

Career-related learning at primary level

What?

Career-related learning is the term used to encompass early childhood activities in primary schools designed to give children a wide range of experiences of and exposure to education, transitions and the world of work. Career-related learning could include activities that:



Develop pupils' **knowledge** about work.



Develop pupils' **skills** for work life.



Challenge stereotypes formed about careers and the world of work.



Enable pupils to **make the link** between what they are learning and the world of work.

Why?

The Careers & Enterprise Company is committed to preparing and inspiring young people for the fast-changing world of work. This mission extends to primary level where we know career-related learning is important.

4 | The number of inspection categories featured in the proposed 2019 Inspection Framework that include a reference to career-related learning and skills development.

6 | The age at which children start to adopt stereotypes based on gender, ethnicity and social background. Such stereotypes can go on to influence career and subject choices.

7 | The number of times primary schools or primary aged children are referenced in the 2017 DfE Careers Strategy.

9 | The age at which children start to abandon fantasy careers and start to become more aware of potential constraints on their futures.

Career-related learning can have a positive impact on:

1. Challenging stereotypical views.	2. Academic and aspirational outcomes.	3. Preparing for transition.	4. Parental engagement.	5. Contextualising learning.
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What works?

In 2018, The Careers & Enterprise Company published a **What Works** report identifying six key lessons of practice for career-related learning at primary level.

1. Involve employers and parents.
2. Start early.
3. Ensure activities are personalised and relevant to the age group.
4. Embed into the curriculum.
5. Embed in a whole school approach and driven by senior leaders.
6. Open to all.

How?

The Careers & Enterprise Company are passionate about supporting primary schools to delivery effective career-related learning to their pupils.

Allocation of £2 million Government funding to increase the sector's understanding of the impact of career-related learning activities on primary school children:

- Two thirds of the fund to scale and evaluate existing programmes.
- One third of the fund to develop and test new programmes through incubation and support.

Build a primary toolkit to enable an accessible evidence base and facilitate the sharing of resources and case studies:

- Available to all.
- Designed with input from parents, teachers, governors, senior leaders or children.
- A mechanism to standardize and enhance career-related learning at primary school level.



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To find out more information or share the work that you're doing around careers-related learning, contact:

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To access our Primary toolkit, including our report 'What Works? Career-related learning in primary schools' and to provide feedback on the toolkit, [click here](#).