



Skills for Employment Major Grant

Case Study

Project title : *Employability for all*
Partnership : Round Oak Special School
Class Catering Services

Aims and objectives

To research, develop and operationalise a new jacket potato business in order to provide 6th form students with skills knowledge and experience to gain paid employment in the catering industry

Impact

- ▶ 8 students were full trained and became 'employees' of the business
- ▶ One of these students has secured a supported internship with National Grid
- ▶ 2 year 10 students worked for the business as their work experience placement
- ▶ 4 members of staff were provided with job coach training
- ▶ The sustainable nature of the project will multiply the above impact several times over the next few years

Activity Summary

- ▶ A jacket potato business was set up and operated from a car park in Warwick every Wednesday and Friday in term time from February 2016
- ▶ The oven was purchased
- ▶ Students undertook market research and testing products before finalising the products to offer, their prices and how they should be promoted
- ▶ Students were trained in customer service and gained food handling/hygiene qualifications
- ▶ The school is exploring opportunities to extend its reach by becoming mobile

Good practice

- ▶ The business is sustainable as members of staff trained as job coaches. Along with the equipment purchased and the business processes developed, this will enable the business to re-run in future
- ▶ Morton Morrell College is interested in hosting the business in future which would provide opportunities for its students to benefit

Lessons learned

- ▶ Students need to have a strong interest in learning about business and retail
- ▶ The siting of the business was poor due to low 'footfall'. More time researching and finding a busier site would have been very beneficial.