

# Curriculum for Excellence: Leaving School/Making Positive Choices



## Welcome to Curriculum for Excellence: Leaving School/Making Positive Choices



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In Edinburgh we are committed to helping our young people to move into a positive destination on leaving school and to become:

- \* Successful learners
- \* Confident individuals
- \* Responsible citizens
- \* Effective contributors

We aim to enable all of our young people to find positive destinations. This booklet will give you information about the range of opportunities and support which are available to help you make a positive choice and how to access these opportunities:

- \* The Edinburgh Guarantee
- \* My World of Work
- \* Modern Apprenticeships
- \* Recruitwork – Teenwork
- \* Further Education
- \* Higher Education
- \* Activity Agreements
- \* Volunteering

## 16+ Learning Choices

16+ Learning Choices supports the senior phase of Curriculum for Excellence and ensures that all young people have an appropriate offer of staying in learning post-16. This may mean staying on at school or continuing learning in the workplace, college, university or training place.

Schools work closely with Skills Development Scotland, Community Learning and Development and the voluntary sector to ensure that school leavers have all the information and support they need to make the right choices and move successfully into their chosen career path.

The City of Edinburgh Council, in partnership with the public and private sectors, is committed to ensuring that all young people leaving school in Edinburgh will move on to a positive destination.



## The Edinburgh Guarantee

The Edinburgh Guarantee is a commitment that everyone who leaves school in our city should have access to a job, training, or further education. The City of Edinburgh Council works with partners to make sure that a range of opportunities exist to support young people as they acquire the skills to be successful in the job market.



The work of the Guarantee has produced new opportunities for young people including jobs, internships, Modern Apprenticeships and work placements, including the unique Inspiring Young People training scheme which provides a nine-month programme with a six-month waged placement.

The Edinburgh Guarantee is a unique coming together of all sectors of the city to provide a better future for all its school leavers. It is dedicated to helping every young person achieve a positive destination.

Visit the Edinburgh Guarantee at <http://edinburghguarantee.co.uk> to find out more.

## Recruitwork - Teenwork

**RECRUITWORK**

Recruitwork is a brand new website containing Teenwork, specifically designed for school leavers. Teenwork provides a platform to search for and apply for jobs, create CVs and benefit from information and advice from experts such as Tom Hunter.

All of the Edinburgh Guarantee opportunities are advertised on the Teenwork section of Recruitwork. Just register your details and set up alerts for jobs you are interested in.

<https://teenwork.co>



## Get On Gateway One Stop Shop for Information

In addition to the Edinburgh Guarantee, the City of Edinburgh Council offers a comprehensive range of employability services through the Get On Gateway. This is a dedicated helpline for people looking for work, training, volunteering or other opportunities, for anyone of any age living in Edinburgh.



Contact us at Get On Gateway 0131 529 6161/  
geton@edinburgh.gov.uk

Or visit us at [www.edinburgh.gov.uk/geton](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/geton)

### Career information and advice

#### My World of Work

The My World of Work website is designed to help young people explore their strengths and the options available to them. It helps them make the best decisions for their future. Through the interactive web service they can find out:

- \* what they're good at
- \* what's out there for them
- \* who can help them get there

As young people begin to explore their options for further learning and work, it is important that they understand their skills and strengths.

