



Renfrewshire Council Children's Services

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[Senior Phase Pathway Offer 2021-22](#)



Welcome

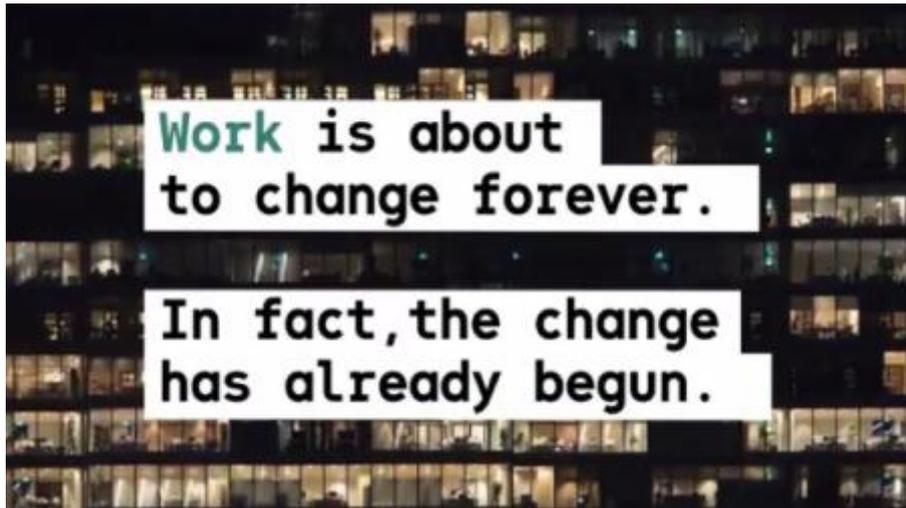


In Renfrewshire Council there are several exciting opportunities open to you in your Senior Phase to prepare you for life beyond school. The Senior Phase Pathways Offer highlights Renfrewshire Council's increased focus on skills for life and work, accreditation of Wider Accreditation and Achievement programmes and more work-based learning choices you can undertake in S4, S5 or S6. These include opportunities such as Foundation Apprenticeships, College courses, Online courses, Volunteering, and Work Placements. This Senior Phase Offer also includes some useful information you may find useful, including information on Free School Meals, Skills Development Scotland (SDS), Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and extra supports available to you. Read through this booklet carefully and if there is anything you are interested in, speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher for more information and support.

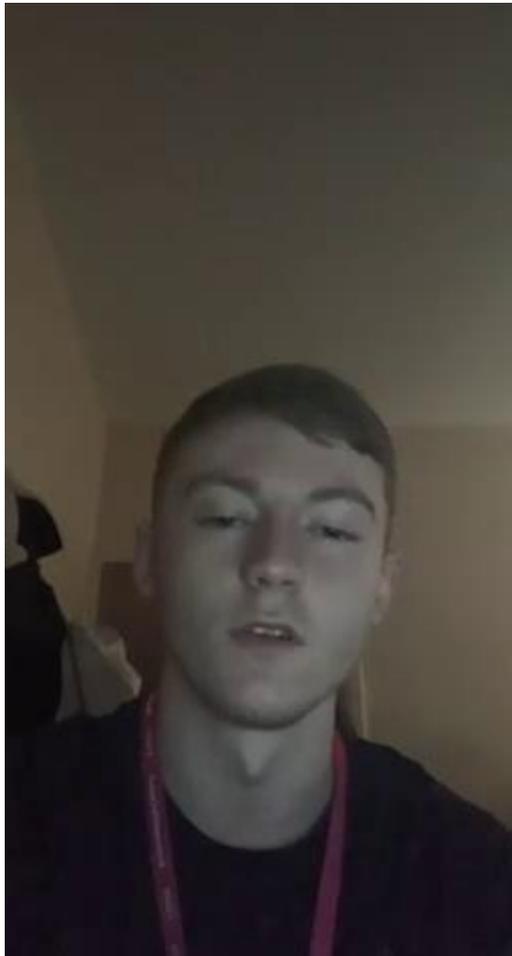
Renfrewshire Guarantee



All young people in Renfrewshire schools within the senior phase, are guaranteed the following:



Why study a Foundation Apprenticeship?



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<https://sway.office.com/RFCxPTMTLs7P4bwO#content=QPt6czzFKAoUg>

Work Based Learning at SCQF Level 4, 5 and 6 – Foundation Apprenticeships

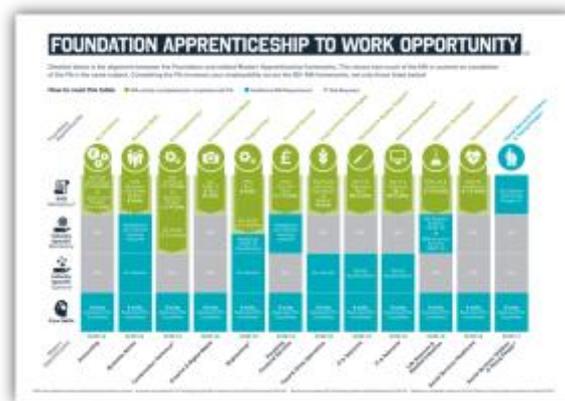
What is a Foundation Apprenticeship?

Foundation Apprenticeships (FA'S) have been developed by Skills Development Scotland (SDS) in partnership with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) and Employers.

They provide school pupils in S4, S5 or S6 with the skills employers need, offering industry knowledge and experience which leads to a nationally recognised work-based learning qualification at SCQF L4, 5 and 6. The level of qualification is the same SCQF Level as a National 4, National 5 and Higher, however the learning context is different.



