



DECEMBER 2023

**discover**  
WORK

# Newsletter

## More employability support for Dundee parents launched



[All in Dundee](#) has broadened its reach to [support parents](#) in Dundee, with additional partners now involved in providing employment support and guidance to parents who are unemployed or underemployed. Through a network of key workers and a comprehensive range of programmes [Street League](#) and [Helm](#) join [ENABLE Works](#), [One Parent Families Scotland](#), [Barnardo's](#) and [Volunteering Matters](#) to empower parents in achieving sustainable employment. They address practical concerns such as upskilling, childcare, and living expenses and offer solutions to help with a smooth transition into work.

Parents can take advantage of a wealth of resources and expert guidance through the All in Dundee and wider [Discover Work partnership](#) including flexible training funds, one to one mentorship, social/wellbeing groups, employability training workshops, and employer led academies. If you know any parents who want to improve their circumstance, encourage them to contact the team today.

Email: [info@allindundee.org.uk](mailto:info@allindundee.org.uk)

Phone: 07714 396525

Facebook: [facebook.com/AllinDundee](https://facebook.com/AllinDundee)

To promote services and opportunities via our communications channels, email [partnership@discoverworkdundee.co.uk](mailto:partnership@discoverworkdundee.co.uk)

# Rosealie invests in her family's future with help from OPFS



**One Parent Families Scotland**  
*changing lives, challenging poverty*

A Dundee mum has made brave decisions and overcome substantial challenges to achieve her personal goals with the help of One Parent Families Scotland (OPFS). Rosealie is a single parent with two young sons who both have additional needs. Incredibly, she is now 6 months into a new job, has moved house and is around £1600 better off per month.

Rosealie and her key worker at OPFS worked gradually to develop an action plan that includes building confidence and managing the factors that put strain on her mental health, with the aim of moving onto education then employment at the right time for her. Rosalie took part in informal online training available through the Employability Pathway, helping her to build confidence and the appetite to take on further opportunities. Like most people, Rosealie had ups and downs on her journey, and when facing multiple challenges at once, it is easy to be overwhelmed. However, with flexible and person-centred support from OPFS, Rosealie overcame the setbacks, adapted her career plans and kept moving forward.

A key part of Rosalie's journey was taking part in OPFS's groups where she met other parents. Through sharing her knowledge and experience with others, Rosealie began to recognise her own achievements and positive attributes. Having confidence in herself and using her life experience as an asset helped Rosalie to start job searching in earnest, which OPFS were well-placed to help with.

Making the brave decision to move home and accept a job with the local council, Rosalie feels her whole life has changed:

*"The support I got from OPFS was incredible, I really doubted myself after years of being just at home with the children. You made me realise I have lots of transferrable skills. I would definitely recommend you to any single parent considering or looking for work"*

If you know a single parent who could use the support of One Parent Families Scotland, please call **0333 252 2511** or follow the link - [opfs.org.uk/talk-to-us](https://opfs.org.uk/talk-to-us)

# Healthcare Academy



**Are you interested in a career in health and social care? The Healthcare Academy could be the perfect opportunity for you!**

- Join **D&A College & NHS Tayside** for a 6 week training course in partnership with **Discover Work**
- Gain the skills, knowledge and confidence you need to start a rewarding career in health & social care
- Experience working in various NHS departments during work placements
- **Guaranteed interviews** for up to 6 months after satisfactory completion of course

## **Information Day:**

11am, Monday 15th January 2024 @ Lecture Theatre 1, D&A College, Gardyne Road, Dundee, DD5 1NY

## **Course dates:**

Monday 5th February to Friday 15th March 2024

## **Referrals & Enquiries to:**

[contact@discoverworkdundee.co.uk](mailto:contact@discoverworkdundee.co.uk)



# Rising star, Jack connects with a career in IT Support with BT Group



Jack (24) from Dundee took a while to find a career that matches his interests, but since working with ENABLE Works (part of [All in Dundee](#)) and attending the Customer Service Academy with EE, he has not only found a job he likes – he has also progressed within the company with the help of his manager and colleagues.

