



Fife College

SCHOOL
COLLEGE
PARTNERSHIP



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School College Partnership

COURSE GUIDE FOR **VIEWFORTH** **HIGH SCHOOL 2021**

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CONTENTS

- 01** **PAGE 02**
Study options while still at school
- 02** **PAGE 03**
Foundation Apprenticeships in Fife
- 03** **PAGE 04**
Why School College Partnership?
- 04** **PAGE 05**
Landscape of Fife and Scotland growth sectors
- 05** **PAGE 07**
Reducing the gender gap
- 06** **PAGE 08**
Developing the young workforce
- 07** **PAGE 09**
Additional activities
- 08** **PAGE 11**
Starting your degree at school
- 09** **PAGE 12**
Curriculum offer



01 STUDY OPTIONS WHILE STILL AT SCHOOL

The School College Partnership (SCP) programme aims to support school pupils who wish to study a vocational qualification at SCQF levels 4-7 alongside traditionally taught school subjects, as part of their school timetable.

Fife College are delighted to be working in partnership with the Head Teacher and Senior Management team at Viewforth High School. This partnership allows us to deliver a varied programme of studies to Viewforth pupils which will complement their existing learning choices.



Currently, our main engagement is with Senior Phase pupils. However, our provisions can be adapted to work alongside earlier learning opportunities in the secondary years to help promote early engagement.

As a result of our partnership with the Open University, we are able to further enhance this opportunity by offering courses outlined by them, in conjunction with Fife College. All of our programmes are delivered in Viewforth High School, at a Fife College campus, virtually or a combination of all. This allows us to ensure that students have access to the best resources for their learning to aid in their success and achievement. Fife College provide all of our students with the required skills and knowledge for progression on their chosen programme, either in school or at college, university or on to employment.

Our programmes offer students increased learning opportunities with a focus on their chosen career pathway. Furthermore, the curriculum offer is enhanced with many options aligned to local, regional and national demand based on Labour Market Intelligence (LMI) and Skills Development Scotland Regional Skills Assessments. Therefore, our courses are aligned to the identified demand for job opportunities in the future!



FOUNDATION APPRENTICESHIPS IN FIFE

02

This innovative career pathway allows S5 and S6 pupils at Viewforth High School to learn the META skills that employers want and need, and undertake real life work experience as part of the course.

Successful pupils on the course will also obtain an industry-recognised qualification at SCQF Level 6 - the same level of learning as a SQA Higher - all of which adds to their CV for future college, university, apprenticeship and job applications.

Pupils can choose from a range of practical courses, which can provide a pathway to careers in a range of booming sectors, from software development and care to engineering, creative industries and Scotland's expanding Food & Drink Manufacturing Industry.

There are 10 Foundation Apprenticeships available across Fife in partnership with Fife Council and Skills Development Scotland (SDS) and we can help pupils on to the next stage of their learning with a number of progression routes after they complete their apprenticeship.

WHY SCHOOL COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP?

School College Partnership courses have an integrated curriculum designed to increase the young person's understanding of related industry sectors through engaging in workplace knowledge and practices.

Fife College now has the best recorded increase in the percentage of its students going on to positive destinations, meaning that it now has the best rate of any college in Scotland.

Figures published by the Scottish Funding Council for the 2018-19 academic year show that just under 3,000 Fife College students went on to further studies, training or into employment once completing their course. This meant that 93.3% of successful students went on to positive destinations, higher than any of Scotland's other colleges, and against the national trend which saw a slight drop overall.

03



LANDSCAPE OF FIFE AND SCOTLAND GROWTH SECTORS

Although at the moment we do not have a full understanding of the economic impact of Covid-19 on the job market in Fife, the mid and long term employment growth may continue to be below the rate observed across Scotland. That being said there is expected job growth and opportunities for employment expected in the Wholesale and Retail sector, Education and Human Health and Social Work.

In recent months we have seen the decline of the Hospitality and Tourism industry, this is anticipated to be temporary as the county opens up and tourism starts to increase.

It is predicted that, Fife will continue to see some growth and opportunities in the traditional areas of employment such as our Engineering and Construction industries created as a result of the need to replace workers.

Employers in the region are seeking softer skills as well as technical skills. These skills are highlighted in current job advertisements posted. These skills include communication skills, digital skills, teamwork/collaboration and customer services.

Covid-19 has highlighted the need and importance of digital skills as we have witnessed an increase in homeworking.

This is an area of opportunity that could increase the job opportunities opening up the wider national and international job market.

Our 2021 offer encompasses Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education as this is a key priority for Curriculum for Excellence to bridge the STEM skills gap within the labour market for Scotland. New for this year is a focus on the arts to support the development of the creative mind that drives innovation in our industry sectors.



04

In order to give our young people the brightest possible future, Fife College, in partnership with other education providers and the region's schools, is committed to providing opportunities in emerging and growing industries. As such, the School College Partnership (SCP) is proud to offer courses to young people, which set them in good stead to compete in this new economy.

These opportunities are unique to the partnership and allow young people an insight into the sector whilst attaining a recognised qualification, and there are many paths that follow on from our partnership qualifications into full-time study.

