



Young
Enterprise

Member of JA Worldwide

A GUIDE TO CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE ACCREDITATION



**CENTRES OF
EXCELLENCE**

www.young-enterprise.org.uk

ABOUT CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Centres of Excellence is a nationally recognised award which accredits education providers across the UK for demonstrating excellence in delivering financial education.

We are committed to helping schools and colleges bring practical, effective, and sustainable financial education to the young people within your setting.

We do this by providing a centre-wide improvement framework together with bespoke one-on-one advice from an expert.

The programme is tailored to the individual needs of your setting. We ensure that young people are placed firmly at the heart of the programme – their needs and interests feed in to ensure teaching is relevant and meaningful.

We will help you develop engaging and inspiring learning programmes of the highest quality, alongside comprehensive staff development and training.

The programme supports excellence in leadership and management of financial education. To further assist your school, we also offer a £1500 bursary to help implement and enhance your provision.

“Of all the awards we have gained at school, this one has had the greatest impact on the children.”

Mersey Park Primary School



Comprehensive consultancy support

Through face-to-face meetings and remote support learner progress



High quality, financial education resources

To complement teaching, learning and staff development



Staff training

Individual professional development, small group and/or whole school INSET



Access to the Centres of Excellence network and events

To provide you with the opportunity to share ideas, experiences and learning



Official recognition of achievement

Successful centres are awarded a Centres of Excellence certificate and plaque

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

THE BENEFITS

Thanks to generous funding from our partners, schools and colleges selected to take part in this programme enjoy a wealth of benefits, all of which are provided to them free of charge, which include:

- ✔ Support from an experienced Education Consultant, providing expert guidance in financial education, including subject leadership, whole school curriculum guidance, teaching and learning development and review.
- ✔ Improved learning experiences and outcomes for young people, driven by their needs and priorities.
- ✔ A £1500 bursary for high quality resources and staff supply cover.
- ✔ A comprehensive professional development programme for your staff.
- ✔ Evidence of Continuing Professional Development for whole school improvement.
- ✔ Closer links with financial/business sector volunteers and local organisations.
- ✔ Providing real-world context for your young people, helping them connect financial education in the classroom with life outside.
- ✔ Recognition of excellent provision for, and achievement in, financial education.
- ✔ The opportunity to support Young Enterprise in influencing national policy and improving national standards.

“The Centres of Excellence programme provides a clear focus and structure to support delivering financial education. Working with a consultant has been an absolute pleasure, the ongoing support, advice and guidance have been invaluable in building our programme.”

Benton Park Primary School



CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE JOURNEY

1.

Getting started

We will agree a date for a briefing to get your centre officially registered onto the programme. You will be asked to nominate a Financial Champion and assigned a Consultant who will support you throughout your Centres of Excellence journey.

2.

Briefing

An initial meeting takes place between your nominated Financial Champion, a member of your centre's leadership team, your Education Consultant, and the Centres of Excellence team. This is an opportunity to go through the accreditation process in more detail.

3.

Developing your sustainable strategy

Working alongside your Education Consultant, you'll develop a financial education vision and map out a practical action plan for your centre. You'll start collecting a portfolio of evidence of the financial education being delivered.

4.

Baseline assessment

Here you'll assess your learners' starting point in terms of financial knowledge, gather their views and seek to engage them in the planning and delivery process.

5.

Delivery and review

Your Financial Champion builds subject expertise, observes lessons, reviews resources, develops a staff CPD plan and starts to assess learner progress.

6.

Strategic development and sustainability

Financial education is placed in strategic plans and monitoring & evaluation processes. To ensure this specialised education continues to improve beyond the Centres of Excellence programme, a sustainability plan is also developed.

8.

**Submit portfolio
for review**

We will review your centre's evidence portfolio and confirm your award, typically within six weeks.

9.

Award recognition

Your centre receives an official plaque in recognition of achieving Centres of Excellence status.

10.

**Accreditation
and Next Steps**

7.

**Showcasing and
supporting others**

We will support you to share your work, train others, talk to the media and 'spread the word' about high quality financial education.



Centre of Excellence participants

WHAT TEACHERS SAY

"This award will **change the lives of our children** and will create changemakers of the future. Truly life changing."

Ysgol Bryn Gwalia

"Running financial workshops through the Centres of Excellence programme has **resulted in collaboration and high attendance**, this has allowed us to engage with parents, carers and local community."

Beecroft Academy

"Attaining the Centres of Excellence status has been our greatest achievement but looking back over all the hard work in the portfolio and seeing how far we've come in embedding financial education, **I'm immensely proud of the work that pupils put in to running the school tuck shop** week in week out and it's fabulous to see their skills improving across the year."

Nancealverne School

Cheam Park Farm
receiving their Centre
of Excellence certificate



TESTIMONIALS

The Centres of Excellence programme has been fantastic from start to submission and I look forward to our continuing journey at school and expanding to our Trust. **Our Mentor was brilliant and supported us fully throughout the whole programme.** It has been one of the most rewarding (and relevant) curriculum focused programmes I have ever been a part of.

Financial Champion, Cheam Park Farm

The amount of resources available is fantastic, this is helping us with planning the delivery of the framework and it is lovely to see teachers working so well as a team. **The support, from YE, has been amazing** and their knowledge is always greatly appreciated.

Head of KS4 Business, Cecil Jones Academy

We are in the very early stages of our work on the Centres of Excellence programme, but already **we have begun to see a new level of excitement and enthusiasm for financial education** from staff.

School Teacher, Ark St. Albans

Our young people really enjoy hands on practical activities where they can apply their learning, this helps them to consolidate key concepts and create a deeper understanding of financial education. **The Centres of Excellence programme has had a massive impact on our learners** and their financial capability has increased due to our school shop and bank project, which has been greatly supported by our consultant.

**Phase Lead for KS3 & Careers Leader,
Wargrave House School**



WHO ARE WE?

Young Enterprise is a national financial and enterprise education charity. We are passionate about developing the financial capabilities and enterprising mindset of the next generation, and believe that increased access to meaningful opportunities, combined with ongoing support, can change young people's futures. Young Enterprise works directly with young people, teachers, and volunteers, with the support of corporate partners, to build a successful and sustainable future for all young people.

Find out more at
young-enterprise.org.uk



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For over 60 years, Young Enterprise has been working in partnership with schools to enhance and enrich curriculum learning allowing young people to discover, develop and celebrate their skills and potential.

Our programmes and services exist to provide young people with the opportunity to develop and apply an enterprising mindset needed to earn and look after their money and make a positive contribution to their community.

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