

Newsletter

Discover Work Academies Thrive

DISCOVER WORK DELIVERS DIVERSE RANGE OF SECTOR-BASED TRAINING ACADEMIES



Candidates, staff and Councillor Steven Rome celebrate completion of Customer Service academy with [Embank](#) at D&A College

Highlights

[Discover Work Academies Thrive](#)

[Good News Stories](#)

[Did you know?](#)

[Discover Work Strategy](#)

[Helm Youth Opportunity Award](#)

Employers in government administration, engineering and customer service have worked closely with [Employability providers](#) in Dundee to create industry-led training opportunities to support our residents in finding work. At a celebration event for the completion of a manufacturing academy, Kerry Devlin, Managing Director of [GA Engineering](#) said to the cohort:

"This is the start of a career [...] These skills are invaluable for anyone working in this field. Engineering in Scotland is bouncing back in new ways." Talking of the collaboration with employability providers she said "Our team got a lot out of it [...] It's been great to have our input."

Sector based training academies are custom and co-designed to meet the needs of employers who have current vacancies in Dundee. Employability providers across the city have shown that they can respond to specific training and support needed to prepare candidates for work. With more academies in the works, Dundee residents can look forward to more exciting opportunities to train and develop for thriving industries in the city.

To get involved in a sector based academy - as an employer or employability provider, please email - contact@discoverworkdundee.co.uk

Shadia's Story

DESPITE A STRESSFUL SITUATION AND A LACK OF CONFIDENCE, SHADIA REALISED HER POTENTIAL

Shadia was putting a lot of pressure on herself, as her family was relying on her to find employment quickly. She struggled with confidence and job applications in the past, but knew she had the skills needed for a well paid career. Her work coach at Jobcentre Plus could see that Shadia was capable but needed some support to realise her potential.



Shadia was referred to AES (Adult Employability Service, part of Discover Work) and worked together with her case manager to create an action plan to support her in finding work. After further discussion, AES created a tailored support package including in-depth financial advice, CV writing, interview techniques and application writing practice. She was also introduced to the roles offered by Social Security Scotland for which AES created a bespoke package of support to boost clients' applications.

After a few weeks of waiting Shadia received a job offer and was over the moon with her progress and chance of employment. AES are overjoyed for Shadia's success and know she has a very bright future ahead.

Shadia adds " Thank you to the team so much for all your support and encouragement, I couldn't have done it without you all".



Nathan is delighted to have options for leaving school

Nathan's Story

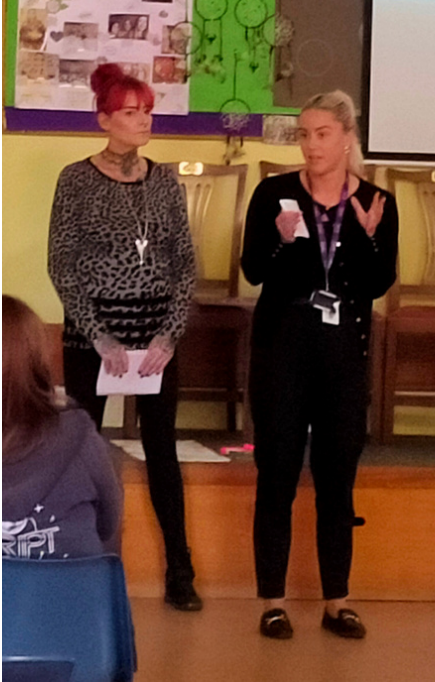
THROUGH PERCEVERANCE AND EXCELLENT PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT, NATHAN HAS FAST TRACKED HIS CAREER

Although not sure what he wanted to do afterwards, Nathan was considering leaving school at the end of summer term 2022. When he attended an event organised by Youth Employability Service (YES) at Grove Academy, Nathan met friendly and approachable staff who were able to help make informed decisions, introducing him to employment opportunities at Social Security Scotland (SSS).

As part of Nathan's person-centred package of support from YES, Nathan learned how to complete an application using the STAR technique, something new to him and his key worker took time and care to make sure he presented the best examples in the correct format.

Nathan initially progressed to the interview stage but was turned down. However, through links established with SSS recruitment team by Discover Work, Nathan received detailed feedback on his interview. Although disappointed Nathan continued to work with YES to search for jobs as he was certain he wanted to leave school. A few weeks later SSS were recruiting again and Nathan was determined to try again. He repeated his application, using the feedback from SSS and intensive support from his key worker. After submitting his SSS application, Nathan received an offer for an apprenticeship at a local business, shortly followed by a job offer from SSS. Nathan says:

"I was so delighted to receive two job offers, I went the next day and signed out of school. There is no way I would be in this position without the support of the Discover Work Youth Employability Service"



Lisa (left) and her key worker Robyn (right) giving a presentation together

Lisa's Story

A POWERFUL FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF LISA'S JOURNEY TO FINDING THE RIGHT JOB AND SUPPORT TO KEEP IT

"I was diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder in 2013, and after facing difficulties within previous employment, I was referred to Occupational Therapy for employment support. I attended the GOALS course in 2021 which is where I met Robyn. She explained about what she did and how she could help me get a job.

My Occupational Therapist referred me to Robyn and we started working together in July 2021. Robyn took time to understand the kind of work I enjoyed and the sort of place I would want to work. We updated my CV and did regular job searches together. I also received training from ENABLEWorks by the way of employability and interpersonal skills workshops.

Robyn and I explored volunteering as a steppingstone while we searched for suitable employment and with Robyn's help I began volunteering at Dundee's Carer Centre, which I still do when possible.

I was offered a job at Uppertunity via the IPS Service. I have been in employment now for roughly 3 months and still get supported by Robyn to ensure I remain supported in my new workplace. The in-work support has been helpful as Robyn and my employer have been able to communicate to discuss workplace adjustments and how I am getting on. I will continue to be supported in my employment with regular catch ups with Robyn over the next year as part of the in-work support. " - Lisa Grant

'Lisa has been an absolute pleasure to work with on the IPS Service, she has embraced every opportunity and gotten involved with various group workshops, as well as always being motivated and dedicated to her goals during our one-to-one support. It has been great seeing Lisa settle into her new role, and I look forward to continuing to support Lisa over the next year through our in-work support.' - Robyn Taylor (ENABLE Works)

Did you know?

SOME USEFUL INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYABILITY PARTNERS IN DUNDEE

- HMRC now recognises No One Left Behind programmes as eligible training programmes where parents / guardians are entitled to continue their Child Benefit claim where their children participate. By definition, the Employability Pathway is a No One Left Behind programme, inclusive of services funded by Dundee City Council and Scottish Government (NOLB, PESF, YPG, ESF, etc.).
- Long-term Unemployed Employer Recruitment Incentive - If you have been unemployed for 12 months or more, are over 25, living in Dundee and are interested in a paid work placement (£9.90ph), please contact: eri@discoverworkdundee.co.uk or [visit our website](#)
- [Career Review | Skills Development Scotland](#) - SDS have released the most comprehensive review of Scotland's career services in a generation. It includes insights from young people on how to create a careers service which is fit for purpose

discover WORK Strategy

2022 - 2027

Transforming Employability for a new Dundee

The Discover Work Partnership is delighted to announce the launch of its Strategy & Action Plan 2022 – 2027, where we set out our strategic vision, goals and context relating to our ambitious transformation of employability for a new Dundee.

[Download: Discover Work Summarised Strategy](#)

[Download: Discover Work Detailed Action Plan](#)



Helm Youth Opportunity Award - The aim of the fund is to give additional opportunities for care experienced young people in Dundee and Angus.

Young people told us that they would like to be given the “opportunity” to use the award to do something that they haven’t already done before, whether that is a holiday/weekend away, learn a new skill or take up a new hobby.

We want young people to be able to apply for the fund for something that is aspirational and not just day to day items.

[Download application guidance](#)

 [Discover Work Linked In](#)

 [Discover Work Twitter](#)