HOPES, DREAMS AND ASPIRATIONS

This worksheet was produced as part of the FAHED project to be used within the ‘Your Child’s Future’ parent course. The worksheet provides parents with an opportunity to reflect upon the hopes, dreams and aspirations they have for their young person. It is therefore a particularly useful activity within the first session of a parent course to help a facilitator gain an insight into how parents feel about their children’s futures.

Examples of suggestions for how this worksheet can be used include:

1. Pre activity before a parent workshop or course. The worksheet could be sent to a parent prior to a workshop to give an opportunity for all parent(s) / guardian(s) to discuss their feelings about their child’s progression post compulsory education.

2. An icebreaker activity. The worksheet could be completed individually and then the content discussed in pairs with a different member in the group.

3. A small group activity. The worksheet could be used to stimulate group discussion, with the collective responses recorded under each heading.

Suitable for: All ages and backgrounds.

Poor literacy skills: Be aware of literacy issues. If you are working with families with low literacy levels this worksheet is best completed within small groups with support from a facilitator / student ambassador acting as a scribe.

Advantages:
You can encourage family dialogue about Higher Education by encouraging parents to dedicate some time at home to ask their son/daughter what their hopes, dreams and aspirations are. Encourage parents to share what they wrote / discussed in the workshop.

Disadvantages:
This exercise can take a long time depending on the size of the group as it requires input from each group member (on average 5 minutes per group member). Not the best exercise to do in a short one-off workshop. If working with large numbers, this exercise is best completed in pairs.
Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations

What hopes and dreams do you have for your child?

By the time my child leaves school I would like them to …..

What sort of job would you like your child to do in the future?

If you would like your child to go to university / higher education in the future what would you like them to do?

Would you like them to be able to live at home when they study?

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know

In the future I think my child would like to ……..