The learning experience involves a blend of both academic and work-based learning. The hands-on experience in the workplace environment can help motivate, raise attainment and achievement, and develop important skills employers are looking for such as resilience, problem solving, communication and teamwork. Visit <http://www.apprenticeships.scot> to find out more about the framework availability in your school.



Why study a Foundation Apprenticeship in the senior phase?

Here are just a few reasons why you should consider taking a Foundation Apprenticeship as one of your subject choices:

- *Learn the skills you need for the future whilst still at school*
 - *Develop the hands-on experience and skills employers need*
 - *Get industry experience and a nationally recognised qualification*
 - *Gain skills to understand what the world of work is like*
 - *Get a foot in the door with an employer*
 - *Broaden your options by exploring an industry*
 - *Continuous assessment and no end exam (except Accountancy)*
 - *Supports your progression after school*
-

How does it work?

You choose a Foundation Apprenticeship as one of your school subjects. If you choose to study a Foundation Apprenticeship you will spend your time with a local Learning Provider i.e., College and Employers. Whilst undertaking your Foundation Apprenticeship you will continue to gain qualifications by completing your other school course subjects. Studying a Foundation Apprenticeship is a fantastic way for you to gain real life work experience and prepare you for life beyond school.

You will be involved in a variety of work-based learning activities including industry projects or work placements undertaken either virtually and/or in person. You will be assessed throughout the programme and develop a portfolio of evidence to achieve the qualification. There are no final exams held (with exception of Accountancy).

You choose a Foundation Apprenticeship as one of your school subjects.

Foundation Apprenticeship can take place either over one school year or two school years, therefore it is important they are timetabled correctly for the duration of the course.

How do Foundation Apprenticeships support career pathways?

Foundation Apprenticeships are available in subject areas which are linked to growth areas of the Scottish economy that have identified current and future skills gaps.

Foundation Apprenticeships can give you a head start in your career and can support progression to other apprenticeship opportunities that are available when you enter the world of work i.e., Modern Apprenticeships (SCQF L5-12) and Graduate Apprenticeships (degree to master's level). You can find more information on these apprenticeships at www.apprenticeships.scot.

If you choose to continue into further study the Foundation Apprenticeship can support progression into a related HNC/HND subject area and is recognised by all Scottish Colleges and Universities as a Higher equivalent entry qualification.

What subjects are offered?

On your S5 or S6 option form you can select from the following Foundation Apprenticeship subjects

2-year programme (L5 and L6)

- *Business Skills*
 - *Civil Engineering*
 - *Digital Manufacturing*
 - *Social Services Children and Young People*
-

1-year programme (L4, L5 and L6)

- *Accountancy*
 - *Business Skills*
 - *Engineering*
 - *Social Services and Healthcare*
 - *Social Services Children and Young People*
-

Further information on individual Foundation Apprenticeships - [Click Here](#)

For further information on Foundation Apprenticeships at West College Scotland - [Click Here](#)

How do I apply?

If you would like to study a Foundation Apprenticeship as part of your school subjects, please read the relevant subject information and ensure you meet specific entry criteria. Please also discuss this with your guidance/pastoral teacher and complete the application form.

Who can I contact for more information?

For more information on Foundation Apprenticeships please contact your Pastoral Support Teacher.

Please note: Some elements of the Foundation Apprenticeship programmes are subject to change, including college campus and finish times.



Glasgow Kelvin College also offer Foundation Apprenticeships. For more information please - [Click Here](#)





**WEST COLLEGE
SCOTLAND**

**SOCIAL SERVICES
AND HEALTHCARE
FOUNDATION
APPRENTICESHIP**

Read on to find out how to get a head start
in your career at West College Scotland



**WEST COLLEGE
SCOTLAND**

**CIVIL ENGINEERING
FOUNDATION
APPRENTICESHIP**

Read on to find out how to get a head start
in your career at West College Scotland



Why choose My Future Pathway?



<https://sway.office.com/RFCxPTMTLs7P4bwO#content=XdGEJapOhtHgFC>

My Future Pathway course is available to Senior Phase pupils across Renfrewshire. If you would be interested in finding out more about this course, please speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher.







This programme was developed to empower you, build your confidence and self-esteem to help you make informed decisions around the sustainable opportunities available to you beyond school.

This is a 30-week Construction pathway programme which aims to prepare you for a career within the Construction sector.

Activities include:

- *Weekly employability sessions*
 - *Employer talks & networking opportunities*
 - *A range of taster days, site visits, mock interviews culminating in a two-week work placement*
 - *Industry challenges*
 - *Opportunity to gain qualifications (Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) Card, Health and Safety Certificate L1, x2 Digital Qualifications and City & Guilds Employability Construction Badge. (SQA Level 4 Employability Award).*
-

What happens next?

Once you have completed the course you will progress onto an interview for a Modern Apprenticeship & an interview for NPA College Courses depending on the route you wish to take.

- *Level 4 NC Introduction to Construction Skills*
 - *Level 5 NPA Construction Skills*
 - *Level 5 NPA (Bricklaying, Joinery, painting and Decorating)*
-

Delivery

While the programme is often flexible to suit the needs of young people, pupils are expected to attend weekly employability sessions.



Please note, numbers permitting a condensed programme August – December for Winter Leavers may run.

2021/2022 Programme:

Weekly Employability Session- Wednesday 1.30-3.30pm

Similar My Future Pathway Offers in Hospitality and Digital Manufacturing will be available soon. More information to follow. If you are interested in either Hospitality and/or Digital Manufacturing, please speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher.