Jack kindly provided us with some feedback on his journey:

*"I've been very lucky to have had access to both the Enable Works employment support through the Discover Work partnership and in-work support at BT/EE which has allowed me to both start and progress in a career that I wouldn't have thought possible prior to starting.*

*There have been plenty of opportunities from the initial one given at the end of the Discover Work Academy to internal opportunities given within BT/EE, and through these I have found myself in a position that I am very excited for and matches my interests.*

*I started on the Discover Work Academy after being referred into it by my Enable Works employment coordinator and after an interview was hired as a home connections advisor and following a period of in-depth training and support started my job proper, during this time the opportunity to work within BT Business as Enhanced IT support came up and I was able to apply for this position, with support offered from my manager and team and I was successful in getting the job!*

*I'm very happy with the work journey that I've been able to go on through with support from Enable Works and the opportunity through Discover Work Academy and BT/EE, and for the future career that this has allowed me. The support and opportunities have been fantastic throughout, and the training and experience gained from the training course has proved invaluable in this."*

Congratulations, Jack - you've put in a huge effort! Thank you, also to all the staff who helped make it happen. See next page for details of the next Customer Service Academy with EE.

# Customer Service Academy



**Are you unemployed or underemployed and living in Dundee? Are you looking for a well-paid job with opportunities to train and develop your career?**

- Join Discover Work for a 3 week training course in partnership with telecommunication company, EE
- Gain the skills and knowledge needed to work in an EE Contact Centre
- Guaranteed interview upon satisfactory completion of course



## **Information Session:**

10am, Tuesday 9th January 2024 @ The Shore, 15 Shore Terrace, Dundee, DD1 3DN

## **Course dates:**

Monday 15th January to Friday 2nd February 2024

## **Referrals & Enquiries to:**

[contact@discoverworkdundee.co.uk](mailto:contact@discoverworkdundee.co.uk)

“The team have given me so much confidence in my own abilities. They have also given me great tips for updating & improving my CV. In addition, I was also given superb advice on preparing for and conducting interviews. I appreciate you guys more than you know!

The support throughout the whole process from day of registration – right through. With all the great advice given by the team, the interview techniques and advice for interviews. When starting work the support was continued by ensuring I was enjoying my job. I am satisfied and happy. The team have a real genuine concern for my wellbeing and I thank them for that.”

- **Allan**



Contact Adult Employability Team on **01382 433477** or [employability@dundeecity.gov.uk](mailto:employability@dundeecity.gov.uk)



## **Mission Statement**

D&A College is a leading anchor institution dedicated to empowering individuals and businesses to thrive in today's competitive landscape. With a strong focus on industry collaboration and expertise, we deliver high-quality education, training, and apprenticeship programs across all sectors. Through a broad and flexible curriculum, we provide access to the latest technologies and a pathway for talent development from entry level to professional advancement. Discover the transformative power of education and unlock your potential with D&A College.

## Partner Showcase: D&A College

# D&A College in Employability

Dundee and Angus College stand out as a key player in employability for Dundee as the largest training provider in the City. Through our business-focused team we have a wealth of hands-on experience in the complexities of business operations and growth strategies and this expertise allows us to offer unique tailored programmes with the business needs at the centre. Furthermore, D&A prides itself on providing the highest standard of training through first class teaching staff who excel in the delivery of a diverse range of technical skills. This coupled with the employability skills delivered by fellow Discover Work partners ensures individuals are set for success in the professional world.

## Key Contact for D&A College



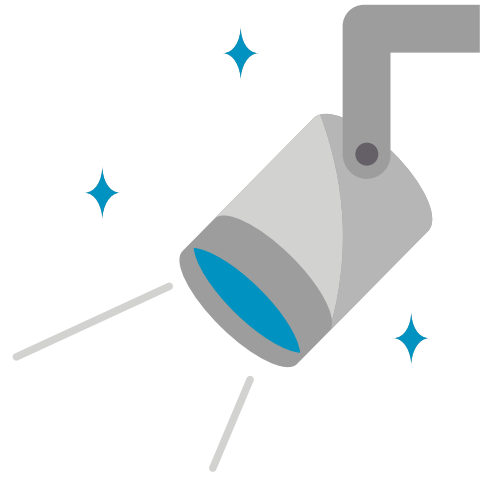
**Caryn Gibson, Business Partnerships Manager**, is the leading force behind our [Business Partnerships Team](#) and is supported by a knowledgeable and dynamic team who bring with them a wealth of experience, dedication, and innovation. [For Businesses | Dundee & Angus College](#)

You can contact our Business Partnerships Team through email: [business@dundeeandangus.ac.uk](mailto:business@dundeeandangus.ac.uk)



## Partner Showcase: D&A College

# Spotlight Project



### Employer-Led Academies

Dundee and Angus College in partnership with Discover Work partners, have pioneered an innovative approach to combatting unemployment and skills gaps within our region through offering unique and individualised employment academies in collaboration with local businesses.

