

St Joseph's Catholic Academy

How can we build skills, experience and employer engagement into the curriculum to promote progression?



What is the formula for maximising progression:

$$E = (S + Q + WE)P \times C$$



OMG!

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Overview



- 11-19 Catholic Academy in a very deprived area of South Tyneside. South Tyneside itself being the 52nd most deprived LA in England.
- 1450 students, over 400 in Sixth Form.
- Ofsted 'Outstanding' for over 10 years.
- Specialist Technology College 1996, Leading Edge School 2001, Applied Learning Specialism 2007.
- Recognised by Prime Minister's Talent and Enterprise Taskforce for effective employer and community engagement.
- Designated Nationally as 'Transforming and Leading' in Applied Vocational Learning and Training Sept 2012 and part of the National Innovation Group





Why change Post 16?

- “Skills shortage” in a number of sectors with “employers unable to fill vacancies.”
- Consistent message in National Press that “Schools are not preparing young people for the world of work.”
- Recognise the growing trend of students wishing to stay on into Sixth Form but with the aim of securing an apprenticeship, rather than a place at University.
- Reduce NEET figure and improve progression.
- Prepare for new post 16 programmes of study.
- Increase opportunities for employer engagement.





Opportunities for Employers

To engage with education at whatever level they wish:

- Curriculum design
- Project development
- Workshop delivery
- Visits
- Work experience (ideally extended)



- To use our students as a 'talent pool' and 'try before you buy'
- To update and influence teaching / industry staff (staff placements)

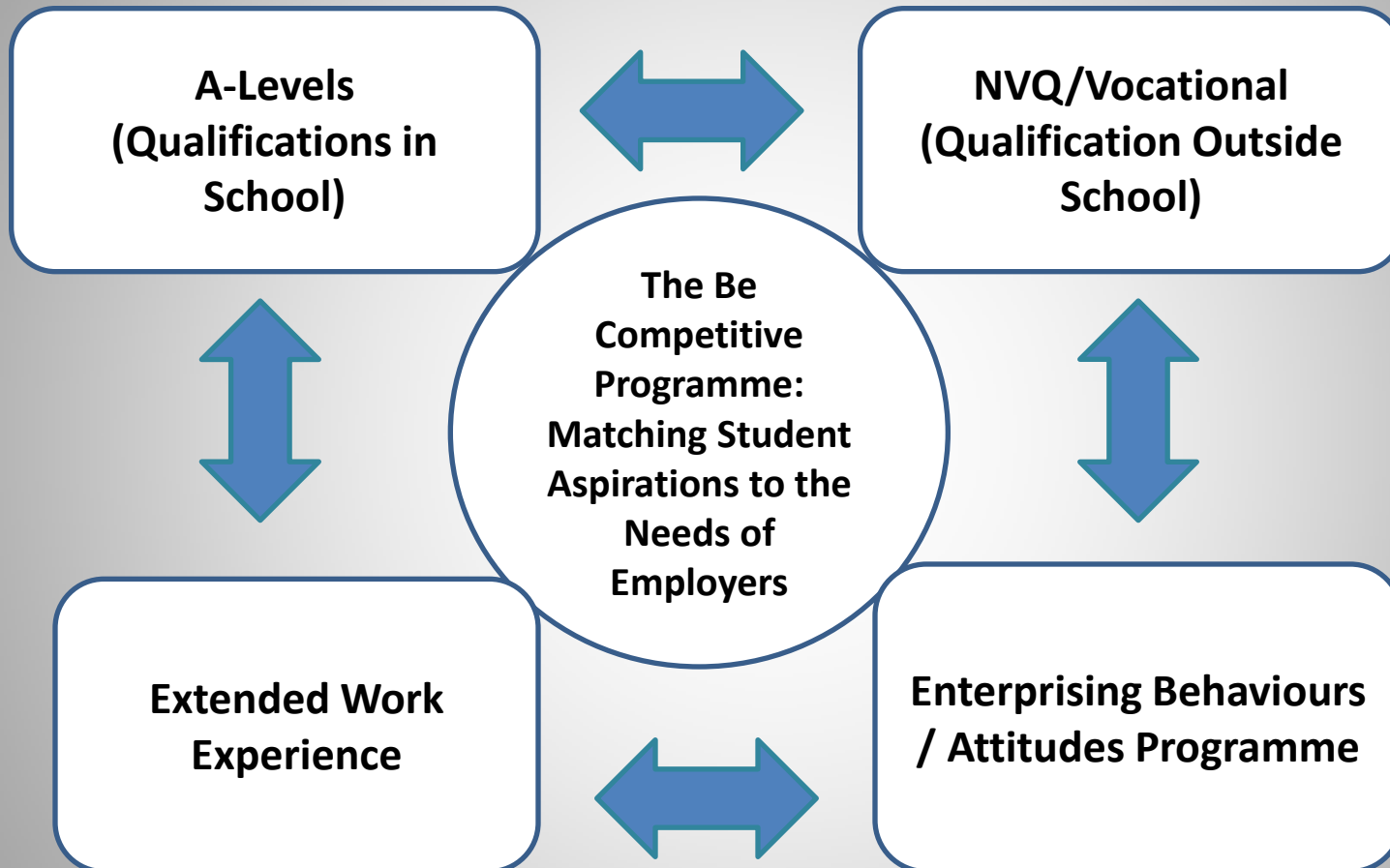
ESTABLISH A STRUCTURE OF MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIPS



An Outstanding Curriculum

- Provide and **exciting and responsive** curriculum that both **inspires and challenges** all learners
- A Coherent Curriculum comprising a blend of **applied and sector related learning within applied settings and contexts**, combining practical skill development with theoretical understanding.
- Increased focus on **personal development** in a curriculum that places **skills** at the centre.
- **Different Providers** who can provide **different learning experiences**
- Provide a curriculum that enables the student to **make connections** between different areas of the curriculum **in relation to the world of work**
- Provide opportunities for students to **learn on their own, in a team, in a large group** and with **virtual collaborators**.
- Allow students to **learn in a range of places**...benefit from local community resources...and use **expertise from outside** the teaching staff to enrich the learning experience.

