

Newsletter

Investing in Dundee's Young People & Families



Discover Work and Dundee City Council's Education Service are pleased to announce that our partnership has secured additional resources to support Dundee's young people and their families with an aim to increase participation in education, training or employment, as well as additional support to address child poverty in Dundee.

As part of the Discover Work Strategy & Action Plan, a group of Dundee's leaders worked together during 2023 to understand the city's historically low rates of participation amongst 16-19- year-olds in education, training or employment. The resulting report '[A Step Change in Positive Destinations for Young Dundonians](#)' identifies six key themes to improve participation, with an Improvement Framework to follow.

A successful application to the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund has secured additional resource to drive system change required in secondary schools to improve the coordination amongst partners and better support young people to transition between stages of their education and beyond.

Meanwhile, Discover Work have successfully recruited our new Child Poverty Employability Coordinator, aiming to better align employability services with the wider support available in our community to lower child poverty in the city.

Eric starts his IT career with help from Enable Works



Eric is now working as an apprentice for Dundee City Council's IT department

Eric (23) first met with Enable Works in early 2023. He had a little work experience but his main goal was to start a career in the IT industry, which he recognised could be a challenge without relevant work experience and qualifications in this field. At the time, Eric was struggling with depression and anxiety whilst managing being neurodiverse.

During his one to one appointments with his key worker from Enable, Eric began to make lots of progress towards his goals; he created a CV that reflected his skills and qualifications, learned how to write cover letters and applications for IT industry job and apprenticeships. He also attended group training sessions aimed at boosting his confidence and managing mental health at work.

His hard work and engagement with this support resulted in improvements in his job applications and in turn he was asked to interview for several roles. To help him prepare, staff from Enable conducted mock interviews with him and gave tips and advice. Although he was not successful immediately, Eric and his key worker persevered and stayed focussed and motivated.

In June 2024, Eric's key worker received an email via the Discover Work distribution list about a Modern Apprenticeship in the IT Network & Telephony Section of Dundee City Council. After a successful application and interview, Eric secured the role and is now on track to his ideal career. He said the following to his key workers at Enable Works:

"I'd say you have been very helpful and supportive of me as well as being considerate and patient with me throughout."

Healthcare Academy 49



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, Tuesday 13th August 2024 @ Lecture Theatre 1, D&A College, Gardyne Road, Dundee, DD5 1NY

Course dates:

Monday 26th August to Friday 4th October 2024 (Mon - Fri)

To apply or refer email:

contact@discoverworkdundee.co.uk

*Applicants must be over 18 years old, live in or near Dundee and have the right to live and work in UK.



Sense Scotland welcome new talent to Social Care industry



Attendees along with staff from Sense Scotland, Discover Work and Cllr. Siobhan Tolland celebrating the completion of the two week training course

In April 2024 Adult Employability Service (AES) piloted a training academy in partnership with Sense Scotland to help fill roles in the care sector, mainly the role of Support Practitioner. These highly valued social care roles provide care services to adults and children with communication support needs associated for complex sensory disabilities. The duties of Support Practitioners include caring for service users at residential homes, taking service users out on day trips, to the cinema, parks as well as shopping, cooking/preparing meals. In a unique style of co-delivery, AES and Sense Scotland staff delivered two weeks of training on:

- The values & principles of the job role
- Work/life balance
- Scottish Social Services Council registration and membership
- Importance of note taking & record keeping
- The STARR approach
- De-escalating difficult situations
- How to carry out personal care with respect and dignity
- Trauma informed practices
- Autism awareness
- Safeguarding and harm reduction

Following interviews and a celebration event attended by course participants, staff and Dundee City Councillor, Siobhan Tolland, Discover Work are delighted to hear that five of the course participants were offered jobs with Sense Scotland. We look forward to working with Sense Scotland in the future to support recruitment in the Social Care industry.

Trevor Lands His New Role as Visitor Manager



Trevor, who overcame a recent redundancy to secure a new role with Kingsbarns, had this to say about his experience with Adult Employability Service:

"The one-to-one support I received from the Adult Employability Team exceeded my expectations and was instrumental in helping me secure my new role at Kingsbarns Distillery after being made redundant.

The Team provided comprehensive guidance, from identifying eligible benefits and grants to job searching, training, and developing a tailored job search strategy. They highlighted suitable vacancies, offered CV advice, and assisted with contacting potential employers and running campaigns on LinkedIn.

Two key elements of their support were the interview training and encouragement they provided throughout my job search.

Job searching can often feel isolating, but with the support of the Adult Employability Service, it became a collaborative effort, complete with brainstorming sessions when we needed to generate new leads. Thanks to the teams unwavering assistance, I felt supported, prepared and confident every step of the way. I wholeheartedly recommend the Adult Employability Team to anyone in need of their services.

However, it's essential to remember that your effort directly influences the outcome. Being open minded and making yourself visible to the Team by regularly attending Job Club play a crucial role in this!"

We thank Trevor for his valuable feedback and wish him all the best in his new role.