The initiative goes beyond the realms of traditional training programmes, providing participants with the opportunity to develop technical skills onsite at D&A whilst accomplishing personal growth and fostering a growth mindset in collaboration with employability partners. In a region experiencing high unemployment rates and skills gaps, D&A established positive partnerships with local businesses as a solution to develop individuals and enhance businesses. Our tailor-made academies in collaboration with Discover Work partners connect with local businesses to train unemployed individuals to develop the skills to thrive in growing industries. The academies have reached individuals in our community who have long been disengaged, socially excluded, and faced various health and wellbeing challenges and empowered them to successfully gain a sense of self and regain confidence and resilience along the way. The academies focus on developing technical and personal skills and empowering individuals for success.

The Academies, hosted at Dundee and Angus College, are an intensive six-week programme which provides simulated real-world working environments, providing practical experiences and technical skills utilising the expertise and knowledge of our academic teams. This combined with the employability skills delivered by our Discover Work partners is preparing and equipping participants for the job market through developing interview skills, CV writing and presentation skills to prepare the students for the job search process. Our strong collaborations with Discover Work partners and local employers have fostered a collective effort to tackle unemployment and each academy concludes with a celebration event, recognising the partnerships and the impact on each of the individuals enrolled on our academies.

## Partner Showcase: D&A College

# Sharing Best Practice



A prime example of the employability academies is the manufacturing [academy in partnership with Discovery Flexibles](#), a print manufacturing business with a turnover of 13 million and Discover Work partners. For two years, the business had been struggling with recruitment, but through the collaboration between D&A and Discover Work, a customised and tailored academy was able to address the skills gap and transform the lives of the individuals enrolled as well as bridge the employment gap for the business.

We worked closely with Discovery Flexibles to thoroughly understand their needs as a business and the skills they required from employees to grow their business. As a result of the consultation and co-design process, a tailored engineering academy was created to align with their requirements. Working in complete partnership with our Discover Work partners we were able to provide the technical skills bolstered by employability skills that simulated the working environment and hours to provide real-world experiences for participants and provide the business with individuals who were fully committed to their success.



[www.discoveryflexibles.com](http://www.discoveryflexibles.com)

## Partner Showcase: D&A College

# Impact

The impact of the engineering academy is clearly outlined in the outcomes achieved through the multi-layered partnership approach with Discovery Flexibles. Out of the 15 unemployed participants, 9 individuals successfully completed the academy and three of them were offered full-time permanent employment opportunities with Discovery Flexibles. The partnership between D&A and Discover Work has not only provided individuals with the opportunity to grow their practical and technical skills to enter the job market it has empowered them with employable skills and a growth mindset for competing in growing sectors. It has allowed individuals to secure permanent employment and provided transformative experiences for both individuals and businesses.

We intend to broaden the programme's scope by replicating the success of these academies in other sectors such as hospitality, tourism and automotive. We are further widening the programme's scope through contributions to sustainability and environmental benefits by offering academies that empower individuals to contribute to their communities through learning and progressing with sustainable future technologies.

## D&A College & Discover Work Strategy

### Strategic Goal 2. Improve employability outcomes for customers

2.3. Address skills shortages in key economic sectors

2.3.2. Maintain and develop our relationships with the 'key employers'

2.3.2.1. Enhancing links with other business engagement activities

2.3.3. Refocus the skills and employability landscape on key growth and high replacement demand sectors

2.3.3.1. Step up pace of sector-specific academies

### Strategic Goal 3. Establish, promote and increase awareness of Discover Work

3.4. Provide good practice that can be shared between all partners

Big thanks to D&A College for their huge contribution and ongoing commitment to employability in Dundee!

# Volunteer Mentors Needed

- Are you a professional (current or retired) with skills and knowledge to share?
- Looking for a rewarding and flexible way to use your life experiences to make a real difference?
- Do you have just 1 hour to spare every 1-2 weeks?

## PES Mentoring needs you!

Times are increasingly hard just now; PES (Parental Employment Support) is supporting low-income parents in Dundee who face additional barriers to employment or progression and in turn are struggling to provide for their families.

Mentor training and ongoing support is provided, and volunteer expenses are reimbursed.

We have a large variety of mentees looking for different kinds of support, so we need mentors from a range of different backgrounds.



## Please get in touch!

✉ [parentalsupportmentoring@projectscotland.co.uk](mailto:parentalsupportmentoring@projectscotland.co.uk)

☎ 07960292215



**Overwhelmed trying  
to make ends meet?**

**COST OF  
LIVING  
SUPPORT**

**ParentClub**



**Scottish  
Government**

## **Resources for parents at Parent Club**



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If you have anything you'd like to share via our distribution list please contact us on [partnership@discoverworkdundee.co.uk](mailto:partnership@discoverworkdundee.co.uk)