

Opportunities for All: A partnership approach

Opportunities for All is a core component of Scotland's Youth Employment Strategy.

Delivery of this demands that partners know and understand their young people, whether they are participating or not and what provision they are accessing. This includes all young people at any time from their 16th to their 20th birthday.

This reinforces the responsibility on all relevant partners to work together, gathering and sharing information on young people's learning and training, ensuring that it is accurate and complete. These strategies and practices are central to the delivery of Opportunities for All and will significantly reduce the risk of a young person disengaging with learning and/or training.

Through information sharing and partnership with local authorities, schools, colleges, DWP and others, we can ensure that young people are given the right support, enabling them to reach their full potential and enter positive destinations such as further/higher education, training or employment.



“Not everyone leaving school has a university course, training position or job to go to. Through partnership working and information sharing, we can identify those young people and tailor local provision for them. That has fantastic benefits for the community as a whole.”

Emma Fairley Opportunities for All Co-ordinator, Scottish Borders Council

“The main benefit of data sharing is that no pupil will leave the school system without us being aware of where they will potentially go next.”

Patricia Morton Principal Teacher, Castle Douglas High School

“At the moment, we provide information on students who enrol and leave courses, but acting on information received from the hub is a positive next step for us.”

Angus Allan Depute Principal, South Lanarkshire College

“Information Sharing is a positive step forward as we try to help young people into a positive destination who might otherwise not have been identified to us.”

Brian Wallace Partnership Manager, Department for Work and Pensions

For more information:
sds.co.uk/information-sharing

Find out more about Skills Development Scotland online at sds.co.uk



Skills Development Scotland

16+ Information Sharing Opportunities for All



What is Opportunities for All: 16+ Information Sharing?

The Scottish Government's **Opportunities for All** commitment offers a place in learning or training to every 16-19 year old not in employment, education or training. In addition it outlines what information should be shared by key partners for this group.

Why are we sharing this information?

Having a complete set of data supplied by a range of partners enables front line staff to provide more effective, targeted support to those not in learning, training or employment and who are at risk of disengagement.

It is crucial that the right support is in place for this age group as they move through each transition in education, training or employment.

Effective information sharing between partners allows for quick identification and engagement with any young person who has not secured a positive destination after school, who has failed to complete a course of learning/training or who is not in employment.



The 16+ Data Hub

The 16+ Data Hub is a secure online portal which allows a range of partners including Skills Development Scotland (SDS) to input to and access a combined database of information on individuals as outlined in the legislation requirements.

16+ Data Hub reports

This information helps partners provide targeted support to young people, specifically those not in education, training or employment. The information includes details of all young people aged 16-24 who are:

- receiving careers support
- planning on leaving school
- starting and withdrawing from college or university
- receiving benefits.

The exchange of data enables combined information on young people to be drawn down as reports that are tailored to partners' specific areas. Regular uploading of data by partners ensures these reports are up to date and informative.

The Participation Measure

This is a new measure being developed by SDS and the Scottish Government which will inform the Scottish Government's National Performance Indicator, "to increase the proportion of young people in learning, training and work". It will support the overall ambitions of Opportunities for All and allow an assessment of the impact and support provided by partner agencies on the 16-19 age group. This will help young people access the support, learning and training they need as they move towards employment.

The data shared between key partners is used to produce the Participation Measure and shows the current activity that 16-19 year olds are participating in at a national and local authority level.

Benefits of 16+ Information Sharing

Young people

- appropriate interventions ensure young people receive effective support and services tailored to their needs
- young people are supported throughout their learning journey by different service delivery professionals ensuring they get the help and guidance they need to move into and sustain positive destinations.

Local authorities

- more comprehensive and robust management information allows for more accurate and complete reporting
- up to date information allows local authorities to be proactive and support those who need it most.

Schools

- data at an individual level allows for a focus on the small percentage that do not move into positive destinations. The best routes can be identified to help young people who need it most
- it will help schools understand the impact of their curriculum and the destinations that their pupils move onto. The information on leaver destinations will be available through Insight (the online statistical tool used to evaluate school performance and the outcome of school leavers).

Colleges

- having access to a wider set of information from a range of partners will help colleges identify if a specific student needs additional support.

