



Name: Carole Desfrancois
School Name: William Tyndale Primary School
Phase of Education: EYFS, KS1, KS2

A little about your school:

Based in Islington, N1, William Tyndale is an Ofsted-rated 'outstanding' school for children age 4 – 11. It is our priority to instil a life-long love of learning in every child in our care, and to strive to achieve both academic excellence and an environment in which creativity can flourish.

What were your initial actions when you first took on your role as the Link Governor for Employability provision within the school?

First of all, I had a debrief with the previous governor in charge. I was lucky that she had written detailed reports about the status of the topic within the school. We also met and she gave me her feedback as to what she thought was the next step for the topic. As parent governors, we could also benefit from the feedback of the children we had at the school.

I then met with the Subject Leader: I needed to understand exactly what underpinned the decision to develop this provision, how it had been integrated to the curriculum and pastoral life of the school, and what was the impact. I also wanted to see how I could help the Subject Lead with this topic.

Does the school have an agreed policy and programme for the provision of work-related learning/employability opportunities to school students?

Yes it has an agreed programme. William Tyndale has developed a very close partnership with Enabling Enterprise ("EE"), which started 5 years ago. The teaching of the EE skills has since been fully assimilated within all aspects of the school life: curriculum (KS1 and KS2), assemblies, newsletters, etc...

Is there a designated member of staff you liaise with on the delivery, and effectiveness of, work-related learning opportunities?

Yes, the school has, as for all other academic and pastoral subjects, a dedicated Subject Leader for Enabling Enterprise.

How do you evaluate the effectiveness of the schools provision? Has the school been open to discussing this with you?

After several years of progressive implementation, the school has now successfully integrated this topic within all aspects of its curriculum, specifically for KS1 and KS2 pupils. The concepts and the language have been assimilated by all teachers, who are now able to



instil them into the children's daily activities and through specific EE projects. We evaluate the impact every year, with a skills assessment report that is published. We also see the impact first hand when visiting the school and through discussions with staff and pupils.

We have been mentioned as an example in the book written by the founder of EE, and we also serve as a pilot school to further develop the program in the Early Years.

What do you feel are the benefits of schools seeking to improve their provision of employability skills learning opportunities to students?

The impact on the children is outstanding: they become better learners, more efficient team players; they are aware of the importance of soft skills, and have the opportunity to meet with professionals and attend trips covering very diverse areas of the economic and social life, thus extending their horizons, and developing their curiosity.

Have you been able to suggest any opportunities to work with external partners on the delivery of work-related learning to your school?

In all honesty, given the quality of the work from the Subject Leader, it has not been necessary! But we still look together into how to optimise the parents and governors community to create opportunities.

What are three key points of advice you would offer a governor seeking to support and evaluate careers provision within their own schools?

- get informed and trained on the subject.
- get the Head Teacher to designate one person in charge of the subject if not already the case
- listen, and bring tools and solutions

What more do you feel Governing Boards could do to champion the importance of work-related learning within either primary or secondary school?

Again, get informed and trained on the subject. Communicate with the Head teacher about the findings of their learning.

- meet with the governors of schools who are leading in this field, and get inspiration from them.
- utilise the school network (community businesses, parent relationships) and organise meetings between the businesses/professionals and the HT and staff to help emphasize the importance of the subject, delivering the point of view of the employers.

In your own words, please complete the following statements:



A dedicated school governor working with schools to help improve their employability provision is important because.....

this subject is as key to the future of the pupils as the purely academic ones, in a world where there is an inflation of knowledge, and soft skills will often bring the differentiation factor to get a job, and progress in it.

I feel I have helped the school improve its provision through..... the subject was already very much at the core of the curriculum when I joined....