KS2 Programme
Why you should consider the Aspirations programme

We are very happy to introduce you to our award-winning Aspirations programme delivered by qualified career guidance professionals. It is now in a modular format so that you can customise the programme to meet your pupils’ career-related learning needs and to give them a head start before entering the next phase of their learning.

It can make a significant contribution to certain learning outcomes for pupils as defined in the National Curriculum in England and key Ofsted judgments:

- How well pupils develop a range of skills, including communication.
- How pupils are prepared for the next stage of education, training and employment.
- How pupils behave towards and show respect for other young people and adults.

(The Framework for School Inspection, September 2012, paragraph 52, p. 17; paragraph 57, p. 19)

The Aspirations programme can make a significant contribution to all of the above. It not only broadens children’s horizon about the world of work and opportunities beyond their very immediate environment, but also gives them a great foundation for reflecting on what they need to do to develop essential knowledge, understanding and skills about the world of work and individual career development.

Overall, We Aspire aims to empower children to be aware of opportunities and take responsibility for managing their futures as active citizens.

The Aspirations programme is particularly effective for children who come from families with a history of unemployment, whose understanding about the world of work may be very limited, resulting in very low career aspirations. As a primary school, providing such a learning experience will open doors for your pupils, as well as assisting them in their transition to secondary school.

You can select any number of modules to meet the needs of your pupils, but we recommend that you select at least two, including the introduction session, to allow children time to reflect on what they have learned between sessions.

---

KS2 Programme

www.we-aspire.co.uk
info@we-aspire.co.uk
07588590073 (Nurset Tok)
07931777642 (Isobel Freeman)

Introduction Session (1 hour)

The introduction session gives you a flavour of the work we do with children. It not only broadens children’s horizon about the world of work and opportunities beyond their very immediate environment, but also gives them a great foundation for reflecting on what they need to do to develop essential knowledge, understanding and skills about the world of work and individual career development.

Overall, We Aspire aims to empower children to be aware of opportunities and take responsibility for managing their futures as active citizens.

The Aspirations programme can make a significant contribution to all of the above. It not only broadens children’s horizon about the world of work and opportunities beyond their very immediate environment, but also gives them a great foundation for reflecting on what they need to do to develop essential knowledge, understanding and skills about the world of work and individual career development.

Overall, We Aspire aims to empower children to be aware of opportunities and take responsibility for managing their futures as active citizens.

The Aspirations programme is particularly effective for children who come from families with a history of unemployment, whose understanding about the world of work may be very limited, resulting in very low career aspirations. As a primary school, providing such a learning experience will open doors for your pupils, as well as assisting them in their transition to secondary school.

You can select any number of modules to meet the needs of your pupils, but we recommend that you select at least two, including the introduction session, to allow children time to reflect on what they have learned between sessions.

---

“I have always wanted a project which would support children in their transition to high schools, but, more importantly, which sows the seeds of inspiration for children for their future lives. We have incorporated this innovative idea into our annual Year 6 syllabus”

Laura Daniels, Headteacher, Woodheys Primary School

---

KS2 Programme

www.we-aspire.co.uk
info@we-aspire.co.uk
07588590073 (Nurset Tok)
07931777642 (Isobel Freeman)

Introduction Session (1 hour)

The introduction session gives you a flavour of the work we do with children. This session is highly interactive, involving group activities and games. The overall aim of the session is to stimulate children’s interest in the world of work.

Activity 1

We explore the what, where, how, why and when of work through discussion and group work to encourage children to examine their very own perception and understanding about work.

Activity 2

Least known job wins!

This competitive game gets children to use their teamwork and maths skills to try to achieve the highest score from a list of jobs.

This session helps pupils with their spoken language as they participate in discussion and debate and evaluate different viewpoints attending to and building on contribution of others. This session also helps pupils to apply arithmetic fluently to problems and check their work.

National Curriculum, September 2013, p 10-18
Parents’ briefing (1 hour)

This session is offered to provide support for parents and carers to explain what we will be doing and discuss how parents can support their children in their career-related learning to get the most from this experience.