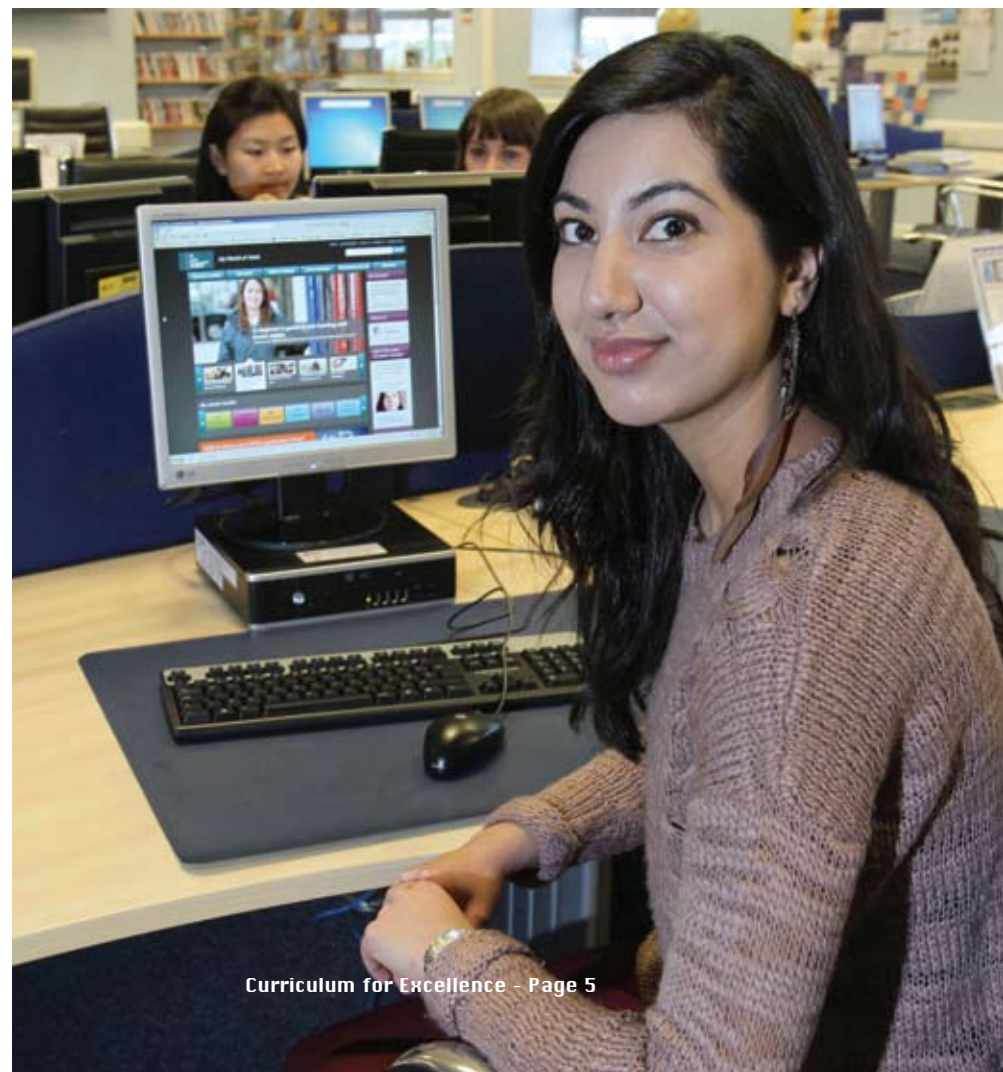
By logging on and registering on [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk), they will find lots of features and advice to help them, whatever stage they're at, including:

- \* Job Search
- \* My CV
- \* My Interview
- \* My DNA
- \* My Strengths
- \* Careers A-Z
- \* Course Choices

There is also information on the jobs market, useful articles, and advice on funding for learning and applying for further and higher education. Visit My World of Work to find out more.

[www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) – the web service for all your work, skills and learning needs

Call: Skills Development Scotland on  
0800 917 8000  
Drop in: SDS Centre, 79 Shandwick Place,  
Edinburgh EH2 4SD



## Modern Apprenticeships and Training

### The Modern Apprenticeship (MA)

The Modern Apprenticeship programme is a top choice for young people looking to earn while they learn, and more than 25,000 young people in Scotland choose to pursue an MA every year.

There is a vast choice in apprenticeship opportunities across all industries and job types, from wind turbine engineer to hairdresser.

With an MA a young person receives a wage as well as:

- \* On-the-job training
- \* Classroom based training
- \* A nationally recognised qualification

### Training

Skills Development Scotland and local training providers deliver employability programmes that aim to equip young people with the skills they need for the workplace. Most training programmes offer a training allowance and the opportunity to go on a work experience placement, as well as practice in employability skills.

### Certificate of Work Readiness

From 2013 many training programmes will offer the opportunity to gain the new Certificate of Work Readiness. The certificate is SQA accredited and provides proof to employers that a young person is ready to succeed in the work place.

While the Certificate is open to everyone, priority is given to:

- \* 16 to 19 year olds
- \* those with a positive attitude to work
- \* those who want to develop extra skills and who could benefit from help in getting and staying in a job

Skills Development Scotland has wide range of employability courses and training opportunities. To find out more visit [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)



Call: Skills Development Scotland on  
0800 917 8000  
Drop in: SDS Centre, 79 Shandwick Place,  
Edinburgh EH2 4SD



## Further Education

Edinburgh College has a wide range of facilities which provide students with excellent real-life working environments and recognised qualifications.

The college is spread across four campus locations:

- \* Sighthill Campus
- \* Granton Campus
- \* Milton Road Campus
- \* Midlothian Campus

### College courses

College courses can be part-time or full-time. Courses are designed to help you work towards a job, to get you started in a career or to prepare you for Higher Education.

### Qualifications

There is a wide range of courses available, from an introduction to vocational skills to Higher National Diplomas. The level of qualification and the type of course you take will depend on your previous qualifications, your work and life experience and your interests.



