



## Primary Futures Case Study



### North West Pilot - Wigan

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<b>Event Focus</b>	No focus on specific jobs apart from linking learning in school to the world of work, although we were looking specifically for volunteers from a variety of careers with a good diversity mix including volunteers with disabilities.
<b>Communication with volunteers</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. School registered on the site</li><li>2. Contacted several potential volunteers via the Primary Futures website</li><li>3. Majority replied to the initial contact – some unable to deliver during Spring 2014. This was frustrating but we still managed to move forward. It has to be accepted that flexibility is crucial to success of Primary Futures.</li><li>4. Hotel Management (Jan/Feb 2014)</li><li>5. Journalist (June/July 2014)</li><li>6. One event will also take place during autumn 2014 due to an Actuary finance volunteer working abroad during spring/summer 2014 but keen to visit school (from London) in Autumn 2014</li></ol>
<b>School organisation of our PF events</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Volunteer invited into school at an agreed time (around working shifts), introduction to the children followed by small group conversations.</li><li>2. Presentation to School Class Council, digitally recorded July 2014.</li><li>3. Newspaper article in the local press to raise awareness of Primary Futures across the local council area. This was received very positively.</li></ol>
<b>Our volunteers</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Hotel Management (Jan / Feb 2014) – visited school on several occasions to experience 'life' in a primary school, support pupils working and talk with individuals and small groups about hotel management linking learning in primary school very skilfully</li><li>2. Journalism (June/ July) – Presentation to the School Class Council followed by a question and answer session with the children</li><li>3. An actuary from an international high finance company will hopefully visit (from London) during autumn term 2014. The visit has been delayed due to a placement working abroad during spring and summer 2014</li></ol>

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<p><b>The event/s</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The volunteer visited school for a briefing and tour of the building, to get a feel for the school.</li> <li>• Personal strengths and preferences, visit availability and support role was discussed. Volunteers had the chance to ask any additional questions</li> <li>• Volunteers were welcomed by school staff and children.</li> <li>• Volunteers were included on the weekly staff bulletin, to keep staff aware of volunteers in school.</li> <li>• Appropriate year groups were made aware of when volunteers would be in school</li> </ul>
<p><b>Feedback and impact</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verbal feedback to date has been positive and importantly the children are keen to have more visitors.</li> <li>• The School Class Council asked the headteacher to invite a local journalist into school. This will happen during late June or early July 2014. The visit will have two parts:  <b>Part 1</b> will be a presentation by the journalist about his educational journey and career to date, followed by questions from the children  <b>Part 2</b> the headteacher will be interviewed about 'Primary Futures' by the journalist for an educational feature article in the Wigan Observer / Wigan Evening Post</li> </ul>
<p><b>What could we improve on or develop</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involve the children more in inviting volunteers.</li> <li>• Make a list of top 10 jobs children want to know about being careful to keep the focus on linking learning in school to the future world of employment.</li> <li>• Organise more than one volunteer during an afternoon or morning</li> <li>• Put Primary Futures events on the annual school calendar</li> <li>• Investigate the employment of pupils' parents – are parents volunteering for Primary Futures? ( A Primary Futures leaflet/handout would be useful to send home to parents and school staff)</li> <li>• Report, in writing, to the Governing Body each term about Primary Futures</li> <li>• Advertise Primary Futures to Parents during 2014-15 see example below</li> </ul>

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## What is Inspiring Primary Futures?

- Primary Futures is a **free service** that asks volunteers to pledge an hour a year or more to go into a state school or college to speak to young people about their job, career and the educational route that they took. Whether the volunteer is an apprentice, recent graduate or a CEO, they can make a real impact to young people's lives and the different career options that are open to them.
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### Appendix 1 - Quotes

#### From the volunteers –

Spending time in schools is a great way to get a break from the stress of everyday work life. I learned more from the children than I ever expected!

Volunteering is very flexible and it's rewarding too. Doing good things makes you feel pretty brilliant.

#### From the children –

It's really good to hear about jobs and careers from people in person, makes you think about the future and how important my school learning is.

Hotel jobs are more complicated than they seem. I didn't know about shift work before!

#### From the staff

It's surprising what happens when children and an adult volunteer explore challenges and try out solutions together.

This has helped us explore what children think about school and work and how they can link together.

#### From headteachers

All primary school pupils should have a Primary Futures entitlement. All children are entitled to opportunities for developing skills, for learning about life and work, as well as English and mathematics.

#### From school governors

The Primary Futures opportunities create space - for insights, shared responsibility, new awareness and positive relationships. It really is learning in the community.

The Primary Futures approach will help to build people's confidence in their (volunteers) capacity to bring about change, and to inspire children's ambition for the future.

