Session 1

Starting to think about work

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LOTTERY FUNDED

When I grow up

Session 1
Starting to think about work

Objectives

- To create a discussion about employment and to give students an opportunity to voice any thoughts and opinions they may have about their future.
- To demonstrate that people with a learning disability can and do find a job with the right support, by showing examples of people in employment who have become:
  - better off financially
  - more independent
  - able to choose what to do with their money.

Preparation

As this is the first session it may be beneficial to create a file for each student to collate all the activity sheets completed during the programme. This can be part of their work profile.

Equipment

- Laptop and projector
- Whiteboard or flipchart
- Pens

You will also need to download and print out the following:

'What is my dream job?' activity sheet
Employment quiz score card

And project these slides:

Employment quiz stories (PowerPoint)

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Session outline and resources

1. Introductions

2. Exercise: My dream job

3. Film

4. Exercise: Employment quiz

1. Introductions

Explain to the students that this session is the first in a series of 10 about preparing for work that will be held over a set period of time (some may take place over a two-year period, others all within a school term). If the group attending the session are from different classes or forms it is important for everyone to introduce themselves.

2. Exercise: My dream job

Resource needed: 'What is my dream job?' activity sheet

This activity is designed as an icebreaker. It gives the young people a chance to consider their work aspirations and introduces the concept of earning money – 'What will I spend my wages on?'

After they have completed the activity sheet, ask them to feed back their responses and capture what they say on a whiteboard or flipchart. Clearly there are no right or wrong answers and many young people may express gender choices. Generate a discussion about different jobs and explain that some of these will be explored in the coming sessions.

3. Film

This film clip: **http://www.nhsemployers.org/case-studies-and-resources/2011/10/employment-and-learning-disabilities** showcases an employment scheme and offers the chance to see people in work, to hear their stories and to watch a variety of successfully employed people with a learning disability. You may prefer to use another clip.

4. Exercise: Employment quiz

Resource needed: Employment quiz stories (PowerPoint)

This exercise involves a slide show describing the jobs of five different people. Each describes what they do, how they got started and what a difference working has made to their life.

Describe the activity to the students and tell them there will be a quiz at the end so they need to concentrate and listen carefully. Slowly work through the slides, discussing any additional work-related information such as the use of uniforms, the different working environments and rules of employment.

Resource needed: Employment quiz score card

The quiz can be done on an individual, table or group basis as appropriate. Ask the students to use the score card to count up how much money they won, based on the number of questions they correctly guessed.

End of session 1

‘What is my dream job?’ activity sheet

What is my dream job?

What will I spend my wages on?

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Employment quiz score card

Name: _____

£100	£500	£1,000	£10,000	£25,000	£50,000	£100,000	£250,000	£500,000	10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	

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Employment quiz stories

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Employment quiz

1. Listen to stories about people in work.
2. See the different types of employment they have.
3. Listen carefully as they talk about (or describe) their jobs.
4. All the stories are true although some people have changed jobs.
5. We have changed their names.
6. See if you can answer the questions.

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Lewis is self-employed.

Lewis

Lewis

His support workers saw he liked crushing plastic bottles at home.

He runs his own plastic bottle recycling business.

His business was nominated for a recycling award in London - he was runner-up.

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Mary

Mary works for the NHS as a health trainer.

She travels around town helping other people with learning disabilities improve their health.

She works 19 hours per week.

Mary wanted to earn money and be more independent.

She now has more money to spend on the cinema and meals out with friends.

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David

David works at ASDA

David works 31 hours per week.

Before David got his job, people told him he'd never get a full-time job.

David keeps the shop tidy and helps customers find items.

David had benefits advice before starting work. He found out how much extra money he would have.

David now pays his own rent and council tax.

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Jane

Jane works in a hospital as a domestic assistant.

She works 32 hours per week.

Before getting her job, Jane spent a lot of time watching telly.

Jane had support from a job coach to learn how to do her job.

Jane now has a lot more money.

Jane has made lots of new friends at work.

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Greg

Greg works for a cleaning company which is run by people with learning disabilities.

He used to go to his local day centre all week and really wanted a paid job.

After trying out a few different types of jobs, Greg had a work trial with the company.

Greg had support to learn the new bus route and learn his tasks when he started work.

He says he's now more independent and is much better at cleaning too!

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Hi I'm Mike!

Mike is a catering assistant.

Mike did catering training for 2 years.

He got benefits advice before he started work.

Mike works 20 hours per week.

He is now £120 better off and is saving up to buy a laptop.

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The Quiz

What did you learn?

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1. Where did the idea for Lewis's business come from?

A. His college tutor gave him the idea

B. Support workers noticed he liked to crush plastic bottles

C. From a programme on the telly

D. It was his mum's idea

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2. What does Mary spend her wages on?

A. ***Now*** magazine

B. Food and bills

C. Cinema and meals out with friends

D. She saves all her wages

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3. What does David do at ASDA?

A. Gives fashion advice

B. Drives a fork lift

C. Helps customers find items and keeps the shop tidy

D. He works on reception

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4. What did Mike get benefits advice before starting work?

A. To find out how much more money he'd have

B. To talk about his pension

C. To find out about buying a house

D. His mum told him to!

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5. What help did Jane have when she started work?

A. She had help with the shopping

B. She had help with maths and English

C. She had help with the washing up

D. She had help to learn her new job

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6. How much more money does Mike have every week?

A. £5.20

B. £20

C. £120

D. 60p

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7. What is Mary's job title?

A. Traffic warden

B. Air hostess

C. Health trainer

D. Office assistant

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8. What happened to Lewis as a result of his business?

A. He got an Oscar

B. He became Lord Mayor of London

C. He got an investment from Duncan on Dragon's Den

D. He got a recycling award

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9. Greg works for a cleaning company. Who runs the business?

A. His mum and dad

B. A group of people with learning disabilities

C. David Cameron

D. Sir Alan Sugar

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10. What did people tell David before he got his job?

A. He'd never work full-time

B. He could be a millionaire

C. He'd always be poor

D. He should go on The X Factor

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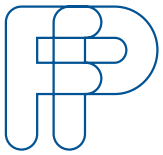

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