Enterprise Education as a Means of Developing Social Inclusion

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- Objective: “developing an alternative provision framework for engaging young people”
- Rationale:
  - The Salvation Army is deeply committed to serving need in the community
  - 140,000 young people excluded from education – a significant need
  - Local government is looking for partnerships with suppliers of alternative education
Social Exclusion
(Apospori and Miller 2003)

• Has many input factors: ethnicity, income, employment, social arrangements, gender

• A relative concept – individuals are on a spectrum

• A dynamic concept, with individuals moving along a continuum between greater or lesser inclusion

• For any individual, different factors need to be tackled at different times
Enterprise Education

• Potential for activity-based learning which may suit excluded young people – promoting communications, interaction, and teamwork skills

• Required within schooling system – opportunity recognition, creativity, and other business concepts recognised as being important

*Provides a meaningful route back into education*
Positive Outcomes
of Entrepreneurship Education
(CIHE, NCGE, NESTA 2009)

• Living with uncertainty and complexity
• Learning by doing and problem solving
• Self-belief
• Improving emotional self-awareness
• Managing and reading emotions
• Handling relationships
• Recognizing the value of hard work
Young Enterprise

• An established provider in the field:
  – Students set up and run enterprises
  – Provides action-based, contextualised learning about enterprise
  – Projects are team based creating opportunities for learning soft skills
  – *Company* programme targets secondary school children
  – *Team* programme targets less able young people
Change Programme

• 6 week programme using Young Enterprise Team programme and additional visits and ‘treats’ days around London.
• Target: 14-16 year old children excluded from school
• Pilot run November / December 08 in L.B. Merton, with the support of the council
Outcomes

• A small group of young people – just 4 – completed the programme
• These provided positive evaluations of their experience
• All of them have found routes towards greater inclusion

The main challenges were the recruitment of young people and the overall cost of the programme
Next Steps

• Re-design beginning of programme to encourage ‘try before you commit’ among possible participants
• Target councils which have strong Salvation Army corps; pitch the programme to them to elicit their support
• Re-cast the programme to lower costs
• Find further funders to help with costs