



National Award for Education Team

Wenta, the local Enterprise Agency for Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire, was awarded the National Enterprise Award for Education Links, at the National Federation of Enterprise Agencies' first ever Enterprise Awards ceremony. Wenta fought off competition from Enterprise Agencies around the country, in what proved to be one of the most popular categories of awards.

The accolade was awarded for the demonstration of long-term mutually beneficial partnerships in education, and for developing programmes which are innovative and respond to local issues and opportunities. Wenta's Education Programme Manager, Peter Cabon was delighted with the achievement and said "As an Enterprise Agency we have been prepared to respond to a changing world in enterprise education. Our team is only small and we operate in an area where funding is hard to come by. Our development has been based on sound research, strong partnerships, hard work and adding value: not on handouts. This award demonstrates the commitment we show in recognising the importance of employment, not just self employment and the real difference between enterprise and entrepreneurship."

The Education Team at Wenta endeavour to inspire enterprise among young people across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Among the offering of programmes includes a real life business simulation game; Beacon. This encourages participants of ages from 10 upwards to get involved in highly charged, competitive enterprise challenges, working in teams to develop business awareness, entrepreneurial and organisational skills whilst competing against each other. Other programmes from the Wenta Education Team include working with 'gifted and talented' students in local schools, encouraging teachers working within enterprise education and running projects with numerous community groups. Commenting on Wenta's win, the judges of the National Enterprise Awards said "Wenta has demonstrated a strategic approach to its Enterprise Education initiative which has produced comprehensive results with a clear philosophy underlining all activity. The success of the embedded programme has resulted in it becoming self-financing and it is therefore a sustainable part of Wenta's offering within the local area".

Wenta will now build on this achievement and continue to develop their Beacon programmes and work with schools and teachers to further encourage and inspire enterprise across the local community. Peter Cabon comments "Through our activities, we make enterprise accessible to all and it becomes a way of life rather than something that business people do."

"We make enterprise accessible to all".

*Peter Cabon
Education Programme
Manager - Wenta*

Wenta

Providing Education and Training
Programmes across Herts and Beds

Tel: 0845 371 0891
www.wenta.co.uk

