

Report

Report to:	Education Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	2 May 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Education Resources)

Subject:	School Leaver Destinations 2021/2022
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ♦ provide an update on the 2021/22 School Leaver Initial Destination survey results produced by Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the outcome from the follow-up survey on school leaver initial destination results (SLDR) for last year's school leavers in South Lanarkshire, which is 96.2% is noted.
- (2) that the total number of school leavers in South Lanarkshire during 2021/22 of 3443, be noted.

3. School Leaver Initial Destination Results (SLDR)

- 3.1. Each year Education Resources report on the key outcomes for young people who left school from the analysis of the School Leaver Initial Destination Results (SLDR) for South Lanarkshire.
- 3.2. Following the introduction of the Participation Measure in 2017, it was agreed that Skills Development Scotland would continue to supply school leaver destination data to the Scottish Government's Education Analysis Unit (SGEAS) for their annual national statistics publication and to update Insight, the online benchmarking tool for Scottish local authorities and secondary schools.
- 3.3. The 2021/22 cohort includes leavers from publicly funded secondary schools who left school between September 2021 and September 2022. The national report is based on information held on the shared dataset which is updated on an ongoing basis. The figures were taken as a snapshot in early October 2022.
- 3.4. The Council has invested significant resources from a variety of sources including Scottish Government No-one Left Behind, European Structural Funds and South Lanarkshire Education funds to provide a range of learning opportunities and support for those young people in the senior phase for them to progress in their learning journey and to achieve a positive leaver destination. This includes targeted one-to-one employability support for school leavers through the Aspire and AspireWorks programmes and work-based learning opportunities through the GradU8 and Foundation Apprenticeship programmes.

4. South Lanarkshire School Leaver Destinations 2021/22

4.1. South Lanarkshire's positive destination rate for 2020/21 is **96.2%**. This is the same rate as the previous year and the target to achieve a rate of equal to or above the national rate (95.7%) has been achieved.

4.2. Summary

- ◆ 3443 young people left school in 2021/22, a rise from 3312 the previous year
- ◆ The positive destination rate is 96.2%, there is no change from 2020/21
- ◆ South Lanarkshire sits above the national rate of 95.7% by 0.5 percentage points
- ◆ South Lanarkshire has the 11th highest rate of the 32 Local Authorities
- ◆ The unemployed (seeking) rate is 2.3%, in line with the national rate
- ◆ The unemployed (not seeking) rate is 1%, this sits below the national rate of 1.5%
- ◆ The unknown rate is 0.5%, this sits slightly above national rate of 0.4%

4.3. Table 1: Leaver Destinations 2021/22

Leaver destination	South Lanarkshire (%)	Scotland (%)
Employment	23.1	25.1
Higher Education	46.5	41.2
Further Education	22	25.5
Training	4	2.9
Personal Skills Development	0.3	0.5
Voluntary Work	0.3	0.5
Unemployed seeking	2.3	2.3
Unemployed not seeking	1	1.5
Unknown	0.5	0.4

4.4. Table 2: Positive destinations by school

School	Total leavers	Positive destinations (%)
Biggar High School	108	98.1
Calderglen High School	254	98.8
Calderside Academy	250	87.6
Carluke High School	182	94.5
Cathkin High School	198	98.0
Duncanrig Secondary School	284	96.5
Hamilton Grammar	207	96.1
Holy Cross High School	229	97.4
Lanark Grammar	194	97.4
Larkhall Academy	228	93.9
Lesmahagow High School	103	94.2
St Andrew's and St Bride's	241	97.9
St John Ogilvie High School	176	94.9
Stonelaw High School	215	99.5
Strathaven Academy	175	97.7
Trinity High School	216	97.2
Uddingston Grammar	183	96.7
South Lanarkshire	3443	96.2

5. Positive Destinations – Closing the Gap

- 5.1. The table below compares the positive leaver destinations for young people residing in the most and least deprived data zones. In 2021/22 98.6% of young people in the least deprived datazones achieved positive destinations compared to 92.5% of young people in the most deprived, a gap of 6.1 percentage points. The gap has narrowed marginally from 6.4% in 2020/21 and compares to 4.4% across Scotland. During academic year 22/23, all young people residing in the most deprived datazones are discussed individually through 16+ meetings in all schools and it is anticipated that this will contribute to a narrowing of the gap for the 2022/23 positive destination rate.

- 5.2. Table 3: Positive Destinations – Gap between most and least deprived datazones

	South Lanarkshire 20% most deprived datazones	South Lanarkshire 20% least deprived	Gap
2021/22	92.5	98.6	6.1
2020/21	92	98.4	6.4

	National 20% most deprived datazones	National 20% least deprived datazones	Gap
2021/22	93.4	97.8	4.4
2020/21	92.8	97.6	4.8

6. Positive Destinations for Care Experienced Young People

- 6.1. The South Lanarkshire multi-agency care experienced tracking and monitoring group works to ensure that every care experienced young person has an individualised employability support package with regular monitoring and alterations to support as required. The work of this group has a positive impact on the destinations of care experienced young people in recent years with the rate consistently above that for Scotland.
- 6.2. In 2021/22, 80 young people within the leavers' cohort were recorded as care experienced. The positive destination rate is 92.5% for this group of leavers. This is an increase from 90% in 2020/21 and sits above the National rate of 86%.

- 6.3. Table 4: Positive destinations rate for care experienced young people

	2021/22	2020/21
South Lanarkshire - care experienced young people	92.5	90
South Lanarkshire (all young people)	96.2	96.2
National - Care Experienced young people	86	87.9
National (all young people)	95.7	95.5

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. There are no significant implications for climate change, sustainability and the environment arising from the recommendations in this report.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. There are no implications for risk in terms of the information contained within this report.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.
- 11.2. As the purpose of the report is to provide an update on school leaver destinations, there is no requirement to consult directly with stakeholders, but it should be noted that engagement takes place with individual schools.

Tony McDaid

Executive Director (Education Resources)

5 April 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ♦ Education and learning: Inspiring learners, transforming learners and strengthening partnerships.

Previous References

- ♦ None

List of Background Papers

- ♦ Scottish Government's Education Analysis Unit (SGEAS) - annual national statistics publication Insight

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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