

Section 1

More Choices, More Chances

– Professional Development Initiatives

Background

In response to the government strategy document, More Choices, More Chances (MCMC), Scotland's Colleges has designed a programme of professional development initiatives. The aim of the MCMC strategy is to reduce the number of young people who are not engaged in education, employment or training and to offer support to those young people to take up positive destinations in education or training when leaving school. The professional development initiative will provide a range of research activity, project outputs and professional development opportunities to staff within colleges and to their partners from other agencies who will be working directly with young people who are at risk of disengagement from education. The project has a number of elements, including workshops, seminars and conferences. (Find details on the Scotland's Colleges Events Website).



Open Workshop Programme

Developing the Protective Factors that Enable Young Learners to Succeed

Aims

This interactive full day session will allow participants to explore their role in developing the protective factors that enable young learners to succeed by:

- identifying the presenting behaviours of young learners at risk of disengagement
- identifying the factors that enable some young learners to 'succeed against the odds'
- exploring the concept of resilience and the factors that help young people 'bounce back'
- identifying support structures within their professional context.

Target audience

Teaching and classroom support staff, programme leaders, curriculum managers and partner organisations

Lead

Sandy MacLean

Dates

Friday 22 January 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

Monday 19 April 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

This is a free event, further details and a booking form for this event can be found at <http://www.sfeu.ac.uk/>



Open Workshop Programme

Supporting 'at risk' learners: a whole college targeted approach

Aims

This interactive full day session will provide participants with the opportunity to consider the wider issues relating to young peoples disengagement from education by:

- identifying some groups of young people most at risk of disengagement, and social exclusion.
- identifying the significance of a whole college approach to engagement with young learners
- embedding good practice in supporting young people within all mainstream college systems
- considering issues of confidentiality and information sharing in relation to young people

Target audience

Staff with responsibility for planning, managing and delivering college provision to young people who might be at risk of disengagement. Staff with responsibility for developing and delivering advice, support and guidance systems for young people in colleges.

Lead

Geraldine Ratcliffe

Dates

Tuesday 16 February 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

Tuesday 04 May 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

This is a free event, further details and a booking form for this event can be found at <http://www.sfeu.ac.uk/>



Open Workshop Programme

Embedding Curriculum for Excellence principles in Employment Linked Activity

Aims

This interactive full day session will provide participants with the opportunity to consider issues relating to employability for young people at risk of disengagement by:

- identifying current good practice in developing learner employability skills
- to explore the ways in which the four capacities of a curriculum for excellence are developed through employability skills
- recognising where and how to embed the principles of curriculum for excellence to strengthen employability skills development
- exploring tools and techniques which facilitate the recognition and recording of achievement of essential skills in the wider context of a learners life experience

Target audience

College staff, curriculum managers, employability coordinators, school link coordinators, Job Centre Plus, SDS, partners and employers

Lead

Ann Kirkwood

Dates

Friday 13 November 2009 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

Thursday 04 March 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

Monday 24 May 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

This is a free event, further details and a booking form for this event can be found at <http://www.sfeu.ac.uk/>



Open Workshop Programme

Peer Mentoring to support transition between school and college

Aims

This full day session will provide participants with an opportunity to consider the value of a peer mentoring approach and to review the contents of a toolkit containing training resources and scheme documentation by:

- identifying the essential elements of a peer mentoring programme in a college context
- reviewing a training programme for peer mentors
- considering scheme management and documentation requirements
- considering quality framework and evaluation mechanisms

Target audience

College teaching staff, learner support services staff, learning assistants, school-college coordinators, youth workers, school senior phase staff.

Lead

Geraldine Ratcliffe

Dates

Friday 04 December 2009 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

Thursday 25 March 2010 Scotland's Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

Friday 18 June 2010 Colleges, Argyll Court, Stirling

This is a free event, further details and a booking form for this event can be found at <http://www.sfeu.ac.uk/>



Open Workshop Programme

Building Futures

Building Futures is a programme of professional learning designed to develop the capacity of staff in Scotland's colleges to respond to the needs of young learners within the More Choices More Chances strategy. The programme builds on the knowledge, skills and confidence of staff learning and working with young people in college. All staff will complete Unit 1. It is recommended that learning and teaching staff progress to Unit 2 and support staff progress to Unit 3.

Building Futures has been designed to align with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 7.

Unit 1

Understanding the Context for Engagement

This unit explores the current societal, economic and educational landscape for young people with an emphasis on More Choices More Chances learners.

Unit 2

Curriculum Design and Delivery for Engaging and Re-engaging Young People (Optional)

This unit explores the features and principles associated with curriculum design for young people at risk of disengagement

Unit 3

Supporting the Mental Health and Wellbeing of Young People. (Optional)

This unit explores a range of wellbeing issues associated with younger students and the impact this can have on engagement and disengagement.

There are a number of free places on this programme. Please contact Garry Cameron for further details.