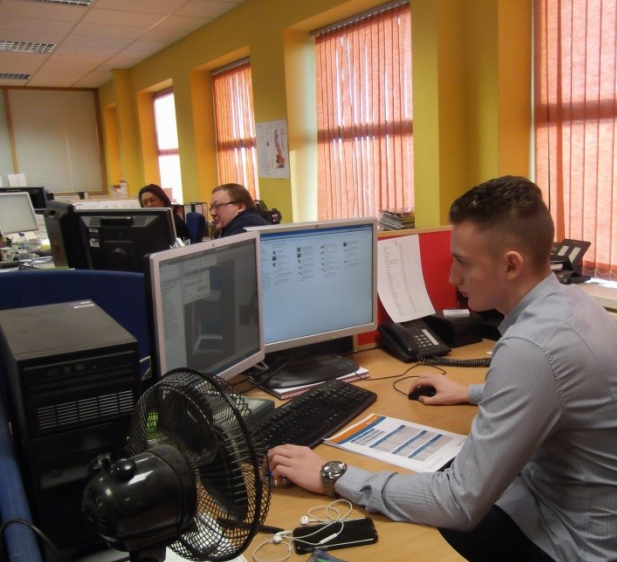
The St Joseph's 'Be Competitive' Programme – A Blended Learning Route



**A programme that will help you secure higher level
apprenticeships, employment or training at 18**

Example of Study Programme





Unique Partnerships with Industry

- **Business in the Community** – providing direct access to over 400 businesses and 22,000 employer volunteers.
- **Lloyds Bank** – a strategic partnership with Lloyds Banking Group, supporting Careers Education, Labour Market Information and Student Placement.
- **Advanced Manufacturing Forum** – curriculum, apprenticeship and work experience support for Engineering students.
- **South Tyneside Business Forum** – access to over 100 local employers.
- **Sunderland University** – access to experts in the field, latest equipment and techniques, employer links and graduate / academic mentors.



Making Informed Decisions

- **U-Explore**– access to 2,000 written and video job profiles across 14 industry sectors, real work environments and 360-degree Virtual Tours. The ability to 'like' specific jobs / businesses and qualifications, all feeds into an individual profile, allowing students to personalise their experience and enabling them to track their progression towards future goals in a fun and engaging way. .
- **Services for Young People** – all students have a 1:1 guidance interview with a L7 qualified independent advisor. An action plan is produced for each student.
- **Economic Development** – Employment and Skills Development Group, working with employers to provide the students they need both now and in the future.
- **National Citizens Service** – participating in community projects and volunteering that build skills for work and life.
- **Skillforce** – Leadership development programme focussing on the development of key employability skills.
- **Zenith Rising Star** – employment preparation, CV writing, application forms, interview techniques, presentation skills



An Example of Success – Employer Recruitment

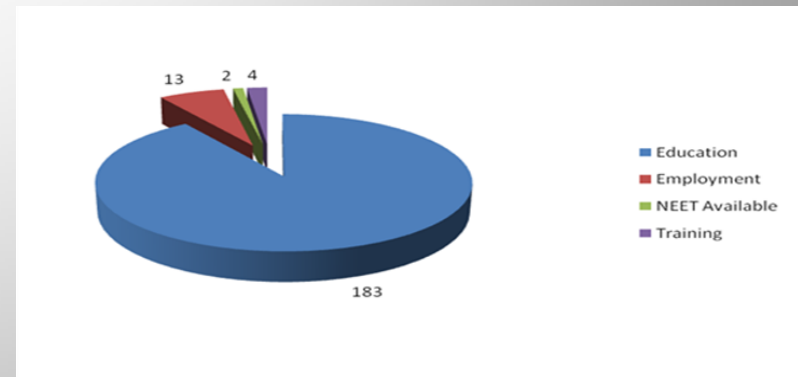


SCHAWK!

“We tend to bring in people who have similar skills to those we need but we always need to retrain them to do it our way” explains Christian Palmer from Schawk. **“We thought that bringing in really keen, bright, interested and motivated young people from an outstanding local school was an innovative way of creating exceptional employees”.**

An Example of Success - Destinations

- Our Not in Education Employment and Training (**NEET**) figure has **decreased from 4.7% in 2008 to 0% in 2014**. This recognises our outstanding Careers, Education, Information, Advice and Guidance procedures.
- The % of students securing **apprenticeships is the highest it has been since 2008**.
- **The % of KS4 students who have continued in Education has increased from 76.3% in 2008 to 89.7% in 2014**. Internally, this recognises our personalised curriculum, designed to meet the needs of all of our students.
- **86% of our Sixth Form students secured places at Universities, with over 10% securing apprenticeships.**





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Employability

Skills

Qualifications

Work Experience

Personality

Contacts