

ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS

Policy Context

1. Scottish Government - 'Opportunities for All'
2. Highland Council
 - Single Outcome Agreement with Government
 - Strategy and Planning
 - GIRFEC (Getting it Right for Every Child)
 - Curriculum for Excellence

ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS IN HIGHLAND

Activity Agreements are intended to improve outcomes and destinations for school leavers who are unable or unready to access other post school options because of significant barriers.

ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE

- Referrals from Careers Advisors, Social Workers, schools or other professionals
- Aged 16 to 18 (19 for those who have additional support needs)
- Care Leavers; have disabilities or other support needs; excluded from school; not attending school; young parents; other risk factors

A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

- Schools
- 'Trusted Professionals'
- Providers
- Employers
- Highland Council Services
- Voluntary Organisations
- Awareness-raising/
Information/Training/Networks

TRUSTED PROFESSIONAL

- *Helps young people set up the Agreement*
- *Supports them throughout*
- *Monitors progress with them*
- Skills Development Scotland (Careers Services)
- Youth Workers
- Youth Action Team (Youth Justice)
- Social Work Services
- Barnardos Springboard (Voluntary Organisation)
- Highland Council Employability Advisors

DELIVERY

- Over 150 professionals from more than 90 different organisations and businesses are now involved in supporting or delivering Activity Agreements in Highland.
- There are as many types of Agreement as there are participants
- Agreements are flexible and person-centred
- They are tailored to the needs, wishes and aspirations of young people.

Meeting the Needs of Young People

Young mums support project
Highland Bike project
Highland Print studio – photography, art
Classical Vocal training – music tutor
Voluntary work with primary pupils -
literacy project for schools, community
sports leaders
Voluntary awards – Youth Achievement
awards
'Skills for Work' Awards in Rural Skills

Forestry Ranger Service
IT multi-media & “e” inclusion
Outdoor education qualifications –
coaching courses
First Aid Certificates
Food Hygiene
ICT qualification
Driving theory test
Construction Skills Certificate
Event organising with local nursery

OUTCOMES

440 have signed up for Activity Agreements since January 2010
244 current

196 young people have completed their Activity Agreement
154 of them have achieved a positive destination: 79%

- 'Get Ready for Work' training course - 44
- College of Further Education - 54
- Return to school - 5
- Employment (full or part-time) - 41
- Apprenticeships - 7
- Volunteering – 3

Of the remaining 42, 9 left Highland area; 12 left for health reasons;
21 are unemployed or unable to be contacted

70% currently are in receipt of Education Maintenance Allowance