

Meaningful Learning Experiences

Strategic Commitment	✓	Part of a Derby Opportunity Area careers initiative
Curriculum Provision	✓	Giving added meaning to a writing task about 'The Tudors'
Employer Partnerships	✓	Linking with a local lawyer from a national firm
Reflective Young People	✓	Evaluated as part of the 'Our Future Derby' programme
Informed Career Choices	✓	Raising aspirations about the Law profession

Lawyer helps year 5 children consider if the trial of Anne Boleyn was fair

Allenton Community Primary School in Derby selected two topics in History, one involving year 5 children, with a brief stating that, '*... my preference would be to concentrate on the 'Off with Her Head' topic.*' This required children to consider whether the trial of Anne Boleyn was fair, as part of their learning about The Tudors.

Knights plc is a national legal services firm that has a large office site in Derby. The firm had signed up to contribute to the Our Future Derby initiative for local primary schools and one of the senior associates agreed to support the project. He initially provided informal video clips for use in the classroom explaining the firm, his role and offering advice about what makes a trial fair.

The video clip messages were embedded within a set of PowerPoint slides to set the scene for the challenge, which involved children preparing a persuasive letter to the judge, either taking a position for the prosecution or for the defence, at the trial of Anne Boleyn.

The lawyer visited the school when children were part-way through the writing task, hearing from them what they had written and providing feedback as an expert in legal matters.

The classroom visit also gave an opportunity for children to hear about the lawyer's education, qualifications, career path and day-to-day working life. Questions from the children and discussion facilitated by the teacher revealed that the visit had stirred up interest in many children about working as a lawyer in the future.

Benefits for the Students

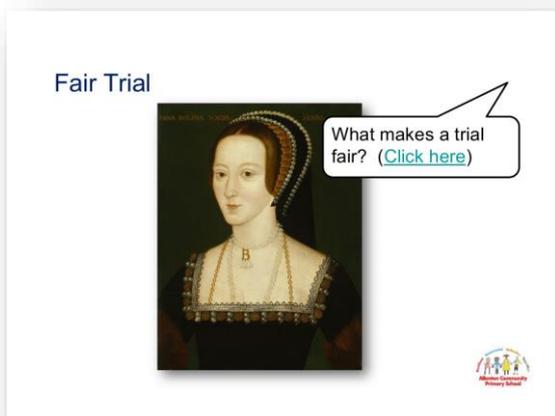
- *'We've had Andrew here and it's really made me consider being a lawyer when I get older ... because you have to prove your points in argument and I'm really good at that.'*
- *'... he came to visit us to tell us more about his job ... Teachers aren't lawyers so they've not experienced what it's like.'*
- *'He said my letter might change the judge's mind ... I felt happy and really shocked because I didn't know how I came up with these ideas. They just popped up in my head.'*
- *'He said you have to learn a lot and listen.'*
- *'It gives you a bit more understanding about your English work.'*

Benefits for the School

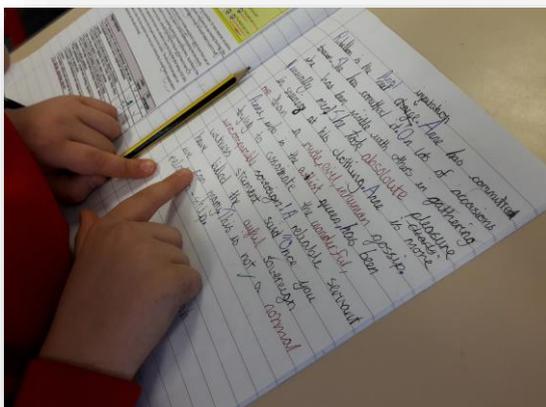
- *'[These] are areas of the curriculum that are very information dense. It makes teaching these a challenge and often creates motivation and engagement issues within students ...'*
- *'... We would like to see students ... develop knowledge about the wider community and raise their aspirations.'*
- *'... this will give them a purpose to write their persuasive letter to the judge.'*
- *'It was really great for the children to gain some insight to his job get feedback on their work.'*

Benefits for the Employer

- Part of a company volunteering programme offered to staff by Knights plc.
- What were the benefits? *'The children learned more about my sector.'*
- Quality of activity? *9 (out of 10)* How worthwhile? *'Extremely worthwhile'*
- *'It was great to interact with the children about something they had studied and were interested in.'*
- *'I enjoyed myself as it happens. I'd be happy to help out again in future.'*



Knightsplc



A lawyer from Knights plc helped year 5 children understand whether the trial of Anne Boleyn was fair or not, as part of learning about The Tudors. He gave feedback on their pieces of persuasive writing, as well as talking about his job.