

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Questions about our organisation City Pay it Forward:

#### **Who is City Pay it Forward?**

City Pay it Forward is a UK charity made up of parents who decided almost four years ago to use their knowledge as finance professionals and experience as parents to produce a comprehensive Year 6 financial literacy curriculum. Today, that small idea has transitioned from a local, grassroots effort into a national initiative.

The volunteers at City Pay it Forward started the organisation because they wanted to make an impact in their community. All the materials have been produced from scratch in their spare time and over long weekends. City Pay it Forward has no paid employees.

#### **Is City Pay it Forward associated with any banking institution?**

No, City Pay it Forward is not associated nor affiliated with any banking or financial institution, it is a completely independent charitable organisation.

#### **Who is on the board of City Pay it Forward?**

A list of the charity's Trustees and Special Advisers is available on the website. The board comprises a mix of individuals including leading educators as well as finance and business professionals. All Trustees and Special Advisers are also parents and, importantly, have been involved or presented the City Pay it Forward financial literacy curriculum to many thousands of students (so we all have first-hand knowledge of how children interact with the materials).

#### **Why are you doing this for free?**

City Pay it Forward volunteers strongly believe in giving something back to the wider community: knowledge as financial professionals and educators, experience and time. In an increasing cashless economy, our relationship with money is rapidly changing, for many resulting in impulse overspending, rising youth indebtedness rates and possibly mental health issues. Financial habits develop at a very young age, and yet the basics of financial literacy are not taught as a mandatory subject in primary schools. At City Pay it Forward, we wanted to make a notable difference, one child at a time, by raising awareness and learning to spend more responsibly.

### Questions about our Financial Literacy Materials:

#### **Is City Pay it Forward working in partnership with Rising Stars?**

Indeed, City Pay it Forward is proud to be working in partnership with Rising Stars, part of Hodder Education, in the distribution of the Teacher's Manual. All the components of the Year 6 financial literacy curriculum can be found at both [www.citypayitforward.com](http://www.citypayitforward.com) as well as at [www.risingstars-uk.com/CityPayitForward](http://www.risingstars-uk.com/CityPayitForward)

### Who is getting this book?

We are working together with Rising Stars to deliver a hard copy of the Year 6 Teacher's Manual for free to each and every primary school in the UK including Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. That is almost 21,000 schools in total.

### We don't really understand what to do with the materials, could you explain?

There are a lot of details on how to approach the teaching of this subject matter in the Teacher's Manual under the headings "What is included" and "How to use the manual" on pages 6 and 7. It explains how you can use the online materials such as the PowerPoint presentations, class debates, extension work and videos and how often.

There are also schemes of works, subjects for discussion, extension work and ideas for additional resources included. Perhaps you could try one of the videos at the start of class to begin discussion. Then use the PowerPoint presentation and speakers notes to guide the discussion. Finally, you could assign one of the four homework assignments for students to take home. There are also six handouts per term which children enjoy looking at.

It is not so important how you use them, or in which lesson the materials are used, as they are very flexible. The most important thing is that the materials **are** used as we believe they are a vital part of young people's learning.

### Which is the best lesson to cover this topic in ?

The materials are being linked to other areas of the curriculum such as Maths, Geography, History and even English. But generally, it is covered during Math or PSHE lessons.

### Is there a requirement to undertake this financial literacy curriculum?

Unfortunately, financial literacy is not a statutory component of the curriculum. In our interactions with over 15,000 students and 150 schools across the country, it became clear that both schools and teachers were keen for dedicated year 6 materials, but none existed. It was based on this feedback that we decided to produce our curriculum.

While financial literacy is not statutory on its own, it does fit into the KS2 PSHE subject of Living in the Wider World and economic wellbeing and being a responsible citizen. As we also know, OFSTED expect to see more of these types of extension subjects.

We understand that the school schedule is already full as it is. We have therefore endeavoured to make these materials fun, engaging and most important, easy to teach. We have also provided ideas and examples of ways to introduce concepts of financial literacy in the core subjects.