*My Future Pathway is open to all senior pupils, but you **MUST** be leaving school the summer on completion – so for example if you are applying in August 2022, you will be a June 2023 leaver.*

For Construction, pupils must be 16 by the following March due to Health and Safety, and age restrictions for CSCS cards.



West College Scotland- Courses





<https://sway.office.com/RFCxPTMTLs7P4bwO#content=esPQl442sUqUBB>

West College Scotland has a number of courses which could be taken as part of your Senior Phase Curriculum. Have a look at the courses on West College Scotland's website and have a discussion with your Pastoral Support Teacher to decide what is the most appropriate course for you to follow and in which columns you would be able to complete it. Here is the link to their website-

<https://www.westcollegescotland.ac.uk/courses/course-directory/courses/>

Below you will find West College Scotland's most up to date information on courses available.

How Does It Work?



- In your 4th, 5th or 6th year you can pick a Vocational Course
- Courses run from August – April and come under your Column D (Tues/Thurs) or Column E (Wed/Fri) options
- It is a combination of school and college
- Course start time is 1.45pm – 4.00pm
- Your school will arrange the appropriate travel to and from college on the days you attend.
- Successful completion of your schools course can lead to full time college education.

WCS Courses offered - Tuesday and Thursday



- SFW Childcare
- SFW Construction Crafts
- Performing Engineering Operations
- Higher Psychology –S6 only *must have achieved Higher English
- Hospitality Essentials (Aug-Dec)
- NPA Music
- Social Media & Animation
- Begin Beauty
- SFW Hairdressing

WCS Courses offered- Wednesday and Friday



- SFW Childcare
- SFW Construction Crafts
- Car Mechanics
- Higher Psychology –S6 only *must have achieved Higher English
- NPA Professional Cookery
- Higher Dance
- Higher Photography
- Begin Beauty
- Begin Make-up Artistry
- SFW Hairdressing

WCS HNC Courses offered- 4 afternoons



- HNC Business (infill into full-time class)
- HNC Accounting (infill into full-time class)
- HNC Travel & Tourism (2 full Days TBC) (Infill into full-time class)

HNC class times are 1pm-4pm and will run from August-June

WCS- New Courses



- PDA Industrial Automation/Advanced Manufacturing – Day TBC
- NPA - Administration: Office Skills and Services at SCQF Level 5 & NPA - Information Technology and Audio – Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
- NPA in Digital Skills for Entrepreneurship and Business with Information Technology L6 – Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
- PDA Medical Administration L7 – S6 only - Tues/Wed/Thurs/Fri
- PDA in Introductory Leadership and Management at SCQF level 6 – Wed/Fri
- PDA Business Finance L7 – S6 only - Wed/Fri
- PDA Office Administration L7 – S6 only - Wed/Fri
- NPA Legal studies L6 – Friday
- ESOL access to college- Day TBC
- Introduction to TEFL- Day TBC
- NQ Cabin Crew and Airport Operations L5 – Tues/Thurs PM
- NPA Computer Games Development – Tues/Thurs
- NPA Bakery – Wed/Fri
- SFW Hospitality – Wed/Fri
- NPA Criminology – Wed/Fri
- Human Body Structure & Function – S6 only (Wednesday PM Only)
- Activity and Adventure Tourism with events L4 – Wed/Fri pm

WCS- New S4 Courses – Days TBC



- Creative Beauty Skills with Hair Styling – SCQF 4
- Hairdressing – SCQF 4
- Make-up Artistry – SCQF 4
- Hair, Beauty and Make-up – SCQF 4
- Health Sector – SCQF 4
- Construction – SCQF 4

How do I apply?



- You can apply for a Schools Vocational Programme by letting your Guidance Teacher know which course you would like to study.
- Your teacher will check that you have all the appropriate entry requirements for your chosen subject.
- Your school will inform us of your chosen choice.
- There will be an interview/personal statement required for you to complete to let us know why you should be chosen for the course.

WCS Contact Information



For more information on any of the courses or the process on how to apply please contact:

Kelly Ewing (School Liaison Co-Ordinator)

0141 581 2139

Kelly.Ewing@wcs.ac.uk

or

Donna MacLeod (School Liaison Administrator)

0141 581 2257

Donna.Macleod@wcs.ac.uk

Consortium



2 - Gleniffer High School



3 - Johnstone High School



4 - Linwood High School



5 - Renfrew High School

There are many exciting opportunities open to you with our consortium offer. So, if you are unable to get your specialised option choices for S5/S6, there may be an opportunity to study your option at another secondary school in Renfrewshire. We normally try to accommodate pupils in a school within their own locality for ease of travel. Please see what may be available to you below -

(H= Higher. AH= Advanced Higher)

H/AH Modern Languages (French and Spanish)

H/AH Biology, Chemistry, Physics

H/AH Art and Design

H/AH Music

H/AH Graphic Communication, Design and Manufacturing

H/AH Computing

H/AH History, Geography, Modern Studies

H/AH Business Management

H/AH RMPS

H/AH PE

H Psychology

It is important to note that you may or may not be offered a place based on the availability within the consortium school, and these Higher and Advanced Higher courses will only run depending on pupil uptake. If you are interested in studying a subject at another school, you must speak to your Depute Head Teacher who deals with Consortium as soon as possible.

Travel Expenses



If you are concerned about the financial implication of travelling between your school and a consortium school, please remember that your school will support you with this. You will either be able to get a bus ticket or a taxi depending on how far the consortium school is. Please speak to your Pastoral Teacher for further information.

