



Teaching and Learning: Helping children develop the confidence and thinking skills needed to make informed health choices



Modeling effective and proven techniques

Our Educators are trained in a range of positive techniques and behaviour management strategies, which have been refined over many years, in close consultation with expert educational practitioners from a variety of backgrounds including Accelerated Learning, Child Psychology, Circle Time and Theatre-in-Education. At the end of their training a wide range of quality standards have to be met before they gain fully-qualified Educator status.¹

The positive teaching techniques used within our sessions aim to support the development of critical thinking skills, positive attitudes, communication and assertiveness skills, in addition to knowledge and understanding of the human body and things that can affect health. The varied teaching and learning strategies demonstrated by our Educators reflect the government's model of good practice as set out in the documents *Drugs: Guidance for Schools* (DfES, 2004) and *PSHE in Practice: Resource pack for Teachers in Primary Schools* (DfES, 2004), where recommendations are made for the inclusion of:

- Role-play/simulations
- Group work
- Audio/visual materials, supported by follow-up discussions
- Structured games
- Theatre-in-education techniques
- Quizzes
- Discussion
- Active learning techniques including:
 - Warm-up activities
 - Open ended questions
 - Structured debates
 - Engaging through story
 - Closing rounds (review)

Our sessions contain a balance of these elements.

You can find out more about our positive and dynamic teaching strategies in the *Life Education Guide to Teaching and Learning*. We have also created *Teacher Observation Sheets* to help teachers get the most out of observing and participating in a session. Teachers can choose a particular focus, for example, *Positive Behaviour Management* or *Teaching and Learning Strategies*.² Your Educator can advise on how to make the most of this opportunity.

The Mobile Classroom and LifeBase Interactive environments

Many of our teaching sessions take place in a specially designed mobile classroom, which is equipped to provide a stimulating and exciting learning environment. The mobile classroom is carefully designed to give children a very positive and memorable experience that will remain with them long after the visit has taken place. In addition to a comfortable carpeted space, the classroom features a number of electronic devices, such as a fibre optic ceiling that imitates a starry sky, an interactive 'talking brain' and specially designed audio/visual materials. With the skills of the Educator, these facilities combine to reinforce the sense of awe and wonder about the human body that the sessions inspire.

LifeBase Interactive uses space in school to deliver sessions that use innovative technology and an expanded range of sophisticated, dynamic teaching and learning strategies to ensure a memorable experience. This is an option for children aged 9-11 year olds.³

1 See *Educator Final Assessment Standards*

2 See *Teacher Observation Sheets*

3 See separate leaflet: **LifeBase Interactive** for more details

You can view these on our website.