

FLYING HIGH DURING VISIT TO BOND HELICOPTERS

Pupils from Aberdeen's Tullos Primary School visited Bond Offshore Helicopters to learn about some of the oil and gas industry's most exciting career opportunities. The visit was part of an EnQuest initiative aimed at inspiring the next generation to join the energy sector, by working closely with some of its key suppliers to create hands-on, educational experiences.

The children took part in a simulated walk through of security and check-in procedures including watching a safety video and being shown how to put a survival suit on - before meeting some of the crew and getting a chance to sit on board a helicopter in the main hangar.

The pilot, Howard Hall, along with maintenance manager, Mike Cameron, gave the pupils an overview of how flights are planned and what it is like to fly offshore, as well as showing them the critical work that goes on behind the scenes to ensure the helicopters are all maintained to the required strict standards and regulations.

Neil McCulloch, President North Sea said: "Giving children an insight to the wide spectrum of career opportunities that the energy sector offers at an early age is important, given that it is the backbone of the local economy.

"It is particularly pertinent in light of the current and considerable challenges the industry is facing, which makes it more important than ever that we help youngsters understand that the industry still has a vibrant, long-term future ahead and offers exciting career prospects locally, nationally and globally. We hope that through our commitment to Tullos Primary and our close working relationship with Bond, the pupils gained a valuable insight into a key aspect of the oil and gas industry and are excited about the prospect of working in the sector."

Aileen McGowan, Head Teacher at Tullos Primary, said: "EnQuest has been a very supportive business partner to Tullos for many years. This year we looked at how we could increase the pupils' exposure to future career opportunities. Thanks to EnQuest's great working relationship with Bond, the pupils were able to get this wonderful opportunity. They returned to school full of enthusiasm and excitement about their visit."