UNIT 3
Self-Employment and Social Responsibility
# Unit 3: Self-Employment and Social Responsibility (W1, W6, E1, E2)

## Learning Intentions
By the end of this unit the pupils will have had the opportunity to:
- understand why people choose to become self-employed;
- identify opportunities for self-employment in the local area and within Northern Ireland;
- understand what social responsibility is and the reasons for it; and
- recognise opportunities for enterprise activities in your school and in your area.

## Teaching and Learning Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Teacher led discussion on the benefits, challenges and support system for self-employment – see Teacher Briefing Sheet for Self-Employment. As a group pupils discuss Activity Sheet 3(a) Self-Employment.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Class engage in a debate 'Should I become self-employed?' using Activity Sheet 3(b) Debate on Self-Employment see Teacher Briefing Sheet for Debate on Self-Employment.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Teacher recaps on employment sectors and identifies one sector e.g. engineering, tourism, hospitality or catering. The class is divided into groups and each group comes up with ideas for self-employment within that sector.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Teacher led discussion on social responsibility and the reasons for it, see Teacher Briefing Sheet for Social Responsibility. Pupils carry out Activity Sheet 3(c) Social Responsibility Case Study.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Class engage in an enterprising activity linked to a charity.</td>
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## Thinking Skills and Personal Capabilities
- Thinking, Problem Solving and Decision Making
- Being Creative

## Resources
- Teacher Briefing Sheet for Self-Employment
- Teacher Briefing Sheet for Debate on Self-Employment
- Teacher Briefing Sheet for Social Responsibility
- Activity Sheet 3(a) Self-Employment
- Activity Sheet 3(b) Debate on Self-Employment
- Activity Sheet 3(c) Social Responsibility Case Study
### BENEFITS
- You are your own boss.
- You can keep all the money yourself.
- You can work when you want to.
- You can take holidays when you want to.
- You can work where you want to.

### CHALLENGES
- To make money to keep the business going.
- You make all decisions.
- You may need to work long hours.
- To keep the business going if you are unable to work.
- To improve the business.

### SUPPORT
- Friends
- Family
- Bank
- Enterprise Agencies
  - Invest NI, Local Enterprise Agency, Shell Livewire, Princes Trust
- Local Government body
DEBATE ON SELF-EMPLOYMENT

Heather the Hairdresser
I left school at sixteen and went to the local college, where I took a course in hairdressing. At the end of the course I eventually got a full-time job at a small salon near my home. I have many loyal customers. After two years of working in the salon I have become bored. I have always wanted to set up my own salon but don’t have enough money to do so. I recently had the idea of cutting people’s hair in their own houses. I know that many old people in the area find it difficult getting to the hairdressers and other people such as mothers with young children find it hard getting out of the house during the day. I have my own car and enough savings to buy the basic equipment and supplies.

Should I become self-employed?

- Teacher reads “Heather the Hairdresser” scenario.
- Teacher divides the class into two groups.
- Class debate the question “Should I become self-employed?”
- One group will be ‘FOR’; the other group will be ‘AGAINST’. You may want to have a third group, where they act as ‘judge’, to decide which group put across the strongest case.
Social responsibility is a firm’s ethical responsibility to society and the environment.

Benefits of being socially responsible:

- Can improve profits
- Easier to recruit workers
- Can generate positive press coverage for the business.

Examples of how a business can be socially responsible:

- RECYCLING
- USING RECYCLED PRODUCTS
- USING ENERGY EFFICIENT FUEL SOURCES
- USING LOCAL PRODUCE
- REDUCING WASTE AND PACKAGING
- GIVING MONEY TO CHARITIES
- SPONSORING LOCAL EVENTS
- LINKS WITH SCHOOLS (e.g. Talks and Placements)
- ENCOURAGING STAFF TO CAR SHARE, USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT OR WALK
- PROVIDING MEASURES TO REDUCE STRESS IN THE WORKPLACE
- PROVIDING A SAFE AND FAIR WORKING ENVIRONMENT FOR STAFF.
### Activity Sheet 3(b): Debate on Self-Employment

#### FOR

#### AGAINST
Read the case study. Fill in the diagram showing evidence of how the council shows social responsibility.

**ANYTOWN CITY COUNCIL**

Anytown City Council employs 2500 employees in 100 locations. It is responsible for areas such as bin collections, street cleaning, parks, leisure facilities, tourism and recycling.

The council offers employees a reward and suggestion scheme so that when staff come up with good ideas, they get rewarded for them. They also offer staff an incentive to cycle to work and the council will buy them a bicycle and the employee pays back only half the cost.

The council have opened a Youth Club in the area for young people aged 11-16. They have also built a new Wellbeing Centre for men and women.

Anytown City Council have recently developed a ‘Disability Action Plan’. This shows their commitment to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and encourage disabled people to participate in public life and activities organised by the council. Events organised include ‘Arts and Crafts’ and ‘Wheelchair Basketball’. The council have also sponsored the ‘Wheelchair Basketball’ county league.

The council regularly promote the city as a top destination for short breaks. They have spent a lot of money on television and newspaper advertisements in the last two years. The council have also improved the transport system around the city, ensuring there is a more regular timetable available for the community and tourists.
Anytown City Council Social Responsibility

COMMUNITY

EMPLOYEES

SPORT

TOURISM

ENVIRONMENT

TRANSPORT

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY