

Supporting our Growth Sector Industries: Increasing access to courses across our schools



What are we trying to achieve?

We are aiming to increase the number of school courses aligned to growth areas by 7% to enable us to support the growth of these sectors by having young people with the right skills and qualifications for a future within these sectors.

How are we doing this?

Through our multi agency project we are testing the following improvements:

- ABZ Works, a one-stop shop Learner Pathways website.
- An annual Learner Pathway Induction event for senior phase students (Lift Off).
- A representative Curriculum mapping group to coordinate and determine partnership course provision on an annual cycle.
- Review of the City Campus provision with the aim of extending the range of pathways we can offer senior phase young people, e.g. one day integrated courses such as the Level 5 Construction course currently being piloted at St. Machar Academy.
- A coordinated approach to develop and embed Skills 4.0 (life, learning and work) to support alignment of curricular pathways with growth economic sectors.

What have we achieved?

- **Aim achieved** with an **8%** increase in growth sector courses delivered across schools in 2021-22 with **54** courses now delivered.



- **49.5%** of all courses delivered in 2021/22 are growth sector courses, an 8% increase in proportion since 2019-20.
- **50%** of Aberdeen City S5 and S6 students attended the Learner Pathway event (Lift Off 2021), with **60** employers sharing their career pathway story & opportunities for young people.



- **ABZ Works** website, shaped by young people, launched in June 21, with **581** visits in Nov 2021.



What impact have we had?

Feedback from young people attending Lift Off 1:

"It was good to gain a sense of the skills that are generally required to work in these industries."

"The event gave an insight into various Universities, companies, as well as individuals presenters who shared their experience"

"The talks helped to motivate me and told me what to strive for in the future"

Read the full evaluation [here](#)

What are our next steps?

- Continue to develop our improvements, e.g. pathway planning, to ensure the increase in growth sector courses is **sustained** into 2022-23.
- Hold **Lift Off 2** on 1 and 2 June 2022 to raise awareness of growth sectors and inspire young people about the range of opportunities available to them.
- Explore how the % increase in growth sector courses feeds into the % increase in course awards (e.g. numbers of students on these new courses).



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For more information on our growth sector courses project visit: <https://communityplanningaberdeen.org.uk/stretch-outcome-7/>