Is a Work Placement Opportunity for you?





<https://sway.office.com/RFCxPTMTLs7P4bwO#content=PAHBIQC4fpKTYT>

Aged 14 onwards you are entitled to a work placement which is supported by your school. Some pupils will benefit from work placements being timetabled into their school week, a weeklong work placement, and some may complete work placements at the end of the school day or during their holidays. All models are equally as relevant, and you should do what is best for you. Some pupils can get a work placement which they have found for themselves. Some pupils will need support with organising a work placement. There are several ways you can source a work placement e.g., through your family and friends, through the school or looking on the WorkIT work placement website. If you know your WorkIT login, click on the link below. If not, speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher and they will be able to source it for you.



[WorkIT Website](#)

Work placements are a great way to get experience of the world of work whilst still at school. They can help you make the correct course choices in your Senior Phase, build your skills, and make you more employable when you leave school. Having a positive work placement will allow you to understand some of the expectations that are expected from the work force. It will also help to inform you whether a college or university course is the right path for you to pursue, or should you consider an apprenticeship or employment when you leave school. If you feel you would benefit from a regular work placement as part of your school week, speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher.



Volunteering Opportunities- S4, S5 and S6 Pupils



Why should you be interested in volunteering?

Have you ever considered volunteering? If not, why not? It is a great way to gain new skills, meet new people and make yourself far more attractive to a prospective employer, college, or university.

As part of your Senior Phase curriculum, it may be possible to volunteer whilst you are still at school, after school, weekends, or during your school holidays. Volunteering is a great way to experience the world of work whilst contributing positively to your community and society, it will also help you to stand out from the crowd. In addition, it will highlight your ability to work as part of a team, communicate effectively, be reliable, and highlight that you are a kind and caring person. All very desirable and sought-after skills.

What to do next?

Your school is likely to have a volunteering co-ordinator. Speak to your Pastoral Support teacher to find out who this is and find out what your options are for volunteering. Many pupils who volunteer can also obtain a volunteering qualification.

There are many ways in which you can volunteer. To get yourself started, speak to your teacher, and scan the QR code below to find out what opportunities are available to you.

<https://volunteer.engagerenfrewshire.com/index-classic>



Online Courses for S4, S5 and S6 pupils

Online learning is a great way to support your personal development, build your skills and prepare you for your next stage of learning. If you undertake an online course it will highlight to any prospective employer, College or University that you are motivated and very keen to learn. Below are just some of the free online courses available at Future Learn. For more information and more courses please click on this link- <https://www.futurelearn.com/>

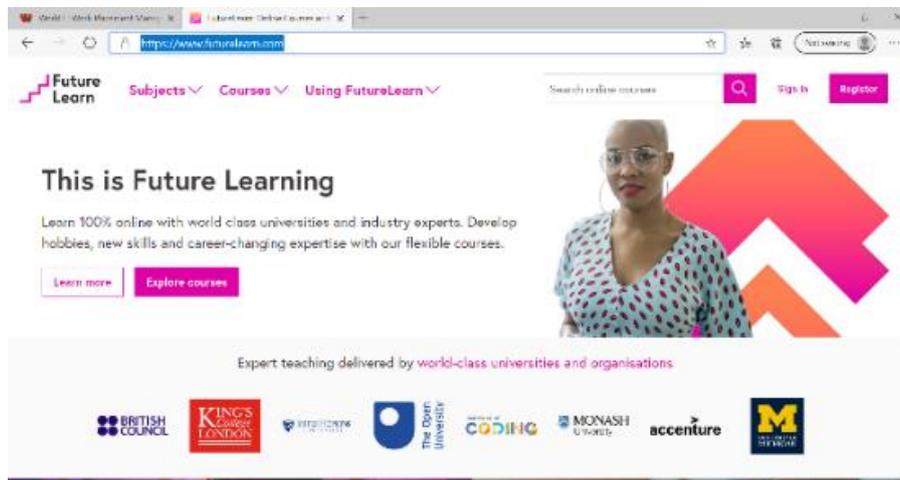


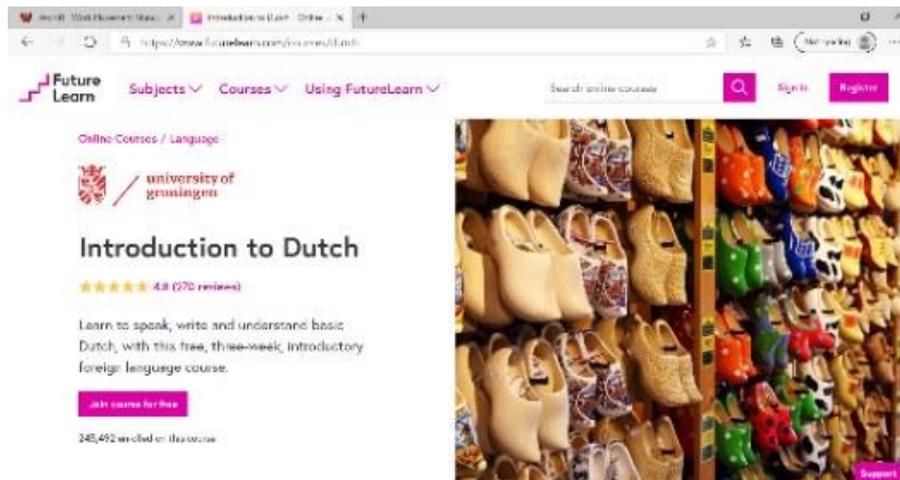


You can complete any of these online courses in your own time or alternatively you can choose several online courses to complete during one of your study period columns if you are in S6. Speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher to find out what is the best plan for you to complete these courses.