We have seen a downtrend in the uptake of some STEM related traditional areas of study, especially in areas where conventionally there would have been an opportunity to study an apprenticeship that then led to employment. There is a need to engage the young person at an earlier age to raise awareness, navigate towards an educational focus, and provide educational opportunities for students to pursue their preferred career pathways. SCP courses compliment the school choice offer and provide these opportunities...

School College Partnership courses have an integrated curriculum designed to increase the young person's understanding of the related industry sectors through engaging in workplace knowledge and practices. Helping to support the young person to develop the softer skills (Meta Skills) employers are looking for as well as the technical and academic qualifications.

SCP course content is aligned to sustainable industry led pathways raising awareness of the industries and the skills and knowledge necessary to appropriately equip pupils for the transition from education working within the industry sectors. All of our courses offer a progression on to further SCP courses and/or a full-time college course within these areas offered.



REDUCING THE GENDER GAP

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One of the contributing factors to lower female participation in STEM subjects at schools is related to confidence and self-belief. Reports suggest that girls appear less confident in their abilities when studying subjects such as physics with confidence levels decreasing as they get older.

The impact of these negative self-views feeds through to subject and career choices and career progression for women. The best way to change and challenge this may not be by conventional methods and may require cultural change. Staff in college, both male and female, who are working in these non-traditional roles help to address these very challenges. This goes a long way towards strengthening industry engagement with education and increasing employment opportunities for our young people in Scotland – one of the Government's key focuses.

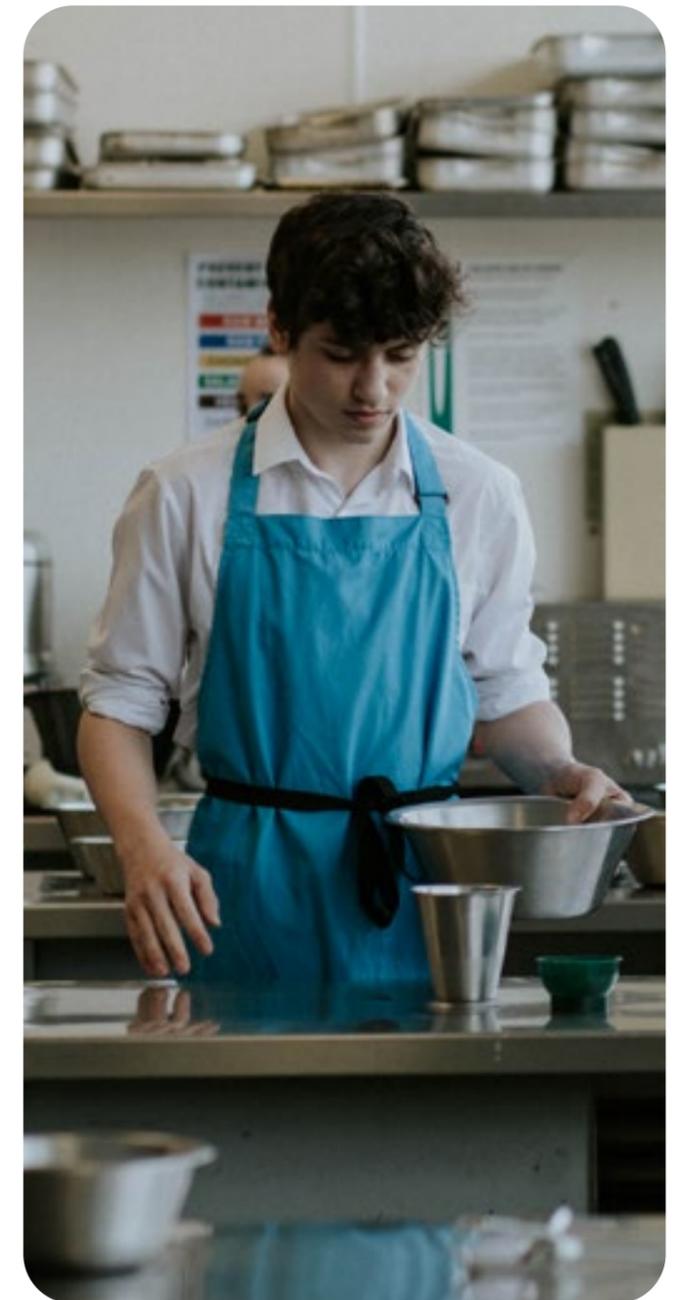
DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE

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The aim of Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) is to deliver a permanent, fundamental change of culture through developing sustainable industry-led pathways for young people into employment.

Fife College offer activity that enhances high school curriculum and adds value to existing activities. It engages young people in a broader learning experience that is sector-focused to give them industry experience and a better understanding of the workplace and the transferable skills required for the future. Activity is very much designed to meet the individual needs identified by high schools with support from our SCP team.

We work together to support the school to address the identified targets through providing industry recognised curriculum, workshops and activity.



ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Activity type and model of delivery is very much tailored to meet the needs of schools as each school identifies different requirements.

