## Case Study: St Clere's School





Money Smart is a financial education programme aimed at 11-25 year olds who are Deaf or sight impaired. It aims to build financial capability and improve access to services, focusing on public and personal finance.

Topics include everything from budgeting and banking to fraud and spending.

## Helen Brice QTVI, Head of Thurrock Sensory Service for CYP

Adults tend to take much for granted.

We assume young people are picking up everything but lots of things tend to be missed. To understand money and manage finances is complicated for any young person – this was an opportunity to learn how to make their own decisions. It so important for anyone with a form of disability.

Our visual impaired pupils have issues accessing banks, notes and finance in general.

They are disadvantaged and don't pick up information the way we would. They've thought about money and heard parents talking about it and are beginning to earn and know its value. This was a golden opportunity, a chance to ask questions.

Money Mechanics is giving our pupils the skills to make decisions and be independent in the future. It's enabled them to access a key aspect of their life skills. They were brilliant. The children loved working together.



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Having an outside organisation come in gives it more professional approach. We can offer advice but students tend to listen more to professionals from outside school. We may not always have the answer or be able to anticipate the question.

Money Mechanics have offered a very professional service. Adjustments have been easily made to suite our young people's needs.

Their trainers come with a wide range of knowledge. They are specialists, hearing or visual and make the topics accessible for all our students. We have two resources here, one for visual and hearing. They were able to offer workshops to both at the same time. I would certainly recommend it. A great resource for teachers.

We run a big life skills programme here but pupils need more individual contact to build up skills, and leave school with the knowledge of how to be independent and make decisions instead relying on families or adults making decisions for them".



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