

CASE STUDY 5

Partnering for better use of data to support learners, New College Lanarkshire



Partners

New College Lanarkshire and Skills Development Scotland

Focus

New College Lanarkshire and Skills Development Scotland's Data Sharing Team have worked together to better utilise the information that is available through the 16+ Data Hub to provide tailored support to young people when they leave school, specifically those who are not moving on to learning or work.

Success factors

- The information gives partners a better understanding of the intended and actual destination of young people after they leave school. It enables front line staff in the college to be better placed to provide support for young people who are not in training, learning or work and are at risk of disengagement. Information sharing is about ensuring young people reach their full potential.
- Effective information sharing between partners allows them to quickly identify and engage with a young person who has not secured a positive destination after school, has failed to complete a course of learning/training or has not started working.

- It is about helping and supporting learners to make a positive transition from school to the wider world of education, training and employment. Information sharing gives partners the confidence that each young person has received the most appropriate support for them.
- Learners have a record to evidence their skills and competences.

The Learner Plan Portal used across all full-time courses has been designed around the Post 16 Data Hub. Students and Lecturing staff engage with software that links career preference information gathered at school. Dr Robert Allan, Assistant Head of Faculty, stated, "the portal is a terrific development that allows the college to support student transitions. It is a stride towards our efforts to meet the key recommendations of the Learner Journey review and its priorities of integration, information and alignment".

"Students have greatly appreciated one to one support in college that builds in preferences they have taken time to highlight within secondary school and which can be reflected upon and updated in college. The 1st year of the portal's use has improved career management skills, better engagement with My World of Work as well as critical and timely intervention to support career decisions and pathways".



Moving forward

New College Lanarkshire has worked in strategic partnership with SDS to review the college’s use of the Post 16 Data Hub. Future developments will harness aggregated data where possible to allow the college to better understand career preferences in Lanarkshire. Plans are in place to compare this data with Labour Market Information (LMI) to provide a “double helix” approach to Curriculum Development and Review that will better serve employers and future students within New College Lanarkshire’s community.

New College Lanarkshire is also listening to other good practice in the sector where the Post 16 Data

Hub has been used to integrate other data fields such as ASN and Care Experienced information. Moving forward, these fields will be considered in terms of their utility in the careful, personalised support of individual students, including those who face challenges during their college studies.

Finally, New College Lanarkshire is gathering a 3rd Career Preference entry, going beyond the 2 formal data hub entries at school. This 3rd preference could be utilised by SDS and stakeholders in future, including Universities who wish to support their own students in a similar way to New College Lanarkshire’s support of its students and their career pathways.