### Can parents also use the curriculum at home?

The main audience for these materials is schools and teachers. We have therefore broken them down by term to make them easy to integrate into the school year. That being said, parents may be interested to know what financial literacy learning is being taught in the classroom and may seek to complement that with work at home. Education starts at home and if a parent or guardian can start the conversation with a curious child and raise awareness, it will make an impact in itself and help in the development of a life skill.

### **Do the materials have to be covered over three terms or can it be longer or shorter?**

To make a more lasting impact with the pupils, we feel this subject matter should ideally be covered over each term with about one to two sessions per term. However, we have designed the curriculum to be flexible given the complexity of the school timetable. We are aware that many schools might consider using them more in the summer term post the SATs exams in May.

### **Can this be used for other year groups such as Year 5?**

In principle, the answer is yes. But teachers and educators in each school will be best placed to evaluate whether the materials could be used for their own Year 5 pupils. You could even start the first module towards the end of Year 5 and continue into Year 6.

### **Do you have materials for younger children?**

Our volunteers have adapted these materials for all age groups. The materials are presented in a simple, graphical and engaging matter. Small children always like looking at bank notes and coins. These simple concepts make an easy entry point into the subject.

### **Do you have any materials for older pupils?**

At this point in time, there is not a set of materials available in the same format for older students. We do however have a module on “Investing” available under the KS3-KS4 tab on the website.

### **I really like the Teacher’s Manual, can I get another copy?**

We printed just enough for every primary school in the UK to get a copy. However, you can download as many soft copies of the book as you need from our website as well as from Rising Stars.

### **Do I need to pay anything, subscribe or is there a long-term commitment required?**

No, you do not need to pay anything. The entire curriculum, which is comprised of the Teacher’s Manual, PowerPoint slide presentations, Teacher Notes and videos, can be downloaded **free of charge** from our website at [www.citypayitforward.com](http://www.citypayitforward.com).

### **Will there be updates of the Teacher’s Manual textbook?**

We believe that these materials provide ample material for teachers to be able to engage in financial literacy school interventions for multiple years. We are always committed to expand and improve these materials over time. Feedback from teachers, parents and pupils is very important and we would ask that you take a moment to fill out our survey. Together, we can work together on any future updates.

### **How does the Young Money Quality Mark work and is it endorsed by the Department for Education?**

Young Money (formerly PFE<sup>2</sup>G) provides resources and training to anyone teaching young people money management skills. They are a trusted provider, supporting schools, colleges and universities.

The Young Money Quality Mark is designed to give educators confidence that the financial education materials they are using are of the highest educational value, contain accurate and up-to-date information and are engaging and relevant for young people.

These materials, including the Teacher's Manual textbook, PowerPoint presentations and Teacher Notes, have been thoroughly peer-reviewed and all benefit from the Young Money Quality Mark which is endorsed by the Department of Education and Education Scotland.

The City Pay it Forward Year 6 financial literacy curriculum can be found on the Resource Hub at the Young Money at [www.young-enterprise.org.uk/teachers-hub/resources](http://www.young-enterprise.org.uk/teachers-hub/resources).

### **Did teachers have any input into the materials?**

Yes, the materials have been prepared with the input of fifteen Year 6 and headteachers from schools across the country. The materials have also been the product of presentations to over 15,000 students at over 150 schools.

### **Will you come and present at our school?**

We are a small team of volunteers and will do whatever we can to assist you in delivering the materials. Our hope in creating the Year 6 Teacher's Manual was to empower schools and Year 6 teachers to deliver the materials. We are currently looking into additional ways to support the teaching body in that endeavour. If you have any questions or special requests, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### **Can we discuss a potential collaboration?**

Yes, absolutely. It is all about making as wide of an impact on the community as possible. Do not hesitate to contact us and please also fill out our survey on the website with your thoughts and comments.