**Start Small Dream Big Opportunity for Free Training and Support for Primary Schools - DFE Funded - Careers Education**

Dear Head Teacher

Your school has been selected to be a part of a £2.6million Department for Education backed programme.  SIPS Education is leading on this for the Coventry Local Authority area.

[The Careers and Enterprise Company](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/V21lCy8Z6SEE0gDfZz1Ru?domain=careersandenterprise.co.uk) (CEC) and SIPS Education invites you to be one of 1000 primary schools formally involved in Year 2 of the project (until 1 September 2024). This is a unique opportunity benefitting staff and improving outcomes for pupils by broadening their horizons, challenging stereotypes and developing high aspirations for their futures.

**Participation in the programme will help to:**

* Increase awareness and aspirations amongst primary aged children of the range of jobs and careers pathways available to them in the future.
* Develop understanding amongst children of the link between what they learn in school, skills and the world of work.
* Increase the efficacy of the curriculum in building pupil’s personal development, as **required by Ofsted.**

**Through the CEC and West Midlands Combined Authority, the Start Small, Dream Big: Careers at Primary programme will support your school to:**

* **Increase awareness and aspirations** amongst primary aged children of the range of jobs and career pathways available to them in the future.
* **Decrease the extent to which stereotypes limit** children’s thinking about their future careers.  Did you know “[**Research**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/sNFPCzm1BIvvx3DFX85mV?domain=primary-careers.careersandenterprise.co.uk) shows that children can fix their aspirations and create future-limiting stereotypes by as young as six years of age. [**Research**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/Q7RHCAnBQUMMng0S9dc81?domain=primary-careers.careersandenterprise.co.uk) has also shown that Career-Related Learning (CRL) can widen aspirations and challenge stereotypes so that children keep an open mind about the world of work as they move through education.”
* Provide children with a **forward looking, realistic view of the jobs** and the way we work.
* Develop understanding amongst children of **the link between what they learn in school, skills and the world of work.**
* **Increase in parental engagement** in supporting children to think broadly about future careers.

**Our offer to you**

Your school will be provided with support to create a whole-school career-related learning plan through:

1. Free support from your local Hub network lead **SIPS Education.**
2. Free professional online training delivered by our partner **Teach First** (expected to be approximately 30-35 hours over the year).
3. Access to resources from Teach First and [**CEC’s Primary Platform**](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/nnNCCBgD8C33M1qSjXF-H?domain=primary-careers.careersandenterprise.co.uk)**.**

**Your commitment**

1. Nominate a lead teacher to take part in the Teach First programme of CPD.  This could be any teacher – think about UPR colleagues within your school.
2. Take part in baseline and endline evaluation with support from our research partner **ImpactEd.**
3. Use knowledge, skills and understanding gained through the CPD to develop and/or adapt a school strategy to embed careers education across the school.
4. With the support of your local network, plan for and deliver at least 1 employer encounter for your pupils to increase their exposure to the world of work.

To find out more please contact or to register an interest email [WRL@SIPS.co.uk](mailto:WRL@SIPS.co.uk) or come along to one of our online events to find out more.

Date and times for online sessions are below please follow this link to add details and we will add you to your chosen session   [https://forms.office.com/e/aH37GCQMaJ](https://protect-eu.mimecast.com/s/gLSQCDRGYCQQn1pfl2YvL?domain=forms.office.com)

* 12 September 2023 at 11.00 - 11.30am
* 12 September 2023 at 3.30 - 4.00pm
* 15 September 2023 at 1.30 - 2.00pm
* 18 September 2023 at 11.00 - 11.30am
* 26 September at 11.00 - 11.30am
* 26 September at 3.30 - 4.00pm

I hope to work with you on this brilliant project going forward.

Kind regards

Kim Whiting

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SIPS Education

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