



What is 'Young Enterprise'?

Young Enterprise is an organisation designed to inspire young people to develop aptitudes and attitudes that they cannot learn from a textbook or traditional academic curriculum. They offer a wealth of practical ways to help young people from 4 to 25 get a taste of the world of work and the excitement of running a business.

In our globalised world, where many jobs are being either automated or sent offshore, today's students need more than traditional academic skills to survive and prosper. Young Enterprise has devised two types of programmes to help secondary school pupils develop the creativity, innovation and adaptability they will need to build successful careers and be good citizens.

In their flagship Company Programme students set up and run a real firm for a year under the guidance of a business volunteer. They get practical experience of the joys and pitfalls of creating a truly functioning enterprise.

The Company Programme: the ultimate business challenge

1,000,000 YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE RUN A REAL BUSINESS FOR A YEAR WITH YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Under their flagship Company Programme students find out what it's really like to set up and run a business.

Delivered across an academic year, young people make all the decisions about their company, from raising the initial share capital through to designing their product or service to selling directly to customers and ultimately winding up the company and paying their taxes. All this takes place with the support of a Business Adviser who brings a wealth of business knowledge and expertise to the team.

Students can also choose to set up their business as a social enterprise, which focuses on addressing a social need rather than maximising profit.

Young Enterprise helps teachers embed practical business skills and the government's statutory guidance on careers advice in the curriculum. A number of exam boards map Company against a range of their qualifications.

This renowned programme has been running since 1963 and in that time over a million 15-19 year olds have taken part.

The Company Programme culminates in the UK Final which this year featured 14 teams battling it out to be crowned UK Company of the Year and to go on to the JA-YE European Final.