It is an interactive session to give parents an opportunity to have a go at some of the activities we do with the children and discuss ways they can support their children in their daily lives. At the end of the session parents will receive an information leaflet.

Module 1: World of Work Explorer (1 hour)

This module aims to broaden children’s knowledge and understanding about the world of work and excite them about exploring what kind of jobs they aspire to for their future careers. The activities are designed to cater for all the different learning styles to make sure all children are fully engaged and enjoy their learning experience.

Activity 1 option 1

Basics of Life

The objective of this activity is to help children to understand that work is a fundamental part of our lives. Working individually at first and then in groups, children explore a variety of jobs, using the alphabet as a starting point. We support this activity with a specially designed careers software programme for children in KS2.

Activity 2

This is an individual activity in which children use what they have learned in Activity 1 to think about what their own aspirations are.

“It made me realise that there are a lot more jobs than I can think of” (a Year 6 pupil, Woodheys Primary School)

Activity 3

Children complete the session by developing an objective and reflective account of themselves.

“I liked finding out what ‘smart’ I am and how it can help me in the future” (a Year 6 pupil at Woodheys Primary School)

Module 2: Self-awareness - Who am I? (Up to 2 hours)

Understanding yourself, knowing what you like and what your strengths are is a vital starting point in career development and planning.

This is a highly interactive session that enables children to realise that we all have things in common, but also have individual strengths and interests that makes us unique. This session also helps children to prepare for change (for example, transferring to secondary school).

We select visitors who will inspire children about the world of work. The visitor session is a highly interactive session that enables children to see the link between their strengths and interests and potential careers. At the end of the session children will produce an individual piece of work about themselves to keep safe for future reference.

Activity 1

Working individually and in groups children consider different types of people with shared and different skills and interests before reflecting on what their own individual talents and strengths might be.

Activity 2

Once they understand what makes everyone unique, children work individually to identify their interests and strengths while using their English comprehension and math skills in a fun way.

Activity 3

Children complete the session by developing an objective and reflective account of themselves.

PSHE Education: Knowledge, Skills and Understanding - “Developing confidence and responsibility, and making the most of their abilities.”

Learning Outcome 1e - learning about the range of jobs carried out by people they know, and to understand how they can develop skills to make their own contribution in the future.

PSHE Curriculum KS2, 25th November 2011

Module 3: Professionals visit the school (2.5 hours)

This session gives children the opportunity to engage with professionals from a variety of backgrounds to learn about the world of work. The visitor session is very interactive and gives children the opportunity to demonstrate their active listening and speaking skills as well as learning work-related vocabulary.

We prepare the children in the first hour so that they will get the most out of this experience. We discuss vocabulary used in the world of work and help them to prepare questions they might like to ask the visitors.

We select visitors who will inspire children about the world of work, by relating their own experience of entering the world of work. They tell children what they have learned and what, if anything, they would have done differently. This is a powerful experience for children as it helps them reflect on what they need to do and/or would like to do for their future.

“I really liked that we listened to people and questioned them” (a Year 6 pupil, The Firs Primary School)

“When I attended the panel for the Aspirations programme, I was a little unsure of what to expect. I was totally surprised at the reaction of the pupils. It was fantastic to see children so interested and enthusiastic about different working people and the questions that were asked amazed me” (a visitor)

This session covers PSHE Breadth of Opportunities

This session covers Language and Literacy: Spoken Language statutory requirements.

“Pupils should be taught to:
- Listen and respond appropriately to adults and their peers
- Ask relevant questions to extend their understanding and knowledge
- Use relevant strategies to build their vocabulary
- Maintain attention and participate actively in collaborative conversations, staying on topic and initiating and responding to comments
- Speak audibly and fluently with an increasing command of Standard English
- Participate in discussions, presentations, performances, role play, improvisations and debates
- Gain, maintain and monitor the interest of the listener(s)”

The National Curriculum September 2013, p11
Module 4: Careers afternoon (up to 2 hours)
The session is designed to stimulate children’s thinking about the world of work with a wide range of activities linked to some of their school subjects: English, PSHE, Maths, Science and ICT.

