

PROGRAMME: EMPLOYABILITY
ACTIVITY: I AM SKILLED
SCHOOL: JAMES YOUNG HIGH SCHOOL

I AM SKILLED – S3 EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAMME

I Am Skilled is an Employability Programme for S3 pupils, which was developed in partnership between DYW West Lothian and The James Young High School. Local employers deliver a session on a topic relevant to entering the world of work. In the weeks following on from each session, pupils undertake a series of tasks in class time to further build on their learning.

With support from a number of local employers working across a range of sectors, pupils participate in the following employer-led sessions:

- My Pathway – delivered by Sky
- Personal Finance – delivered by Virtue Money
- Online Brand – delivered by Electrify Marketing & Communications
- CVs and Covering Letters – delivered by Dawnfresh Seafoods
- Preparing for Interviews – delivered by DB Group

Pupils also take part in sessions with SDS Careers Advisers, as well as undertaking a mock interview session with an employer.

The programme provides pupils with the opportunity to:

- Learn about the importance of demonstrating key meta skills in the world of work
- Gain an insight into a variety of industry sectors
- Build knowledge and confidence
- Learn about the various routes into employment
- Build a foundation for further employability and skills learning in the Senior Phase

As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, DYW West Lothian and The James Young High School have worked with partner employers to develop the programme into one which can run virtually. We are delighted that this valuable partnership is able to continue.





Over 400 pupils have taken part since the programme's inception in 2018, with the partnership planned to continue to run annually. Post session surveys (Widening My Horizons) conducted by senior staff showed that pupils:

- Had a better understanding of the range of careers available to them in industry
- Were more aware of the importance of online profile when looking for a job
- Felt more confident in talking about the world of work



“*These sessions highlight just how important it is to think about your online presence, even when you think the world of work is a long way off. Life is more unforgiving because our digital footprint means we're more trackable than ever before. Mistakes you make when you're 14 can impact you at 34 in a way it wouldn't have for my generation. As such, the S3 programme from Developing the Young Workforce is a vital tool to help our young people prepare for what lies ahead.*”

LAWRENCE BROADIE, OWNER AND MD,
ELECTRIFY MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

“*Working with the I Am Skilled S3 programme at The James Young High School has been a great experience. The young people I have worked with have been fantastically engaged, asking questions about CV writing that I hadn't even considered. It is so important for young people to have input on employability skills from industry professionals; in the long run it not only benefits the young people but employers too.*”

KRISTY REYNOLDS, LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT MANAGER,
DAWNFRESH SEAFOODS

To contact DYW West Lothian please email: INFO@DYW-WL.COM

You can also visit our website at: WWW.DYW-WL.COM

OR FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:

