

**INITIAL SCHOOL LEAVER DESTINATION REPORT FOR 2012/13
LEAVERS**

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1** This report provides information and analysis on the initial School Leaver Destination Return (SLDR) for 2012/13 which covers 875 senior phase pupils (S4-S6) making the transition from the 10 publicly funded secondary schools in Argyll and Bute.

Overall the percentage of leavers entering a positive destination was 92.5%, a rise of 2.4% points in comparison to the 2011/12 figure of 90.1%. This is 1.1% above the Scottish national average of 91.4%.

This is the highest percentage of positive destinations ever reported in the authority. Argyll & Bute Council is now ranked 13th out of 32 local authorities for the percentage of leavers entering a positive destination.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1** It is recommended that Council:

- a) Continue to support the local authority's focus on Opportunities for All in order to increase young peoples' participation in post-16 learning, training or employment, through appropriate intervention and support.
- b) Continue to support our young people to move into positive destinations post-school, particularly Looked After and Accommodated Children (LAAC) and those furthest removed from the labour market.
- c) Offer help and support to our young people, particularly our LAAC and furthest removed cohort, through offering appropriate work placements and training opportunities.
- d) Support and endorse the work of the Employability Partnership as appropriate, particularly the Argyll and Bute Youth Employment Activity Plan (YEAP).

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1** Skills Development Scotland (SDS) supplies information about the destinations of school leavers from publicly funded Secondary

Schools to the Scottish Government's Education Analytical Services Division. This data return is based on young people who left school between the 1st August 2012 and the 31st July 2013.

- 3.2 The collation exercise was carried out during the month of September 2013 and produced a snapshot of destinations as of Monday 7th October 2013. The exercise involved our key partner agencies working collaboratively in order to obtain the required information; particularly our secondary schools, our central Opportunities for All team and local Skills Development Scotland colleagues.
- 3.3 Data collated covers distinct groups:
- 1) Those leavers leaving from the 10 publicly funded secondary schools within Argyll and Bute
 - 2) Those leavers who have left from specialist provision e.g. identified residential schools. In these instances the local authority is based on the individual's home address as recorded on the SDS client management system and not the school attended.
 - 3) Those leavers who have moved out with Scotland are not regarded as being within the scope of the SLDR official statistic. These leavers are recorded separately.

KEY STATISTICAL INFORMATION

3 Year Comparison of Argyll and Bute's SLDR destinations

Destinations Overview	2010/11 %	2011/12 %	2012/13 %
Higher Education	35.9	39.7	37.9
Further Education	22.6	20.9	21.4
Training	3.0	3.6	3.7
Employment	27.8	24.9	28.1
Voluntary Work	0.3	0.3	0.1
Activity Agreement	0.1	0.6	1.0
Unemployed Seeking	9.4	7.6	6.6
Unemployed not seeking	0.6	1.7	0.9
Unknown	0.1	0.6	0
Positive Destinations	89.8	90.1	92.5

3.4 Of particular note from the statistics shown here:

- We were able to track ALL of our young people and had no unknown returns.
- We have 58 school leavers who are currently unemployed and seeking work and 8 who are unemployed but not seeking.

INDIVIDUAL SECONDARY SCHOOL SLDR's 2012/13

School	Total Leavers	HE	FE	Training	Employed	Voluntary	Activity Agreement	Unemployed Seeking	Unemployed Not Seeking	Total Positive	Total Other
	Nos	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
CGS	88	35.2	23.9	1.1	36.4	0	0	3.4	0	96.6	3.4
DGS	176	35.2	29.5	4.0	20.5	0	3.4	6.3	1.1	92.6	7.4
HA	201	42.8	24.9	3.0	15.9	0	1.0	10.4	2.0	87.6	12.4
HIS	38	23.7	5.3	2.6	57.9	0	0	10.5	0	89.5	10.5
LHS	83	55.4	9.6	1.2	27.7	0	0	6.0	0	94.0	6.0
OHS	201	29.9	17.4	6.0	39.3	1.0	0	5.5	1.0	93.5	6.5
RA	48	35.4	29.2	8.3	16.7	2.1	2.1	6.3	0	93.8	6.3
TAR	11	45.5	18.2	0	36.4	0	0	0	0	100.0	0
TIR	8	37.5	0	0	62.5	0	0	0	0	100.0	0
TOB	21	61.9	14.3	0	23.8	0	0	0	0	100.0	0
A&B	875	37.9	21.4	3.7	28.1	0.3	1.0	6.6	0.9	92.5	7.5

School Key:	
CGS	Campbeltown Grammar
DGS	Dunoon Grammar
HA	Hermitage Academy
HIS	Islay High
LHS	Lochgilphead High
OHS	Oban High
RA	Rothsay Academy
TAR	Tarbert Academy
TIR	Tiree High
TOB	Tobermory High

Rothsay Academy has seen a significant increase in the number of school leavers entering a positive destination - 11.3% higher than 2011/12; closely followed by Campbeltown Grammar School with an increase of 10.9%.

3.5 Three schools achieved a 100% positive return – Tarbert, Tiree and Tobermory – and 8 out of the 10 schools achieved higher than the Scottish average.

3.6 Although both Hermitage and Islay are sitting on a similar unemployed and seeking percentage (10.4 and 10.5 respectively) this actually amounts to a difference of 17 young people (Hermitage has 21 and Islay has 4) reflecting the differences in our

school population. Further support will be offered to both of these schools from the central Opportunities for All team over the coming months in order to ascertain what additional help or action is required in order to raise their positive destination statistics.

- 3.7 The individual school breakdown shows the wide variation in destinations being pursued by our young people and reflects the range of opportunities available both locally and nationally. E.g. Tobermory had the highest proportion of its senior phase cohort entering higher education and Dunoon the highest for further education, closely followed by Rothesay (easier access to West College Scotland – James Watt). Nearly 58% of the young people on Islay were able to secure employment.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 All key partner agencies involved in delivering Opportunities for All have put in considerable effort to improve post-school destinations for Argyll and Bute young people and this has been clearly reflected in the School Leaver Destination data outlined above.

These key partners - including schools, Community Learning and Development Youth Workers, Argyll College UHI, Argyll Training, the third sector and employers – should continue to be supported by the central Opportunities for All team to ensure we continue to grow the number of school leavers moving into and sustaining positive destinations.

National-level data released on the 13th December allowed us to compare our position with the 31 other local authorities. We have improved upon our position for the 2011/12 data where we were ranked 15th overall and are now sitting in the 13th place overall.

5. IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Policy:** This contributes toward the achievement of Single Outcome Agreement 2013 – 23
Overarching Outcome: Argyll and Bute's economic success is built on a growing population.
Outcome 3: Education, skills and training maximises opportunities for all
- 5.2 Financial:** Funding support for work placements to be continued under the Youth Employment budget line. This funding is used to support LAAC and those furthest removed into employment.

- 5.3 Personnel:** HR support for work placement opportunities
- 5.4 Equal Opportunity:** The work of the Opportunities for All team actively supports addressing education inequalities and supporting all young people achieve a sustainable positive destination
- 5.5 Legal** None
- 5.6 Risk** Failure to progress the youth employment/positive destinations agenda presents reputational risk to Argyll and Bute and can impact on young people's life chances.
- 5.7 Customer Services** None

**Cleland Sneddon
Executive Director of
Community Services**

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For further information contact: Aileen Goodall,
Lead Officer: Opportunities for All

Telephone 01369 708544
07748584998