Independent Travel Training

Ann Cooper
Knockkevin School
LLW / PDMU

Work Experience Programme

- This programme provides learning for life and work and it also aims to develop our young people as contributors to the economy and the environment.
Mencap

- In partnership with Mencap’s Employment Service, we provide varied work experience placements tailored to suit our young people’s needs and preferences.
- We liaise with Mencap and the new Horizons Partnership which is funded by the European Social Fund. This is delivered by an experienced employment officer.
- Stepping stones also provide the same service, however there is an issue with double funding.
Parents

- Anxiety
- Cooperation
- Support for Parents
- Links with Schools and Mencap
- Transition Social Work Input
- Awareness Raising from 14+ Review
Theory

- Independent Travel Training Pack
- Weekly Training Sessions
Areas Covered

- **Personal Safety**
  - Telling someone where you are going
  - Looking after your valuables (Keys, Money, Mobile Phone)
  - Avoiding areas that may be dangerous
  - Carrying ID, Bus Pass, Useful Numbers

- **Road Skills**
  - Using a Pedestrian Crossing, Zebra Crossing, Traffic Island e.g. Green Cross Code and using Rural Roads.
Areas Covered Continued

- **Public Transport**
  - Planning Journeys, Using bus Stops, Using the Bus / Train / Taxi and Asking for Help

- **Stranger Danger / Emergencies**
  - What to do if someone is bothering you
  - Travelling at night
  - Who to ask for help
Practical Sessions

- Early Practical Opportunities
- 1 to 1 Training
- Shadowing
- Independent A to B
- Total Independence
- Social Skills Training
Social Benefits

- Essential for post 19 life skills in terms of accessing college or work placements.
- Students can begin to plan their social lives accordingly and travel to meet their friends and colleagues.
- Self esteem, pride, confidence and the ability to appropriately interact with the general public.
- Overall independent life skills.
Past Success

- Successful completion of work placements and independent travel training programme to access college courses and paid employment.
- Examples:
  - Choices
  - Benefits for parents and individual pupils in terms of enjoyment and empowerment.
Conclusions

- Not appropriate for all students.
- Can be re-visited
- Such a small piece of work this cannot be over emphasised and needs to be given priority planning.
- This journey towards inclusion for our students starts very simply from A to B e.g. Classroom to Office.

Questions