

Early Secondary Programme

Lesson: Subject, Skills and Careers (60-75min)

Activity	Tutor Notes	Resources/Timing
Introduce the session.	Download the PowerPoint and introduce the session to the pupils. Introduce the session to the pupils and show them the learning objectives for the session. Make sure you also have copies of the session handout.	PowerPoint (Download beforehand) 5-10mins
Activity – What Can I do with a Belt on a Desert Island?	<p>Begin the activity with the icebreaker. Introduce the pupils to the following scenario: You are stranded on a desert island. All your luggage and supplies are lost. The only things you have with you are your clothes and the belt that you were wearing. How can you use the belt to help you survive? Come up with at least three suggestions. Give the pupils two minutes to do this. Join the Group Tutors while the pupils are working through this.</p> <p>Once the pupils have had some time to discuss this, ask the year group to feedback. The class will hopefully come up with some interesting and imaginative suggestions. After ideas have been shared highlight to the group that this is a perfect example of how something may appear to only have one purpose but when you put it into a different context it actually has multiple uses. This is similar to what you study at school. You may think that certain school subjects are only useful for one kind of job but what you learn can be useful for lots and lots of different jobs. For example, you may think that learning about science is only useful if you want to become a Scientist or a Science Teacher but when you are learning about Science you are learning lots and lots of different skills that can be applied to many different jobs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• thinking out conclusions from graphs• handling dangerous substances• communicating observations accurately• having an idea and testing it out• deciding what results mean, etc.	PowerPoint 10min

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	<p>These skills could be applied to lots of jobs so the subjects that you study at school are very good at equipping you with lots of different skills and qualities that you can then apply to whatever it is you want to do when you leave school. Therefore, school is important. By studying all the different subjects and topics, you are being taught lots of different skills that will prepare you for your future career. While, you might not think that learning about Chemistry or events in History is relevant, by studying these things you are learning lots and lots of different skills that you can use in lots of different areas. There is a slide to illustrate this.</p>	
<p>Activity – Mind Map and Focus Point. What do I learn doing these subjects and what jobs do they lead to?</p>	<p>Tell the pupils that we will be asking them to think about the different skills they learn and the jobs that they can apply these skills to from the different school subjects. Show the pupils the example of Physics. The slide shows a mind map with all the skills and qualities that you develop studying Physics and the possible careers that these skills would be helpful in. Show pupils the completed mind map slide and talk them through the slide. Try and introduce the possibility of studying the subject at Higher and Further Education level and what university degrees/college courses would require you to have done Physics at school. This could include Engineering but also Architecture and often Computer/Software Programmer courses require a Physics qualification. Explain to the pupils that they will now need to do the same kind of diagram for one other subject of their choosing. This can either be the pupil's favourite subject or a subject they are currently studying. Tell the pupils to first think of all the skills they learn in that subject and then the jobs that require these skills.</p> <p>At the end of the activity ask pupils to feedback some of their answers: what subject did they do? What skills does this subject develop? What jobs could the subject lead to?</p> <p>This activity can be done of the session handout but if you wanted to expand it you could ask the pupils to create their own mind maps or create a poster displaying this information.</p>	<p>PowerPoint 15min Session handout</p>

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Activity – Case Studies: What am I good at? What jobs might I do?	<p>Reinforce to the pupils that we have now looked at the skills that you build through different subjects and how school can prepare you for your future job. Now we are going to think about how this can help them make decisions about their own future and to start thinking about what skills they have, what jobs would suit them and how they can decide on what they want to do when they leave school.</p> <p>Show them the 'My Pathway' slides and highlight to the pupils that what they do when they leave school will depend on their skills and strengths and that these are things they develop in school and through things they do outside of school like their hobbies and interests. Tell them that they are now going to work through three case studies. They will be given information about three different pupils. Based on the information provided they need to decide what skills each person has and what jobs they may be suited for.</p> <p>The case studies present a variety of pupils from those that are very science minded to someone who is very practical and good with their hands to someone who is very analytical. Each case study should be done individually.</p> <p>After pupils have completed all three case studies ask them to feedback their answers and why they have decided that these are the skills the pupils have and the jobs that would suit them. Remember not to be discouraging if pupils come up with answers that are not on the completed slides. This is not an exclusive list. Remember to highlight that skills are developed in and out of school.</p>	<p>PowerPoint 15-20 mins Session handout</p>
Activity – Required Subjects and Different Pathways	<p>Explain to the pupils that as we have just discussed lots of subjects that can be helpful in lots of different professions. However, for some jobs/degrees there are certain subjects that you must have studied at school in order to be able to apply for that degree/do that job. Make sure that pupils understand the difference between helpful subjects and required subjects. Point pupils to the final activity on their handout. Tell them to match each job to the subjects they think you would have to have done in school, reminding them that some jobs may have more than one required subject.</p>	<p>PowerPoint 10-15 mins</p>

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	<p>Once pupils have completed the activity ask them to feedback on their answers and show them the answer slides.</p> <p>Try to reinforce that the training for each of these jobs starts at school. Studying certain subjects at schools can help prepare you for what you want to do in the future when you leave school. The reason why these are required subjects is that you must know what is covered in these subjects in order to be able to do that job and/or study that degree. These provide the foundations for what you will go on to do.</p> <p>Show the pupils the two different pathways that two pupils interested in the same subjects could take. This activity is intended to show pupils how by doing the same subject and developing the same skills they can pursue different careers and highlight the fact that everyone will have a unique learner journey. The PowerPoint shows the two different routes that two pupils interested in History and Modern Languages could take. After looking at the skills and job cloud and doing a bit of research into the different possibilities one student could decide that tourism is something that they are really interested in. They go onto do English and a Modern Language at Higher and then decided to go onto to do an HND in Travel and Tourism and become a Tour Manager. The second student also looked at their skills and job cloud and after speaking to their guidance teacher and doing some research they decided that media and journalism is something they are really interested in so they decided to go to university to do a degree in journalism and became a Broadcast Journalist. Emphasise to the pupils that everyone has a different journey and path that they can take. While we can help them think about what skills and jobs different subjects can lead to, there is no set path and it is up to them to research what they are interested in and decide what route is for them.</p>	
Activity – From A to the Job I want!	Tell the pupils to turnover their handout. Ask them to reflect on everything we covered in the session today and to think about themselves. Is there a job that they think they may want to do and what do they need to do from this point to them having that job? The handout has prompts that we want them to think about	<p>PowerPoint 20 mins Session handout</p>

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	<p>including what skills they would need to have; what subjects can help them; will they need to have any further qualifications? If they do not know what they want to do ask them to pick a job that they think would be interesting and plan what you would need to do to have that job.</p> <p>If you have the time and IT facilities you can ask pupils to research their pathway using My World of Work. This activity can be done on the handout but you can extend this activity and ask pupils to do this in another format.</p> <p>Summarise the activity by telling the pupils that this should hopefully give them an idea of how they can start creating/thinking about a possible career/pathway plan.</p>	
Wrap Up	<p>Finish the session by using the PowerPoint to highlight the main points from the session. Ask the pupils if they have any questions about anything that we have covered in the session today. Point the pupils to the My World of Work website for more information on different careers and pathways.</p>	<p>PowerPoint 1 min</p>