Celebrating 20 years
Preparing youth for brighter futures

Our BTE Story

Cork, Ireland
Grant Period: 2005 - 2008

New international business-education partnership sparks global interest.

In 2005, Johnson & Johnson launched its first BTE program outside of the United States and Puerto Rico in Cork, Ireland. BTE-Cork, Ireland was designed to foster a positive attitude in the science industry for students and create pathways for students to enroll and succeed in Cork Institute of Technology (CIT) and the University of Cork College (UCC).

Partnering with three secondary schools and three local operating companies, BTE-Cork, Ireland initially hosted hands-on programs for 160 students and parent information sessions. Over time, select BTE students participated in intensive job shadowing experiences, exposing students to the work of work and a roadmap to attain those careers.

BTE-Cork, Ireland is in its second cycle and is now supported by Cork City and other partners. In fact, the program has expanded to nine additional schools.
My BTE Story

Tony Walsh
Principal, Mayfield Community Schools

School leadership driving excellence.

Every principal is approached to create new and innovative programs for their students. Tony Walsh, principal at Mayfield Community School, has the proven success of BTE and its application to his school as “one of the most successful programs we have ever participated in.” Mr. Walsh sees the BTE program as a great opportunity for students, creating a direct link between industry and students. It also gives students a concrete incentive to work hard at school and do well on examinations.

Buy-in from principals like Mr. Walsh is critical. Students need to be given the opportunity to participate in programs like BTE, but administrators need to pave the way for these opportunities.

The BTE-Cork, Ireland’s impacts speak for themselves:

- Increased higher education enrollment. BTE students, a significant portion of which were first-generation college students, progressed to higher or further education at a higher rate than a comparison group.

- More interest science. BTE students exhibited higher rates of enrollment in science courses than comparison groups.