The session incorporates an activity that examines stereotypes in the world of work to challenge these.

This session covers the following aspects of PSHE:

1. Developing confidence and responsibility and making the most of their abilities
   a. learn about the range of jobs carried out by people they know, and understand how they can develop skills to make their own contribution in the future
2. Prepare to play an active role as citizens
   a. to research, discuss and debate topical issues, problems and events
3. Developing good relationships and respecting the differences between people
   b. to think about the lives of people living in other places and times, and people with different values and customs.
   e. to recognise and challenge stereotypes

PSHE Curriculum KS2, 25th November 2011

Module 5: Achieving Together (1 hour)
This module is designed to give children a real insight into what we mean by team work. Carefully designed activities encourage children to engage in discussions, understand what a team is, what team roles are and how teams work. It sets a foundation for what it takes to be a good team member and achieve goals together.

It is particularly useful for providing an excellent foundation for the enterprise module, to demonstrate how effectively they can work together. This will give them a good understanding and experience of being a group member, which they can use both in class and in any future career they choose.

This module requires children to use their communication skills effectively throughout the session. It uses similar skills to those used in the visitor session, and covers most of the statutory requirements for spoken language.

(see page 18 of the National Curriculum, September 2013)

Module 6: Enterprise (2 hours)
This module, much enjoyed by children, encourages them to make the most of their talents through enterprise activities. Working in groups they explore the skills and attitudes needed to manage a business and how these same skills are relevant in self-management.

Activity 1
Dragons’ Den
This activity introduces children to the idea of enterprise in a fun way familiarising them with enterprise-related vocabulary, skills and qualities.

Activity 2
Workshop
Children work collaboratively on an enterprise activity and are encouraged to let their creativity and talent come out and shine.

This session covers PSHE Preparing to play an active role as citizens cross referencing to Cross reference to PSHE Curriculum: Preparing to play an active role as citizens.

Speaking and Listening: Group discussion and interaction
3. To talk effectively as members of a group, pupils should be taught to
   a. make contributions relevant to the topic and take turns in discussion
   b. vary contributions to suit the activity and purpose, including exploratory and tentative comments where ideas are collected together, and reasoned, evaluative comments as discussion moves to conclusions or actions
   c. qualify or justify what they think after listening to others’ questions or accounts
   d. deal politely with opposing points of view and enable discussion to move on

PSHE Curriculum KS2, 25th November 2011

Imagine you are 20 years older than now...
Nursel Tok holds a First Class Honours degree in Social Policy from Salford University and a Postgraduate Diploma in Career Guidance from Manchester Metropolitan University. She has worked as a freelance Careers Guidance Practitioner, providing careers guidance to adults and secondary school pupils, as well as advising parents on how to support their children in the transition from education to working life. More recently Nursel has been working with pupils in primary schools, helping them to understand the world of work and broaden their horizons, through the Aspirations programme. Nursel is a member of the Career Development Institute, and engages in Information Advice and Guidance events in the North West.

Isobel Freeman has over 30 years’ experience in education and guidance. After gaining a postgraduate Diploma in Career Guidance from Manchester Metropolitan University she went on to work as a Careers Adviser and Connexions Personal Adviser in the Midlands and North-West of England. She has a broad range of experience ranging from working with Year 9 and 10 pupils on employability skills through working with young unemployed people in Salford and Manchester to providing face-to-face career guidance to adults in Cheshire. She is on the National Council of the Career Development Institute.

“I thought [The Aspirations KS2 Programme] brought to life the world of work and really helped children to understand some of the associated language and really see what options are ahead of them in the future”

Ian Johnson, Deputy Headteacher
Woodheys Primary School

It has been a fantastic opportunity for the children to have their eyes opened to the many opportunities that could lie ahead of them. Our mission at the Firs is to inspire children, encourage self-belief and hopefully they can achieve to their fullest potential. This project has been very effective in inspiring our children!

Nerys Hitchcock, Headteacher
The Firs Primary School

we-aspire.co.uk