

INDUSTRY: FINANCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMME: SCHOOL-EMPLOYER PARTNERSHIP ORGANISATION: 3PFP SCHOOL: WHITBURN ACADEMY

CONTEXTUALISED MATHS PROGRAMME - WHITBURN ACADEMY

A local financial services company – 3 Pillars Financial Planning (3PFP) developed a short 4-week programme, launched as part of Maths Week Scotland*, aimed at linking maths to careers and providing contextualised learning experiences for S2 pupils.

The employer delivered a presentation and interactive workshop to 177 S2 pupils at Whitburn Academy. Teachers delivered follow-on sessions to the pupils, looking at career pathways that require an understanding of maths, with the programme culminating in a final follow up Q&A session with 3PFP about the links between maths and the world of work.

The programme was developed to:

- Stress the importance of skills used in maths that are also used in the workplace
- Emphasise the relevance of maths in general day-to-day life
- Cover how maths is used in different types of careers/industries/workplaces

• Emphasise to pupils the importance of doing maths as a subject at school

This employer-led programme addressed one of the focus areas in the 2016 'Making Maths Count' report – the need to focus on how maths is used in every career. The full S2 year group took part in the programme – 177 pupils in total – and each pupil was able to benefit from:

• Meeting with a local employer working within the Financial Services sector

An increased understanding of the importance and relevance of maths in the world of work

• A raised awareness of the variety of careers that require an understanding of maths

• Understanding the link between their studies and their future

*Maths Week Scotland is a celebration of the importance of maths in everyday life. It aims to provide the opportunity to engage with maths in new ways, regardless of age, interests or ability https://www.mathsweek.scot/ "The kids have really enjoyed looking into all the different careers and the skills involved. They are also realising the importance of maths and how being good at maths can help them get a good career!"

CLAIRE MCGRATH, BGE CURRICULUM LEADER OF NUMERACY FACULTY, WHITBURN ACADEMY





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