



**Raising Aspirations through  
Experiential Learning:  
Challenging Systemic  
Approaches to Widening  
Participation in Primary  
Schools**



# Aimhigher

**Aimhigher activities take place across 44 local areas in England. Activities supported by the programme include:**

- **visits to university campuses**
- **residential summer schools**
- **master-classes and open days**
- **mentoring schemes**

**Main Goal of Programme:**

**Aimhigher is about making everyone aware of the benefits higher education can bring, whatever their background.**



# Societal Expectations for British Children's Futures



## THE SUNDAY TIMES

June 12 2008

### Unequal Britain: The future has already been decided for our children

Well-off children have an enormous head start in Britain, and they even begin school. The brightest poor children drop off (meaning that only 12 per cent of their contemporaries score age of 5. The least able rich children, meanwhile, move up for 5. At that rate, the dim rich kids overtake the bright poor ones

## the guardian

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2009

### Bristol v Bolton: opposite ends of the prosperity ladder

Students at the universities of Bolton and Bristol come from opposite ends of the prosperity ladder, data from market analyst firm Caci shows.

Undergraduates came from the richest neighbourhoods in 16.

## The Telegraph

21<sup>st</sup> April 2009

### 'Schools to blame' for smart, poor children failing to get into university

*Intelligent children from poor homes are failing to get into university because of under-performing state schools rather than class bias, according to a new report.*

The joint report for the Institute of Education and Institute for Fiscal Studies said that pupils at struggling comprehensives are getting such low grades because they are not equipped for degree-level studies.



## Which Way Now?

Spark your  
imagination





# SPICE

## The Solent Primary Initiative for Curriculum Enrichment offers sessions in:

**Forensic Science**

**Fashion**

**Photography & Graphic Design**

**Robotics**

**Animation**



# Forensic Science

## The Programme

### IN-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- Fingerprints
- Anthropometrics
- Shoeprint Patterns and Casts
- White Powders

### UNIVERSITY

Morning visit to the university to investigate a mock crime scene

← Transference of Skills →



# Feedback

- All staff who completed a feedback form for their school (n=27) believed the experience would increase children's motivation in science
- 92% of the children who completed feedback (n=937) gave the experience a score of 10/10 (1=awful & 10=excellent).





# Aims of programme in PS



- **Raised awareness of Further Education & Higher Education**
- **Raised aspirations**
- **Increased motivation**
- **Developed partnerships**
- **Shared good practice**
- **Enriched curriculum**
- **Improved attainment**