry's Grammar School, Otley

Last year, a group of 6th form students launched Otley LocalBiz as a Young Enterprise business. They were very successful, and won an award given by the British Computer Society. Their story featured in our case study, which is available on our website.

At the beginning of this academic year, Barry Mordue at PHGS was looking for something to encourage his Year 11 students who were spending most of their week on courses at a local college. As it fitted so well with their overall aims in work-related learning, Barry decided to give this group the opportunity to build on that earlier work.



He split them into two groups, one to enhance the Directory, and the other to seek out sources of community information to populate the events guide.

This group are very practically oriented, and decided that their best strategy was to go out and visit the

local businesses in Otley.

Hayley remarked "Working in pairs made it easier. It gave us more confidence." Vicky identified a problem when "... sorting the forms out, because some of them were not properly filled in, and had some incorrect spellings."