[Online Future Learn Courses](#)

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Online Courses- West College Scotland Level 4 and 5



West College Scotland have over 50 free Online Courses at Certificate Level 2 which is equivalent to a Level 4/5. You will find these below. These courses can be taken at your own pace and once completed you will gain an e-certificate. Each of the courses are accredited by Training Qualifications UK (TQUK) which is recognised by many employers and is used regularly as part of pre-employment training. Therefore, if you complete some of these courses, you will be more employable to any prospective employer. These courses are open book, which means when it comes to assessment you can refer to your prior learning. However, each of these courses require the same detail and attention you would give to any course you would take within school. [Click here to find out more information-](#)

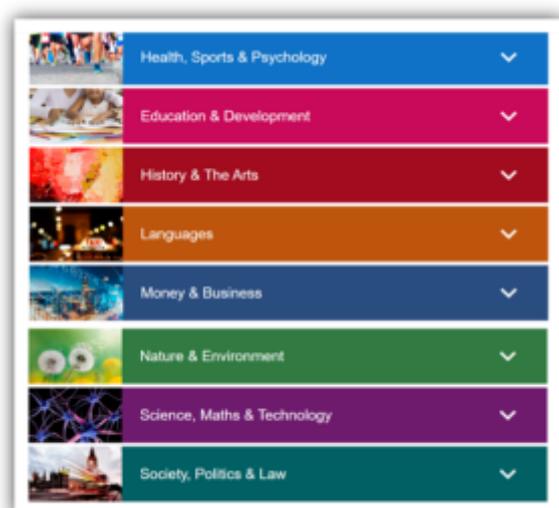
[Course List](#)

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Open University- for S5 and S6 pupils (Level 6 & 7)



The Open University (OU) is another great way to learn something new at your own pace and in your own time. Your school may provide a space for you to work to complete your open university courses. The OU provides around 5% of its formal course materials as free open educational content every year on OpenLearn. OpenLearn includes over 1,000 free courses. Learners can filter by subject, skills for life, skills for study or search by any term.



All OpenLearn courses:

- *Provide a free, downloadable Open University Statement of participation available on completion.*
 - *Can be studied by anyone at any time, with no cohorts, presentation dates or time limits.*
 - *Are stand-alone learning experiences, with distinct learning outcomes.*
 - *Can be 1-24+ hours long. Our 'lunchtime learning courses' are 3 hours or under.*
 - *Are available for free and offered with a Creative Commons licence.*
 - *Are available for free in other accessible formats for download and offline study, including Word, PDF and ePub. These ebooks are also published for free to Amazon (for Kindle users), Google Play and iTunes.*
-

Learners use OpenLearn courses to find out what university level study is like, to choose the topic of university study, to develop or enhance key skills used for studying or in the workplace, to demonstrate continuous development to their employer, or simply to find out more about a topic of interest.

[Click Here for the OU Free Courses](#)



Your school may have a different approach to supporting pupils with their Open University studies. Speak to your Head of Year or Pastoral Support Teacher for further information on how you may be supported with this. Once you have selected the OU course you wish to study, speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher, and agree a location for you to complete your course and when you will be working on them.

If you require any support with accessing any of these courses due to lack of technology, please speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher, who may be able to provide you with a Chromebook or access to a computer in school.

YASS- Young Applicants in Schools Scheme- for S6 pupils



YASS (Young Applicants in Schools Scheme) is designed to bridge the gap between school and university, college or employment and helps motivated students stand out from the crowd. It encourages independent learning and builds confidence. Taking part in YASS develops key skills like time management and using an online study environment.

Registration for YASS modules are organised through the school, although students deal directly with the Open University when it comes to course work and assessment. 8,800 young people from almost 300 schools have taken Open University modules through YASS.

What are the benefits of taking part in YASS?

97% of students surveyed last year gained at least one new skill by taking part in YASS. The most common skills that students tell us they have developed are independent learning and time management – both of which are key to success at university, college or in the workplace. Taking a course through YASS also lets you explore a subject in more detail before starting university or college, as well as helping to strengthen your application.

How much does it cost?

YASS is fully funded by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC), completely free for pupils in local authority schools and there is no competition for places – any S6 student can register on a course.

What subjects can I study?

The OU offer courses in a wide range of subject areas including Maths, Science, Law, Sport and Exercise, Arts, Language, Social Sciences, and Health and Social Care. YASS courses are at first year university level (level 1 at The Open University) which equates to level 7 on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework. The courses carry 10 or 30 credit points.

How do I plan my YASS study?

We recommend that you start thinking about YASS in S5. This will give you time to choose the right course for you and think about how you will fit YASS study around your other S6 commitments. Speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher or the YASS co-ordinator in your school about courses that would be a good fit. You can find details of all the courses on offer through YASS in the Course Guide and on the YASS website.

How long do courses last?

Most courses start in October, and finish in March or June. There are exceptions to this so always check the length of a course before deciding to register. How much time do I need to study for a course? A 30-credit course requires 300 hours of study and a 10-credit course requires 100 hours of study. Generally, you will need to set aside 2 - 4 hours a week for 10 credit courses and 8 - 14 hours for 30 credit courses.

How do I register for a course?

