



EDINBURGH, MIDLOTHIAN
& EAST LOTHIAN

Developing the
Young Workforce

INDUSTRY: EDUCATION

ACTIVITY: CPD OPPORTUNITY

BUSINESS: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE ACADEMY

SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS (ONLINE)

Our Social Enterprise in Education Online CPD provides teachers (and others working in education) with ideas for exploring social issues that their young people have identified and are passionate about. The workshop will look at ways to enable young people to take positive action and make an impact within their community whilst developing essential skills for life, learning and work through setting up a social enterprise.

Earlier this year as a response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we released a variety of activities and events that aimed to support young people in engaging with their communities. These included a range of Home Learning Resources, a virtual Dragons' Den and online English and Gaelic CPD sessions that will continue to be held in the Academic Year 2020/2021.



To support young people in local engagement both during and after Lockdown, the broad objective of this CPD is to introduce social enterprise concepts and ideas. We support teachers in gaining an understanding of social enterprise and discover how they can support young people to develop their entrepreneurial and employability skills. While learning about social enterprise largely constitutes this CPD, these sessions also notably provide teachers with a space to share concerns and ideas for responding to our current situation.

Connecting with teachers and those working in education/supporting young people across Scotland has been a valuable outcome of our online CPD sessions. To be able to build relationships and share knowledge, despite physically not being in the same room as one another, has also shown the potential of online continuing professional development sessions. Across the 9 online CPDs that we hosted between April and June, we had 93 attendees from 20 Scottish Local Authorities. A few teachers that participated in our CPD in turn put their young people forward for our Social Enterprise in Education Award. In June 2020, 55 Schools were awarded at our Virtual Social Enterprise in Education Awards and 15 individual young people/groups of young people received a Community Champions Award for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in a positive way that helped their community.

"[I enjoyed] listening to other experiences of remote learning and how to keep the school community spirit alive during hard times."

Zoom Feedback

"Fantastic CPD session with practitioners across Scotland [...] would highly recommend it."

Lauren Moultrie



One of our tutors, Anne Martin, regularly facilitates the Social Enterprise in Education Programme sessions for Gaelic-speaking teachers and this continued during COVID when we were able to offer the Social Enterprise in Education Online CPD to a cohort of 11 GM teachers from across Scotland. The group were able to discuss the particular challenges and innovative opportunities SE in Education offers at this time and the development of our GM resources for pupils in the classroom who really benefit from the real life context for language use a Social Enterprise in school provides.

Based on survey data gathered after CPD sessions, 100% of attendees (average) felt that this workshop met their expectations. On average, 100% of participants also rated the experience of the online CPD positively and 99% of attendees said they would recommend this session to others.



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THIS CPD?

A benefit of participating in this CPD is understanding how to support young people to explore issues they care about and become community champions. Within a group, participants are given the space to learn about the values and purpose of social enterprise as well as explore how to give young people opportunities to develop skills for life, learning and work. By participating, teachers are given the opportunity to virtually meet and gain insight from a social entrepreneur.

Really interesting CPD with Social Enterprise Academy looking at how to support the idea of Community Champions developing sustainable enterprises. Check out their resources, all free. Thank [you] Ewen Munro for an engaging session!"

Nuzhat Uthmani

WHAT ARE THE FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THIS CPD?

Something we have had to think about is giving teachers/education practitioners time to chat through challenges with colleagues, as well as providing space for support for positive action both during and after Lockdown. Having a space to come together and chat was an integral part of our CPD and it became clear to us that attendees wanted more of this. Therefore, we have decided to develop online Peer Support sessions for teachers and those working in education across Scotland.

HOW COULD YOU REACH OUT TO YOUR COMMUNITY?



Writing letters to elderly neighbours.

St Bernard's Primary



#SEACOMMUNITYCHAMPIONS

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