

Positive Destinations

16+ Coordinators

North Ayrshire Council

Contact for Enquiries

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In 2015 North Ayrshire Council introduced the role of 16+ Coordinator in each mainstream secondary school to improve the proportion of pupils entering positive destinations. Although the initiative was a success it is currently not in place due to re-alignment of resources.

Background

A named individual (teacher) in each mainstream secondary school has the role of 16+ Coordinator. They work closely with guidance/pastoral colleagues, senior management team, Skills Development Scotland & wider partners (FE/HE, businesses, training organisations, social services etc) to improve the initial positive destinations of school leavers.

Key Activities

North Ayrshire Council allocated 0.2fte (total approx. £72k) to each secondary school to free up the teacher for a day per week to concentrate on all aspects of supporting leavers.

Benefits and Impact

During the period when the teachers were in post, the Council saw an 8.3% improvement in leavers going on to positive destinations – up from 85.5% to 93.8%. The corresponding improvement across the whole of Scotland was 4.6%.

Through the approach, the teachers became very knowledgeable about the options open to youngsters at their school leaving date. For the purposes of this work, these coordinators worked very closely with the LA officer with remit responsibility for Opportunities for All. This was the most effective part of North Ayrshire's strategy to improve leaver destinations.

Learning

Due to the limited nature of this resource the partnership working aspect is very important. The teacher had to work closely with guidance/pastoral colleagues, senior management team, SDS & wider partners (FE/HE, businesses, training organisations, social services etc).