



Questions You May Have

Is this program only for large workplaces?

All workplaces can participate. There are many ways the students can share in a working day. Ask them to help out by assigning them tasks such as answering the phone, stocking shelves, feeding the animals, working on the computer.... By taking time to explain what you do and why, the students will learn a great deal. Below are some suggestions on how to prepare for the day:

Inform your employees that the first **Wednesday in November** is **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** day, and those with children in Grade 9 are welcome to bring their child to work that day.

In large workplaces: set up a **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** Organizing Committee. Some organizations send a letter to all employees asking them to volunteer individually or to organize group activities.

In smaller organization: again, ask for volunteers. Encourage them to brainstorm ideas and organize themselves.

Keep your employees informed and involved. If you have a company newsletter or regular publication, provide a short article about the **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** program.

Consult the Learning Partnership's **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** website for excellent suggestions on how to plan for the day: www.takeourkidstowork.ca

Have students had any safety instruction?

All participating Grade 9 students will receive a one-hour Safety Lesson in preparation for this day. At the same time, we would ask that you make safety a top priority in your orientation of the student.

Make sure to begin the **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** Day with a workplace orientation, focusing on health and safety issues relevant to your workplace. Use the expertise of Health and Safety personnel to assist with the orientation if possible. State the policies and set expectations. Point out hazards, demonstrate things that

could go wrong, and be explicit. Teens have an illusion of immortality that you need to break through.

What is the employer's liability when students are at a workplace?

Students must be treated with identical care to that of any visitor to an employer's premises. Employers must take reasonable care to ensure their premises are safe for visitors. Employers may be liable for damages if a student is injured while on their premises, if negligence can be proven.

The students' parents have signed permission forms that allow them to take part in **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** Day. Accident and liability insurance for all participating students is covered by the School Board's insurance policies.

Are students covered by the current agreement between the Workers' Compensation Board and the Ministry of Education?

Students involved in **TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK** and other one day workplace visits are not covered by the current agreement between the Workers' Compensation Board and the Ministry of Education.

Should a workplace have Third Party Liability Insurance?

It is recommended that employers have appropriate liability insurance in place and that they consult their insurance providers about this liability insurance. There are some exceptions where government agencies and large corporations carry a structured self-insurance program.

What can we expect from the students?

Young people are usually curious and should have many questions. They may also be somewhat timid in new environment, so get them involved as soon as you can. Make it easy for them to ask questions, and ask them questions. They'll be eager to participate rather than simply watch and listen.

Who is responsible for getting the student to the workplace?

If the student is going to work with a parent/guardian, relative, or friend, he/she will most likely accompany the student to the workplace.

Who will supervise the student?

The parent, guardian, or employee who is the volunteer host for the young person should be supervising the student. Students will have discussed workplace behaviour during their classroom preparation for the day. If they are kept busy and interested, supervision shouldn't be a problem.

Why is the day focused on Grade 9 students?

Grade 9 was selected for a number of reasons. Provincial curriculum guidelines include career education at this level and it is an opportune time for students to see the practical side of what they have learned in school.

Grade 9 students make subject selections for the following year that could have an impact on their futures. By exploring work in a meaningful way, they will be able to ask themselves critical questions as they make their educational decisions.

For these young people, it is a time of transition - peers play a critical role in how they see themselves, and their relationships with their parents may be changing. Spending time with a parent or another caring adult, in a positive environment, helps establish the child/adult relationship on a different level.

What are young people of this age like?

Young people in Grade 9 may share some similar characteristics but each one is unique. However, be sensitive to the fact that, like many people in a new situation, they may feel nervous or shy when speaking with you.

How will the day affect productivity in the workplace?

The first Wednesday in November in your workplace will be a less predictable day than most, but an influx of youthful enthusiasm will add vitality and may even improve productivity.

Will parents and employers receive any feedback from the students' teachers?

Everyone who takes part will be completing an evaluation of the day.

How can parents/guardians further support the career development process of their child in high school?

All students and parents/guardians of Saskatoon Public Schools have access to the software program **myBlueprint**. This is an excellent technology resource designed with one goal in mind: to help students plan for their futures. Equipped with assessment tools, detailed occupation profiles, and comprehensive post-secondary education information, students can move seamlessly through the career exploration process. At the same time, they guide students through resume and online portfolio building in preparation for their entry into the world of work.

You can access myBlueprint at <https://myBlueprint.ca/spsd> and choose your high school from the drop down menu and click create an account. Complete student/staff/parent registration following the prompts.