Registration is completed through your school. If your school is participating in YASS, speak to the designated YASS co-ordinator, they will arrange your registration. If your school does not currently participate in YASS, you can ask a teacher to contact YASS at ScotlandYASS@open.ac.uk or you can get in touch yourself to find out more.

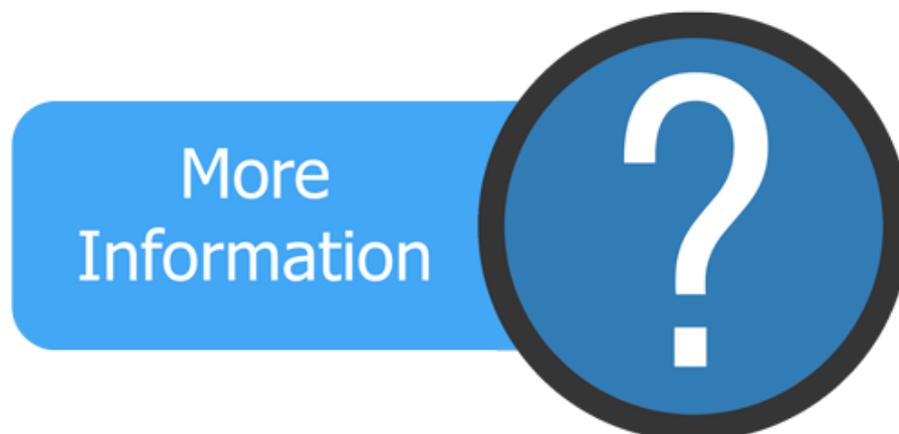
YASS study is different to school

As you probably already know, learning with the OU through YASS is done online. This means that most of the information about your course will be sent via your email address. You will be given a login to StudentHome, where you will be able to find and track all the information related to your course. This includes the link to your course page, your study planner, contact details for your tutor/study adviser/student support team, and how to submit assessments and work. Also, you may be asked to complete interactive online activities, take part in forums, real time online tutorials and sessions. These activities are where you will get to meet and talk to other OU and YASS students.



[Learn more about YASS here](#)

Additional Information



Wider Accreditation



SCQF Level	VQA Qualifications	Qualifications of Higher Educational Institutions	Apprenticeships & Skills
19		Diploma Degree	Professional Apprenticeships
18		Master's Degree, Integrated Master's Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeships, Professional Apprenticeships, SVQ
16		Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeships, Professional Apprenticeships
8		Professional Development Award	Graduate Apprenticeships, Technical Apprenticeships, SVQ
8	Higher National Diploma	Diploma of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeships, Technical Apprenticeships, SVQ
8	Advanced Higher, Award, Scottish Baccalaureate	Certificate of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeships, Foundation Apprenticeships, SVQ
8	Higher Awards, Skills for Work Higher		Modern Apprenticeships, Foundation Apprenticeships, SVQ
7	National 4, Award, Skills for Work National 4		Modern Apprenticeships, SVQ
6	National 4, Award, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	SVQ
6	National 4, Award, Skills for Work National 4	National Progression Award	
5	National 4, Award		
4	National 1, Award		
3	National 1, Award		

Every secondary school in Renfrewshire Council will offer a variety of Wider Accreditation Awards throughout a student's school career. These awards will complement a pupil's academic learning and will demonstrate how a student's activity in the community complements their in-school learning. These awards support young people to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors, and responsible citizens. Speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher or Year Head to find out which Wider Achievement Awards are delivered in your school.

The Awards Network



The Awards Network has information on the range of awards available and helps you to identify how these awards can connect. Use the link below to help you to find out more about the Wider Achievement Awards available in your school and how it connects to others within the Awards Network.

<https://www.awardsnetwork.org/assets/uploads/documents/Amazing Things 4th 2.pdf>



Overview of SQA Qualifications



The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) helps young people to understand and compare the different qualifications on offer in Scotland. Scottish qualifications are delivered at SCQF levels 1-12, and schools deliver qualifications up to SCQF Level 7 which is an Advanced Higher. Most young people will be working towards achieving a combination of National 3/4/5 Awards, Highers (Level 6), Advanced Highers (Level 7), and National Progression Awards (NPAs) which range from Level 3 - Level 7. The choice of subjects and levels will be dependent on your school offer.

In addition to traditional courses there are several other Wider Accreditation Awards, such as the Personal Development Awards, Mental Health First Aid, Well-being Awards and Skills for Work Awards (SfW) that may also be available. These will be dependent on your school timetable offer.

Additional Information

Please note that National Progression Awards (NPAs) and SfW Awards do not have a final exam, which benefits many learners.

For young people, who wish to take a more vocational route, a Foundation Apprenticeship (FA) or a Modern Apprenticeship (MA) is a great choice and is something to really consider. These courses will allow you to gain hands on work experience whilst continuing to study for a formal qualification. In addition, many of these courses can help you secure a job at the end of the course.

To better understand the qualification structure and what it means, you will find below an overview of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework. For further information please click on: <https://scqf.org.uk/about-the-framework/> or scan the QR code below.

SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications		Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12			Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11			Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10			Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9			Professional Development Award	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8	Higher National Diploma		Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate	Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher			Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5			Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award	SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3			
2	National 2, Awards			
1	National 1, Awards			



[Skills Development Scotland \(SDS\)](#)





SDS Careers Services

Our Careers Advisers work in partnership with every secondary school in Renfrewshire, delivering career guidance to enable young people from S1-S6 to develop their Career Management Skills.