SECTOR SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Sector Skills workshops promote creative thinkers through interactive, specially designed relevant, effective activities, in support of pupil learning, motivation and aspiration. These are offered as part of the school engagement programme to bring a strong employability skills focus to the schools' experience, enhancing the curriculum delivery, and exposing young people to the science and technology that is shaping the future.

The programme will support pupils by giving an insight into career possibilities from participation in local economy to national and international career pathways.

STEM/STEAM ACTIVITY WORKSHOPS

Employers recognise the strong creative attributes and soft skills people have within the Arts sector. This impact has meant that STEM is often being referred to as STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics). Fife College offer STEAM activity workshops to ensure that Viewforth High School pupils are given an early opportunity to identify career pathways and to enjoy college support, facilities, and expertise to create, manage, and fulfil their desired learning and career pathway. Examples of this include crystal growing, maths labs, robotics, coding, and much more.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS/ ACADEMIES

After school clubs and coding academies are offered in targeted areas identified in conjunction with the school to increase interest in areas of gender gap, skills gap and sector growth areas.

07

CAREER FAIRS/VIRTUAL INFORMATION SESSIONS

Fife College supports schools at these events through engagement with our curriculum teams who bring an industry focus and up-to-date knowledge of the sectors they work in, giving young people a broader learning experience that is sector focused to give them a knowledge of industry and a better understanding of the workplace and the transferable skills required for the future.

STAFF PATHWAY EVENTS

These events offer an opportunity for staff within school and college curriculum teams to sit and discuss pathway opportunities for young people, qualifications, and how the School College Partnership should be taken forward.

PUPIL/PARENTS PATHWAY EVENTS

These events are an opportunity to raise awareness and give a better understanding of the types of qualifications offered for our young people today, and the many pathways available to them to get to where they want to be.

JOINT STAFF CPD

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is offered in targeted areas identified in conjunction with the school to share best practice and strengthen the partnership.

JOINT COURSE CURRICULUM DELIVERY

Some of our courses are jointly delivered with the school, ensuring that the pupils have access to the best resources available to support their learning.

WIDENING ACCESS PROGRAMMES

These engagement workshops and activities aim to raise the aspirations and attainment of pupils who without this intervention would not consider Higher Education as an option for a progression pathway.

WE'RE HERE TO HELP

The Department of Student Engagement and Experience within Fife College includes Guidance, Attendance, Inclusion, Employability, Funding, Admissions, Student Association and Customer Services.

We have a large number of experienced staff available on all campuses who can provide high quality learner-focused services and support. We work in partnership with staff and external partners to achieve the Fife College vision of "transforming lives". We are here to help you with your journey from school to college and beyond, and we look forward to welcoming you to Fife College.





STARTING YOUR DEGREE AT SCHOOL

08

Fife College offers many routes to degree programmes by working in partnership with local schools to offer Higher National Qualifications to complement your studies in the classroom.

This means that you can study a college course as part of your school timetable while you are still at school. You can start your degree at school through Higher National Certificate (HNC) courses which are offered through the School College Partnership and are equivalent to year 1 of a university degree.

You don't have to wait until you finish school to start thinking about what you want to do afterwards – kick start your future and get ahead by studying one of our fantastic School College Partnership Higher National courses.

All of our courses are designed to help you develop skills needed for both Higher Education and employment, and allow you to be an independent, self-motivated, and creative critical thinker. In many cases, it means you can study on campus where you'll experience college life, learn new skills in our state-of-the-art facilities, and study a range of Higher National subjects such as Accounting, Administration, Business, Applied Science, 3D Computer Animation or Police Studies. All our courses are chosen to allow you to move on to a degree course either at Fife College or with one of our university partners so you get the skills you really need for your career. For more information on our degree provision in Fife check out: www.fife.ac.uk/degrees

CURRICULUM OFFER

09

HNC Police Studies	SCQF 7	NPA Computer Games Development	SCQF 5
Higher Dance	SCQF 6	NPA Cyber Security	SCQF 5
Higher Psychology	SCQF 6	National 5 Early Learning and Childcare	SCQF 5
FA Business	SCQF 6	Skills for Work Engineering Skills	SCQF 5
FA Civil Engineering	SCQF 6	Certificate DEC! The Digital Built Environment	SCQF 5
FA Engineering	SCQF 6	Introduction to the Hair & Beauty Sector VTCT	SCQF 4
FA Social Services Children and Young People (via Fife Council)	SCQF 6	NPA Construction Craft and Technician	SCQF 4
FA Software Development	SCQF 6	Skills for Work Automotive Skills	SCQF 4
New NPA Musical Theatre	SCQF 6	National 4 Early Learning and Childcare	SCQF 4
FA Creative & Digital Media	SCQF 6	Skills for Work Engineering Skills	SCQF 4
FA Food and Drink Technologies	SCQF 6	An Introduction to Social Sciences	SCQF 4
FA Scientific Technologies	SCQF 6		
FA Social Services and Healthcare (via Fife Council)	SCQF 6		
Introduction to Criminology	SCQF 5		



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The information published in this guide was correct at the time of print.
For the most up-to-date information, you should always check our website.

Published February 2021

Fife College is a registered Scottish charity (No. SC021203)