

**Interesting Practice in Skills (3-18) – Developing the Young Workforce context:**

**Ardrossan Academy: DYW across the Curriculum - a partnership approach**

The following document provides a brief summary of the key elements of this approach:

**1. Introduction**

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| **Establishment** | Ardrossan Academy |
| **Contact name and details** | Kenny Bell (Principal Teacher of DYW)  Ardrossan Academy  Sorbie Road  Ardrossan  North Ayrshire  KA22 8AR |
| **About the establishment:** | The school motto of Ardrossan Academy is “Ad Astra”, which can be interpreted as “To the Stars”. A commitment to unlocking potential underpins everything we do as a school community.  We aim to provide high quality education for all and to equip pupils with the skills, attitudes and expectations required to prosper in a changing society.  Through their time in the school, learners will experience a curriculum and learning in which the skills required for the world of work as a strong feature and are evident across all curricular areas.  Learners will be aware of a range of careers and the skills required for them including challenging gender stereotypes within careers. |

**2. Current developments:**

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| **Current practice** | * Partnerships are being built across the curriculum to support pupils understanding of the relevance of the subject in the world of work. Partners are involved in planning, and delivery of inputs to meet the entitlements of young people through the Career Education Standard.   Every subject/department has at least one partnership.  These partnerships have been considered with local labour market intelligence to allow us to build considered and relevant subject links. This includes our STEM subjects all establishing links with the local engineering firm, Booth Welsh, to continue to bring the subjects together.  **Subject partnerships**  **Maths – Ashleigh Construction**  The maths department focussed on a particular group of S3 learners to show them the need for mathematics within the construction industry.  **Maths – Booth Welsh**  Our STEM partners will provide input to the maths curriculum related to Engineering.  **English – Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald**  Pupils within the English department produce and edit a quarterly input to the local paper. Articles and media are produced by pupils.  **English – Community Housing Advocacy Project**  Pupils will learn about the importance of communication of all sorts within this organisation  **BGE Science – I’m a Scientist**  Pupils make use of the online platform ‘I’m a Scientist’ giving them the opportunity to talk to ‘real life’ scientists about their work.  **BGE Science – Booth Welsh**  Pupils will work with BW to learn more about water purification task which is linked to current work BW are carrying out in the local area.  **Chemistry – DSM**  Higher and Advanced Higher pupils are experiencing opportunities with DSM related to Chemical Engineering. DSM are also offering interview and application skills training.  **Physics – UCT Aerospace**  Use of flight to look further at Newton’s Laws as part of N5 Physics course.  **Early Years Education and Child Care – Little Deers Nursery**  Pupils visited the nursery learning about the importance of play in learning. They all also had work experiences in various local nurseries.  **Computing – Nexus Web Design**  Nexus delivered specific parts of the Web Design course in relation to animation  **Computing – Booth Welsh**  Particular aspects of courses from N5 to AH are being delivered alongside BW. This has focus on former pupils with their pathways being highlighted (including Modern Apprenticeship and University graduates)  **Technical – GSK**  Involved in the GSK mock assessment process  **Technical – Plastic Mouldings**  Pupils have been learning about the different processes within their Higher courses by visiting local companies involved in these processes.  **HE – Garfield’s Tapas**  Pupils experience of working in industry by putting on staff lunch. Learning skills such as customer relations and cooking as a team rather than individually  **PE – Kilmarnock Football Club**  SFA training course to allow pupils to lead junior extra-curricular clubs. Development of knowledge and understanding of four factors which have impact on performance through the eyes of professional sports team.  **Geography – NCT Leather**  Third year curriculum area of sustainability being discussed. Pupils will then visit site to see this in action.  **Modern Studies – Ardrossan & Saltcoats Herald**  Development of knowledge of reporting of court procedures for Higher curriculum  **History – Saltcoats Heritage Centre**  Development of skills in working with both primary and secondary sources of information  **Modern Languages – IBM + more**  Increase relevance of languages through a careers week. Focus on less traditional jobs associated with languages.  **Music – IrvineBeat FM**  To use music technology to produce a short radio broadcast  Visit radiostation to observe a working environment  **Travel and Tourism – SimpsInns, Waterside Hotel**  Pupils have experienced visits to the hotel as well as lessons being team taught by members of staff along with teachers. Hotel staff offered their insights into working in this sector.   * **Masterclasses**   Targeted groups of pupils are offered experiences related to their aspirations.  **Nail Art** - a group of girls worked with Royalty Hair & Beauty Salon, Saltcoats, in learning skills needed within the beauty industry. The girls then ran a fundraising event painting nails of pupils and staff to raise money for charity.  **Photography** – a group of pupils worked with Youth Services to learn about digital photography. As part of this course they also worked on their own self-confidence and communication skills.  **Mechanic**  GTG training provided an input for a targeted group of pupils. This involved practical work associated with their recruitment process. One pupil involved in this has now left school to start his MA with a local garage.  **Early Years Education and Child Care**  This Skills for Work qualification forms part of our timetabled options for S4-6 pupils. All pupils participate in work experience with local nurseries.   * **Staff Engagement** – inservice day given over to DYW to first allow staff to learn about DYW then meet targeted businesses to help enhance subject curriculum. Alongside this we have used some of this time to inform of current labour market information and trends. Staff have also engaged with DYW Ayrshire organised Influencers’ Insights allowing staff to visit and learn more about local businesses. * **Entreprise** – Pupils have been involved in the DYW Ayrshire organised #AYE and have been successful in achieving funding to set up a business within school.   A Personal Support input of Enterprise Week was delivered to all S1-3 pupils with pupils learning about the skills and strategies needed for building their own business. This set of five 10 minute lessons was written with Frank Gormanley of ESpark. Frank then worked with the school in judging the best of the businesses entered with funding supplied by the school for pupils with a feasible business plan.(see PPT within the additional resources)   * **Leadership Skills** - Pupils are being given increased opportunities to develop their own leadership skills as well as use these to implement whole school initiatives. S1 and 2 pupils underwent Leadership training with CANI Coaching to learn more about the role of a leader and have been using these skills to lead aspects of school life in relation to the values of the school as well as assist at whole school events. * **MyWOW ambassadors** – pupils in S2 have been trained to be My World of Work ambassadors to showcase the website at school events to pupils, parents and staff. * **Social Media presence**   DYW has its own twitter feed (@ardacaddyw) which staff around the school will contribute to. The importance of sharing our work with all stakeholders including possible future partners is extremely important to us. We have used twitter to generate interest in the agenda and it is quite common for businesses to initiate the conversation about partnership through this medium.   * **Vocational Courses at Ayrshire College**   The school/college partnership which is offered allows pupils the chance to do a wider range of vocational and academic courses. These include City and Guilds courses, Foundation Apprenticeships, National Progression Awards, and Skills for work courses. |
| **Best piece of advice** | Make use of all potential partnerships through all available stakeholders.  Use social media to engage with local business.  Attend networking events.  Use local labour market intelligence to shape the partnerships within curriculum.  Go out and visit partners rather than them coming to the school. This allows you to see more of the company and more opportunities. |
| **CfE/Curriculum link/ skills development** | All our partnerships are based on curriculum. Areas have been identified where partnerships can enhance curriculum.  Pupils’ skills for learning, life and work are being developed both within curriculum but also through partnership. |
| **Partnerships** | Every department, and the majority of subject areas, have partnerships built into curriculum. Within 18 months we have gone from sporadic partnership work to it being built into curriculum in a sustainable manner.  We have over 50 partners, ranging from small local to large global, who are committed to working to improve the opportunities presented to our pupils. |
| **Impact (emerging)** | Learners are experiencing a curriculum in which they are developing more career related skills and learning more about local/national industry growth sectors and the careers which they can aspire to within these. By engaging young people in careers education they begin to be more motivated to achieve and strive towards positive destinations. At the same time staff are developing their abilities to discuss careers and the skills needed for the world of work by collaborating with their businesses partners. |
| **Watch this space!** | * Development of skills framework to allow pupils to profile better * STEM partnership with Booth Welsh * Increased use of Labour Market Intelligence * More vocational opportunities for pupils * Opportunities for pupils through the Prince’s Trust Innovative Initiatives scheme * More targeted opportunities including flexible work experiences * SCQF ambassadors |
| **Quotation** | "The young people at Ardrossan Academy deserve a curriculum which links to the ever changing world of work outside of school. We are actively engaging with businesses in a range of sectors to provide our pupils with a better knowledge of their potential future.  Every subject area within the school has a partnership with a business which helps shape the curriculum the pupils experience.”  Kenny Bell, Principal Teacher of Pastoral Support |

**3. Added value**

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| **Resources** | [Education Scotland Careers Education Standard (3-18)](https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Documents/dyw2-career-education-standard-0915.pdf)  [Education Scotland School/Employer Partnerships](https://education.gov.scot/improvement/Documents/dyw-guidance-for-school-employer-partnerships0915.pdf)  [DYW Ayrshire](http://www.dywayrshire.com/)  North Ayrshire Council DYW network |
| **Web links** | <http://www.ardrossanacademy.co.uk/>  <https://twitter.com/ArdAcademy>  <https://twitter.com/ardacaddyw> |
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