To find out more about Edinburgh College and the opportunities and courses on offer, visit [www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/welcome](http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk/welcome)

## Higher Education

Edinburgh is university city as we have four very different universities within or around the city:

- \* The University of Edinburgh
- \* Heriot-Watt University
- \* Napier University
- \* Queen Margaret University

Going to university means more than just getting a qualification. Many university courses today have a focus on developing the essential skills that people need in the world of work:

- \* Self-confidence
- \* Communication skills
- \* Commitment and perseverance
- \* Ability to take the initiative
- \* Good teamworking skills
- \* Time management skills

### Edinburgh's universities

- \* The University of Edinburgh – has over 500 degree courses in a wide range of subjects.  
Visit [www.ed.ac.uk](http://www.ed.ac.uk)
- \* Heriot-Watt University – a leading university for business and industry  
Visit [www.hw.ac.uk](http://www.hw.ac.uk)
- \* Napier University – offers industry informed courses which combine theory and practice.  
Visit [www.napier.ac.uk](http://www.napier.ac.uk)
- \* Queen Margaret University – have expertise in health, business, creativity and culture  
Visit [www.qmu.ac.uk](http://www.qmu.ac.uk)

### How to apply for a university course

If you would like to find out more about how to apply for a Higher Education course at a university then please visit [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)

## Activity Agreements

### What is an Activity Agreement?

Activity Agreements are a national initiative to engage those young people (16–19 years old) who are unemployed and require additional support and skills in order to reach a positive destination.

An Activity Agreement is an agreement between a young person and an activity coach to develop a programme of learning activities. It will be tailored to help develop their skills to enable them to access further training, education or employment opportunities.

### What does an Activity Agreement involve?

- \* Each young person has an activity coach to help discuss and consider options best suited to them.
- \* Training is sourced to help develop knowledge, skills and experience on an individual basis.
- \* Support is given to help identify and reduce barriers to accessing training and employment.
- \* Ongoing support will be provided until the young person has achieved their goal of a positive destination.
- \* Local Hubs will provide access points for regular support, group work and peer support.
- \* Young people may be eligible for an Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) of £30 if they take part in an Activity Agreement.

### Where are the Hubs?

West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre

Gracemount Youth and Children's Centre (The Mansion)

Slateford Green Community Centre

Castleview Community Centre

Gate 13 (Employability Hub)

Gate 55

Leith Community Centre

6VT Youth Cafe

Drumbrae Library

Careers Cafe – Citadel Youth Centre

Contact us at [activityagreements@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:activityagreements@edinburgh.gov.uk)

## Volunteering

Volunteering is an excellent way of helping your community, learning new skills, meeting new people and building up experiences which may help you plan your next steps.

### Training

Many of the volunteer projects will include training, which will be useful both on the project and in later life.

### Influence career choice

Volunteering gives you the opportunity to find out more about what you like to do and how you like to work.

### Experience

Volunteering gives you a chance to get experience in a field you would like to work in.

### Improve job prospects and employability

Volunteering can help your future employment prospects and enable employers to see that you have developed the necessary skills you may need in their organisation.

### Builds links with organisations

Volunteering can help you build links with particular organisations like colleges and community organisations.

### Volunteering is fun

Volunteering is fun and fulfilling, allowing you to experience many opportunities not always available to you elsewhere.

To find out more about how you could volunteer and what opportunities there are for volunteering in Edinburgh, please visit the Edinburgh Volunteer Network website [www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk](http://www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk)

## Useful Websites

Edinburgh Guarantee  
<http://theedinburghguarantee.co.uk>

Recruitwork (Teenwork)  
<https://teenwork.co>

Get On  
[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/geton](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/geton)

My World of Work  
[www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk)

My Job Scotland  
[www.myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk)

UCAS  
[www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com)

Edinburgh College  
[www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk)

Community Learning and Development – Join In  
[www.joininedinburgh.org](http://www.joininedinburgh.org)

Jobcentre Plus  
[www.gov.uk/jobsearch](http://www.gov.uk/jobsearch)

Volunteer Centre  
[www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk](http://www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk)

Joined up for Jobs Noticeboard  
[www.joinedupforjobs.org.uk/forum](http://www.joinedupforjobs.org.uk/forum)

Young Scot Careers  
[www.youngscot.org/info/jobs-careers](http://www.youngscot.org/info/jobs-careers)

Starting Your Own Business  
[www.psybt.org.uk](http://www.psybt.org.uk)





## HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

ترجمے کے لئے حاضر بسعدنا توفير الترجمة 很樂意翻譯  
MOŻEMY PRZETŁUMACZYĆ անձե՛ր սեճե անսւա՛ճ ԿրԵԵ

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