My World of Work is our award-winning online career information and advice service and is used by pupils throughout their time at school and beyond. After school SDS supports everyone of all ages, our advisers in Renfrewshire operate from the Russell Institute in Paisley, from a network of high street SDS centres and community locations nationwide, offering expert career information, advice and guidance to those who require it of all ages.

Careers Adviser Support for Senior Phase Pupils in Renfrewshire

Renfrewshire's Careers Advisers are here to help you and your parents and carers with career information, advice, and guidance about all the options and opportunities on offer.

If you are making decisions about your future career – we are here to help. Careers Advisers are on hand to offer advice and guidance throughout school, and they can help with:

- *Discussing your options and possible next steps, especially if you are not sure what you want to do when you leave school*
 - *CVs and job applications*
 - *College and university applications*
 - *Interview preparation*
 - *Making your subject choices*
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For further information on Careers Services in your school please click on:
<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/scotlands-careers-services/our-careers-service-in-schools/>

There are several ways to get in touch with your Careers Adviser:

- *Speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher who will pass your name on to your school Careers Adviser.*
 - *Contact our Renfrewshire Team on **0141 849 0942** and we will arrange for your school Career Advisers to call you back or arrange to see you in school.*
 - *You can also speak directly to a careers adviser by calling our helpline on **0800 917 8000**.
Open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm.*
 - *Career information and advice is available on My World of Work www.myworldofwork.co.uk*
 - *To get in touch via social media go to My World of Work on Facebook at facebook.com/myworldofwork or Twitter at twitter.com/mywowscotland*
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Digital Access



If you require any support with accessing any of these courses due to lack of technology, please speak to your Pastoral Support Teacher, who may be able to provide you with a Chromebook or access to a computer in school.

Free School Meals (FSM) and Clothing Grants



**Renfrewshire
Council**

Who can apply for Free School Meals and Clothing Grants?

You can apply for free school meals and or clothing grants if-

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- *your child, or the child you care for, goes to a Renfrewshire primary, secondary or special school*
 - *you receive specific benefits, see the table below.*
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Benefit Received	Free School Meals	Clothing Grant	Proof Required Dated within the past six months
Income Support	Yes	Yes	DWP award letter or current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602) which shows entitlement to this benefit. All pages required
Jobseekers Allowance (Income Based)	Yes	Yes	DWP award letter or current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602) which shows entitlement to this benefit. All pages required
Employment & Support Allowance (Income Related)	Yes	Yes	DWP award letter or current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602) which shows entitlement to this benefit. All pages required
Child Tax Credit with a gross annual income below £16,105 with no element of Working Tax Credit	Yes	Yes	Current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602). All pages required
Maximum Child Tax Credit and maximum Working Tax Credit with annual income below £7,500	Yes	Yes	Current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602). All pages required
Support Under part V1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999	Yes	Yes	Confirmation Letter/Home Office
Universal Credit with a monthly earned income of not more than £625	Yes	Yes	Universal Credit awards notice
Housing Benefit	No	Yes	Current Letter to show receipt of Housing Benefit
Council Tax reduction	No	Yes	Current Letter to show receipt of Council Tax reduction
Working Tax Credit with an annual income under £16,105	No	Yes	Current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602). All pages required
Child Tax Credit with an annual income under £16,105	No	Yes	Current Tax Credit Award Notice (TC602). All pages required

To apply for Free School Meals or Clothing Grants or both follow this link below -

https://myaccount.renfrewshire.gov.uk/service/Apply_for_clothing_grants_and_free_school_meals_2021_2022

All Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and Housing Benefit/Council Tax award letters must be dated within the past six months.

If you need a copy of your award letter, you can contact the relevant government department:

- Income support, Job Seekers Allowance or Employment Support Allowance, contact the [Department of Work and Pensions](#) on 0845 608 8598.
- Tax Credits contact [HM Revenue & Customs](#) on 0345 300 3900.

Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA)



If you want to stay in education after 16 but are worried about money, you may be able to get £30 a week Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) if you are aged 16 to 19 and staying on in full time education.



What is the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)?

- The Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) is a weekly payment of £30, paid directly to young people who continue in full-time education after they reach the statutory leaving age.*
 - You will be able to apply online for the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for the academic year 2021 to 2022 in mid-June 2021.*
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Who can get EMA?

If you're between 16 and 19, and you plan on continuing at school from August 2021, you can apply for EMA if:

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- you go to a school in the Renfrewshire Council area
 - your household earns less than the income thresholds listed below
 - your course is at least 21 hours of guided learning per week
 - you agree and sign a valid learning agreement with your school.
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A learning agreement sets out what's expected of you around attendance and coursework. You can find out more about learning agreements by clicking here- <https://www.mygov.scot/ema/the-learning-agreement> or scanning the QR code.

What are the income thresholds for households?

We look at the income of adults in your home who look after you. In most cases this will be your parent/parents or carer, but it could also be your grandparents or another family member. To qualify for EMA, your household must have an income of:

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- up to £24,421 per year before tax, with one dependent child or young person up to 25 in full time education
 - up to £26,884 per year before tax, with more than one dependent child or young person up to 25 in full time education
-

What are the income thresholds for households?

We assess your household income using your parents or carers Final Tax Credit Award Notice or their P60 details for the tax year 2020 to 2021.

EMA and your benefits-

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- You can get EMA as well as any other benefits your family get from the government. Your family won't lose out on other money if you get an EMA.
 - It won't affect your parent's Child Benefit.
 - It won't affect any money you earn from a part-time job either.
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How long you can get the EMA for?

- *You can get an EMA for up to three years. Vulnerable young people may receive support for up to three years within a four-year period.*
 - *You'll need to renew your EMA and learning agreement each year you are at school.*
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How is your EMA paid?

