



CASE STUDY:

Greenwood Academies Trust

National Careers Week

NCW

 @CAREERSWEEK

INSPIRING CORBY

Assemblies, classroom sessions and careers networking to raise aspirations, challenge stereotypes and broaden horizons.



SCHOOL/ORGANISATION

(Hazel Leys Academy, Corby Primary Academy, Kingswood Primary Academy and Danesholme Junior Academy)

REGION OF THE UK

East Midlands

TYPE OF SCHOOL/ORGANISATION

Primary

INTRODUCTION

During NCW 2018, working with Primary Futures, four 'What's My Line' assemblies were held in each academy from Monday to Thursday with over 1000 Year 1–Year 6 pupils participating. Assemblies were followed by interactive classroom sessions for Years 4 and 5, who had the chance to meet business volunteers, ask questions about their careers and try on uniforms or handle equipment. On Friday, Hazel Leys hosted a careers fair for all Year 3 pupils from GAT Corby academies - over 200 pupils came together to hear from 10 different organisations about their sectors and careers.

GATSBY BENCHMARKS



A Stable
Careers
Programme



Learning from
Career &
Labour Market
Information



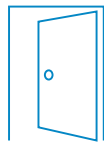
Addressing
The Needs of
Each Pupil



Linking
Curriculum
Learning
to Careers



Encounters
with Employers
& Employees



Experiences
of Workplaces



Encounters
with Further &
Higher
Education



Personal
Guidance



i OVERVIEW

The week was designed to inspire primary pupils. We invited a wide range of organisations and business volunteers. The 'What's My Line' assemblies were an excellent way of challenging stereotypes and myths around gender and career. The classroom discussions gave pupils the chance to ask questions after the assemblies and find out what a real 'day in the life' of many jobs is like. For the Year 3 careers fair, pupils moved round the hall talking to different people in a structured way. Volunteers prepared a 3-5-minute presentation about their role, utilising props, uniforms and visuals.

CONTEXT

What's My Line assemblies
KS 1 and 2 (EYFS – Year 6)

Classroom Sessions
KS2 2 (Years 4 and 5)

Inspiring Corby Careers Fair
KS 2 (Year 3)

This event was designed to be inclusive and all primary pupils were involved. Careers leads in each academy worked together with Primary Futures and the Careers and Employability lead from the Trust. All sessions were adaptations of events we organise for secondary students and we were grateful for the support from Primary Futures to ensure the activities were age appropriate, fun, memorable and inspiring.

RESOURCES

Plans for this event were originally discussed during a meeting in September and was followed up with planning phone calls and emails to ensure everything was in place for the event in March. Recruitment of volunteers and organising logistics in academies took time but was absolutely worth it. We intend to hold the same event again in Corby next year and have plans to replicate the events in different regions within our Trust, starting with Peterborough in June 2018.

BENEFITS

This whole-school approach to NCW created a real buzz of excitement with pupils and teachers and provided opportunities for many people to get involved. Bringing schools together created a real sense of community and pride in organising inspirational careers events for our younger pupils.

This approach is innovative due to the age group targeted in the different activities, the breadth of activities over the whole week and the Year 3 careers fair on the final day.

Collaborating with Primary Futures and utilising their database to recruit volunteers for events is something we would recommend to all schools organising careers-related events.

⚠ ISSUES

Potential problems could be business volunteers not turning up on the day of an event so having contingency plans for this eventuality is important.

The success of the event relies on the passion and commitment of the careers lead/event organiser in each school and without this person it would be difficult to ensure an event like this would have been successful.

💡 EVALUATION

Feedback from staff and pupils was overwhelmingly positive and we intend to hold this event again next year.

We recommend this approach to encourage collaboration with employers and other local schools as it gave potential volunteers a choice of activities to get involved with which led to a fantastic mix of over 20 volunteers who supported our week.

🔄 UPDATES

Hazel Leys Academy has submitted their Primary Career Mark portfolio for assessment and have their visit booked for the end of March. Corby Primary, Kingswood Primary and Danesholme Junior will be aiming for Career Mark accreditation this year. We intend to follow up the success of this event with other careers related activities in Corby as well as rolling this approach out to the other regions across our Trust in the East Midlands and East of England.

RELEVANT ARTICLES

<https://www.inspiringthefuture.org/schools-and-colleges/primary-futures/for-teachers/>

