

Meaningful Learning Experiences

Strategic Commitment	✓	TAG is committed to employability learning
Curriculum Provision	✓	Contributing to an important topic in a core subject
Employer Partnerships	✓	Extending an existing school/employer partnership
Reflective Young People	✓	Impact assessed as part of a wider CEIAG programme
Informed Career Choices	✓	Presenting a positive corporate career option

Year 8 students discover that maths is needed to make important, practical business decisions

The Farnborough Academy in Nottingham is part of the Trent Academies Group (TAG) and the head of Key Stage 3 mathematics described an ideal outcome from a curriculum project involving a local employer as, *'students understanding the importance of mathematics and realising that many careers require an element of mathematics on a daily basis'*.

The school was already linked with Enterprise Rent-a-Car through the regional office, from where the company's Talent Acquisition Specialist had volunteered to work as their 'Enterprise Adviser'. The role involves strategic planning, rather than classroom delivery, so the opportunity to help bring learning to life in a core subject in partnership with the teaching team was attractive.

Discussion with Enterprise Rent-a-Car identified an opportunity for students to calculate best use of land plots purchased for new branches. In addition to background information, the global car rental company provided students with satellite images, plans with dimensions, parking requirements, necessary office and reception space and other criteria that would face managers dealing with this real business situation. The teaching team used the material to create a Powerpoint slideset and a worksheet in the school's normal format for teaching resources. The challenge was launched in the classroom with a short video message from Enterprise Rent-a-Car's Group Operations Manager.

The self-assessment process included use of an employability skills framework promoted by the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership. Results also showed that the project had helped to develop aspirations, particularly *'Learning about opportunities in life after I leave school'*.

Benefits for the Students

The thing I am most proud of as a result of this experience is:

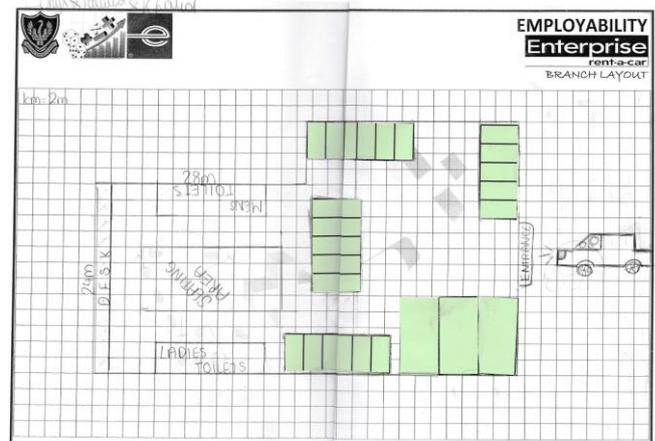
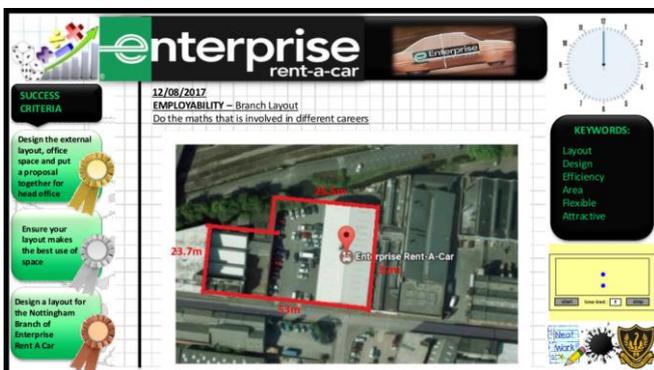
- *'... being able to work out the measurements needed in order to work it out properly'*
- *'... how to work with numbers in a different way'*
- *'... that me and partner got most the work done and worked well together'*
- *'... my work is getting shown to the enterprise company it was hard but we did it'*
- *'... that I could try my hardest using percentages'*

Benefits for the School

- 'The kids really got involved with it. They quite enjoyed it ... working in pairs, which is very different from what they would normally do, but they could still see there was maths involved'
- '... we can now build it into our schemes of work. It's covering stuff that's on our curriculum and students got more out of it because it was much more practical. They could see a real-life situation to put it into – and the employability side of it really sells it to us'
- 'They can see different applications of different branches of maths within just one company'

Benefits for the Employer

- The project provided an opportunity for the school's Enterprise Adviser to make a positive impact in a core curriculum area without being directly involved in classroom delivery
- The company operates a graduate recruitment scheme. This project raised awareness and interest at an earlier stage about this potential employer and the range of career opportunities
- Staff are encouraged to participate in a volunteering scheme. This initiative made efficient use of staff time and promoted corporate values and expertise



Information provided by Enterprise Rent-a-car was used within the school's current format to create differentiated classroom resources for year 8 students, who were required to show calculations, as well as their proposed layout for the new Enterprise site. Self-assessment revealed students' development of self-motivation, achieving and teamworking skills