- *The EMA is paid fortnightly, 2 weeks in arrears.*
 - *It is paid directly into your bank account. If you don't have a bank or building society account, you'll need to open one. Your account must be one that accepts BACS payments, these are payments that are paid electronically from one bank account to another. Check with your bank if you are not sure.*
 - *The EMA is not paid during school holidays. It is only paid when you are at school.*
 - *Your EMA payment can be withheld if you don't follow your learning agreement.*
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When will we start paying your EMA?

You'll get paid when we have awarded your EMA and your school has your learning agreement. If you're aged 16 between 1 March 2021 and 30 September 2021 and you apply:

- *before or on 30 September 2021, you'll get paid at the beginning of term*
 - *after 30 September 2021, you'll get paid from the week we receive your application form.*
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If you're aged 16 between 1 October 2021 and 28 February 2022 and you apply:

- *before or on 28 February 2022, you'll get paid from the start of January 2022*
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- *after 28 February 2022, you'll get paid from the week we receive your application form.*
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If you're aged 17 or over on 1 March 2021 and you apply:

- *before or on 30 September 2021, you'll get paid at the beginning of term*
 - *after 30 September 2021, you'll get paid from the week we receive your application form.*
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[Click here to apply for EMA](#)

Advice Works (Renfrewshire Council Money and Debt Advice)



Aims

To raise the incomes of people and their families and help people manage their debts.

Services Provided

Advice Works is a free, confidential, and independent service and will give you advice in a straightforward manner.

The team can help with a wide range of money and debt advice issues including budgeting, negotiating with creditors, bankruptcy, mortgage and rent arrears, checking you are getting all the benefits you are entitled to, help with forms, and lots more.

They have a drop-in service at the following locations, with no appointment needed:

Advice Works

Johnstone Town Hall, 25 Church Street, Johnstone

Monday – Thursday: 9am – 11am

Renfrewshire House

Customer Service Centre, Cotton Street, Paisley

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday: 9am – 11am and 1pm – 3pm

Renfrew Health and Social Work Centre

10 Ferry Road, Renfrew

Wednesday and Thursday: 1pm – 3pm

*If you would like to make an appointment to one of their Advice Works advisors about welfare rights or issues with benefits or debts, call **0300 300 1238** from Monday – Friday, 10am – 4pm.*

Address

Johnstone Town Hall

25 Church Street

Johnstone

PA5 8FA

Phone: 0300 300 1238

Website: <http://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3525/Advice-Works-drop-in-and-appointment-service>

Email: adviceworks@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Support



There are many supports out there to help you make the right decision in moving onto the next step of your school career and beyond. Your parent/carer may be able to help you decide, but if not, your teachers and support teachers are there to guide you through onto a positive and sustained destination. Do not be frightened to ask for help. That is why we are here!

There are other helpful online resources that may help you in making decisions or indeed broaden your options. Below you will find several websites that will help you think about what you want to achieve in life beyond school. Have a look and if there is anything you need support with, just ask one of your teachers:

[Support Link](#)

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Young Person's Guarantee



Young Person's Guarantee

The Young Person's Guarantee is a commitment to bring together employers, partners, and young people. It aims to connect every 16- to 24-year-old in Scotland to an opportunity. This could be a job, apprenticeship, further or higher education, training programme or volunteering.

About the Young Person's Guarantee

The Young Person's Guarantee commits to supporting all of Scotland's young people to have a bright and prosperous future.

Lots of employers, colleges, universities, and volunteering agencies are part of the Guarantee. They can all help you on your journey and have many different opportunities for you to get involved with.

Thinking of an apprenticeship? Starting or going back to college or university? Or are you looking for a job or volunteer placement? Search the national opportunity finder at www.youngpersonsguarantee.scot or for local opportunities www.ypguaranteerenfrewshire.com and see what's right for you.

If you're aged 16 to 24 years old looking for Education / Experience / Employment

You'll be connected to opportunities and signposted to people and information that can help you find the route that is right for you.

Renfrewshire's ambition is to ensure YOU and EVERY YOUNG PERSON in Renfrewshire has an offer of employment, education, apprenticeships, training or volunteering and there are a range of partners working together to make this happen.

This includes Renfrewshire Council, West College Scotland, Skills Development Scotland, Engage Renfrewshire, Renfrewshire Chamber of Commerce, Department for Work and Pensions, Developing the Young Workforce West, and Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership.

If you need support to get into employment, education, training, or an apprenticeship then email ypguarantee@renfrewshire.gov.uk and start your journey NOW.

Keep up to date by following [#YPGuarantee](#) [#Renfrewshire](#)

Note for Teachers



For further information on potential Wider Accreditation/Achievement courses please browse Renfrewshire Council's Wider Achievement Awards website here-

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/re/renwiderachievement/>

Partners



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Disclaimer

Renfrewshire Council will endeavour to deliver courses in accordance with the descriptions set out in this booklet. The Council reserves the right to make variations to the contents or methods of delivery of courses, to discontinue courses and to merge or combine courses if such action is reasonably considered to be necessary by the Education Service. The information given in this booklet is believed correct at the time of publication. The Education Service reserves the right, at its discretion, at any time and for any reason, to make changes to the services offered and set out in this booklet without prior notice including, but not limited to, the following:

- to withdraw the offer of a course which fails to recruit the minimum number required by regulation.
- to make changes to curriculum and courses for reasons including meeting technological or academic developments or employers' requirements particularly in specialist options.