

Executive Summary

From the research, it is clear that a number of points have been put across by the majority of respondents. Listed below are the main points that the results of the research seem to suggest:

1. What in your opinion would cause students to become motivated, interested and engaged in their school studies?

- It is clear that the development of positive relationships between the students and the teachers within schools is close to being at the top of the list of priorities for helping pupils become motivated to take part in school activities.
- The students should be imbued with a sense that they are achieving something.
- The students in particular also feel that school activities should contain an element of fun.
- The adults surveyed (i.e. teachers, parents and Entrepreneurs) feel that students should be recognised properly when they do accomplish something worthwhile.

2. What in your opinion would cause students to become demotivated and/or disinterested in attending school?

- One of the main demotivating factors for school pupils is a lack of encouragement and motivation from the teacher.
- The students thought that bullying teachers who made them feel stupid could make (or have made) them demotivated.
- Bullying by other pupils is also a significant demotivating factor for school students.
- Boring and repetitive schoolwork may also, to some extent, be demotivating.

3. In your opinion what subjects should the future curriculum contain over and above standard subjects such as Mathematics, English, Sciences etc?

- The school curriculum should contain more classes and subjects related to the development of pupils as people – via positive thinking, confidence building and so on.
- Many students are keen on experiencing the world of work as part of the curriculum.

4. In your opinion what subjects contained within the existing curriculum are most important to learn, equipping students for the world of enterprise and work?

- The most important current subjects to equip students for the world of enterprise and work are, in descending order: English, Mathematics, Information Technology and Business Management.

5. Why in your opinion is Entrepreneurial/Enterprise Education important?

- Many feel that Entrepreneurial/Enterprise education is important because it prepares the young for the world of work.
- The adults surveyed tended to feel that Entrepreneurial education may help to identify normally unrecognised skills in young people.

- A significant proportion of students are keen to be taught about starting a business.

6. In your opinion what qualities should Entrepreneurial/Enterprise teachers have?

- It was generally felt that Entrepreneurial education teachers should possess an influential and inspiring nature with a positive “can do” outlook and preferably some experience of starting and running their own business (although most of the teachers felt that this last quality wasn’t that important).
- Many (parents especially) felt that students should be taught by Entrepreneurial education teachers in a way that allows them to make mistakes and gain experience.

It is worth noting that there were several areas where the research could have been improved. Firstly, the sample sizes could have been larger, especially in the case of the Teachers (only 28 in total were included in the graph analysis, once the incorrectly filled-out questionnaires and anomalies were removed).

There were also conspicuous omissions in the response choices, and these were pointed out in the ‘Other’ box by a number of the respondents. In particular, boxes for Physical Education and Drama could have been included as options for question 4 – as both had been noted in the ‘Other’ box on numerous occasions.