



Best Practice Case Study

Newhall Park Community Primary School, Bradford

The Advantages of Pre-Recorded Content

Naheeda Azam is the Assistant Head at Newhall Park Community Primary School in Bradford with curriculum and careers awareness as part of her remit. She sees the two as related and was glad to see learning for life brought to the forefront in the 2014 National Curriculum.

Naheeda's own story of social mobility has influenced her passion for careers awareness at primary. "Especially if you come from a disadvantaged family that hasn't gone to university. The pathways of how you get to where you are is never discussed in primary schools, but [pupils'] life chances depend on it. Now we talk about how curriculum links with jobs of the future. Volunteers come into school to talk about how the subjects they had in primary shaped where they are, so we are trying to open children's minds and broaden their horizons."

Naheeda came to Primary Futures through Bradford Pathways, a council scheme to support careers learning through curriculum. Through Primary Futures, she was able to access a range of volunteers in subject-based professions to meet her objectives for an aspirational programme of activities. However, even pre-pandemic, she found it challenging with her school's geography outside of the city centre to get a high acceptance rate from volunteers.

While the virtual era opens up the geographic possibilities, she is concerned about the practicalities of setting up live virtual sessions and feels some interactivity may be reduced. So for Naheeda, the library of Primary Futures pre-recorded resources have been the answer.

"We can play them when we want, there is no rush, no scheduling or admin to worry about. Virtual assemblies are time bound and you can't control so many variables, so these pre-recorded resources ensure no one is missing out and every pupil gets the experience of careers awareness."

"Primary Futures got us through the pandemic and plays a big part in our careers awareness work. The videos meant we could keep assemblies at the forefront."

