



Passion
the most beautiful job in the world

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The 4 basic pillars of DREAM are:

- Let youngsters DREAM about their future job
- Provide them with the necessary attitudes and competencies to realise their dreams
- Foster their sense for dynamism and entrepreneurship
- Enhance contacts between school and work place



- DREAM is a Belgian project initiated in 1998 by ICHEC-PME (Brussels) to stimulate entrepreneurship among youngsters in the three last years of their secondary schools, regardless the type of education they get.
- The DREAM-team organises awareness campaigns, surveys, seminars, and has also its own website www.dreamday.be



The 2006 DREAM Barometer



- In autumn 2005 a survey was done among 1100 pupils in 51 Belgian schools to explore the ways in which pupils ending their secondary school perceive their future learning and career path and how they prepare to make the choices “for making their dreams come true”.
- The results of this survey have also been confronted with an analogue inquiry held in 2002.



- In January 2006 an analogue survey was held among 442 professionals (entrepreneurs and human resource managers) to sound their perception of how youngsters prepare for their future careers.



What is the perception of youngsters on their future career?

- In their reactions we find realism, dreams and optimism
- Pragmatism and dreams are also intertwined
- Large attention for the balance of job and family/free time (6 out of 10 youngsters do not want to sacrifice family for a job)
- Life Long learning is a concept youngsters are aware of (almost 85% believe they need to learn during their whole life)



- **73,55% of the sample want to continue their studies after secondary school**
- Within this group 66,6% already know what type of higher education they will start



When asked about what schools should organise to inform them about future career/study options this resulted in the following list :

- 1. encounters with people on the work floor (43,1%)
- 2. meetings with higher education institutes (40,9%)
- 3. open company days (39,3%)
- 4. traineeships (38,6%)
- 5. meetings with professionals at school (32,5%).



Schools in Belgium nowadays offer mainly interviews with career advisers and traineeships, while pupils believe going actually on the work floor for meeting and discussion with professionals would be more appropriate.



- 1 out of 3 pupils sees him/herself as an independent entrepreneur
- Although 56,3% of the sample opt for intellectual job activities, also 43,7% appreciate manual activities
- Girls opt for the human and social sectors, while boys choose rather technology and technical jobs. Jobs in media and entertainment had the highest score, while chemistry had the lowest one => rather traditional choices



- 61,7% of the interviewed feel quite happy or even very happy about their professional future. They believe also that they will be ready to embark a career: 8 out 10 believe they are well prepared.
- Among their fears they have the most significant one is to loose private life (37,2%). 1 out of 4 is concerned about unemployment, though 24,8% do not care about it at all.
- 50,5% declared that they could not imagine not to like working any longer.



How do working professionals
perceive youngsters and their
career dreams?



- In contrast with the 8 out of 10 pupils that believe they are well prepared for their future job, 72% of the working professionals believe they are not well prepared. Almost 6 out of 10 of the interviewed professionals believe that the direct job supervisors of young school leavers are not satisfied with them.
- 6 out of 10 believe that youngsters have quite a realistic view on working and on doing certain jobs. But the same number also believes that youngsters are not realistic about their competences. Self-knowledge seems to be a weak point among school leavers.



Competences that are considered to be important according to the interviewed working professionals are:

- Perseverance
- Flexibility
- Team spirit
- Communication skills
- Knowledge of languages



- According to them school leavers show mostly their ambition, their team spirit, their ability to transfer school knowledge into job skills and flexibility. The lowest scores were for knowledge of languages and autonomy. Also perseverance had a low score: 59% believe it is not present among school leavers.



- 88% of working professionals believe that informing pupils better about certain professions is a positive thing.
- traineeships, encounters with professionals, student jobs and enterprise games are useful activities.
- They also believe that entrepreneurship should be fostered at a very early stage (90,2%).
- 45,2 of them even claim that it should already be done in primary education.



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