

ACTIVITY: EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

SCHOOL: ALL SCOTTISH BORDERS HIGH SCHOOLS

LOOKING AT CAREERS

During May 2019, Developing the Young Workforce Borders in partnership with Scottish Borders Council held 'Looking at Careers' - an event created to bring together Care Experienced pupils. The aim was to identify and evidence the skills required in making a positive and sustainable transition into the world of work.

DYW Borders brought together local employers who could deliver activities on; organisational skills, budgeting, negotiation, IT skills, communication, self-motivation, learning and adapting, teamwork, working under pressure, problem solving, cooking on a budget and valuing diversity.

On day one, pupils received activities from the Army, Royal Bank of Scotland and Borders College. The Army provided two workshops, both linked to teamwork and working under pressure. RBS provided a MoneySense session focusing on budgeting skills and Borders College provided robots and coding to reinforce IT and digital skills.

Day 2 seen Farne Salmon, Balfour Wilson, JR Events and EDF Energy provide hands on workshops. Farne Salmon provided a cooking on a budget session where pupils made spaghetti and meatballs. Balfour Wilson provided a workshop on communication, EDF held a workshop centred around problem solving and JR Events held a workshop on organisational skills.

On the final day, Works+, Cognitive Variables, NHS Borders and Barrie provided workshops. Works+ held a workshop around dressing for an interview and pupils had the chance to dress their own mannequin. Cognitive Variables delivered a session on interpersonal skills and NHS Borders provided a workshop on being able to learn and adapt. Barrie, a knitwear firm taught pupils how to sew buttons back onto garments, as well as important life skills. At the end of the 3 days, pupils were brought together to hear from motivational speakers to conclude the event. On leaving the event all pupils received an information pack with information on further education, training and employment

95%

would
recommend to
their peers

Pupils gave
the 3-day event

9/10

95%

of pupils learnt
new skills

Employer



"We enjoyed the event and had more in-depth conversations with participants."

Education

"This was a really valuable and unique event that I feel could be a template for other regions."

Pupils

"Gained skills in teamwork, friendship and determination."

"Making new friends whilst learning new things."



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