

Young Enterprise Scotland Company Programme

The ultimate business and enterprise experience
for S5/S6 pupils in schools across Scotland



Preparing the workforce of the future
*Developing adaptability, an entrepreneurial
mindset, and employability skills*

Company Programme provides a real-life learning opportunity that introduces young people to the realities of the world of work.

Students set up and run their own student company. They make all the decisions about their business, from deciding on the company name and product to managing the company finances. Participants gain the practical business experience, adaptability, entrepreneurial mindset and employability skills needed to secure successful futures.

Step by step guidance is available online with videos and resources to support students to run their student company. All this takes place with the support of a Volunteer Business Adviser who facilitates the programme and brings a wealth of business knowledge and expertise. All YES Volunteer Business Advisers are PVG checked and undergo child protection training.

Student companies can take part in local competitions and have the opportunity to compete to be crowned Scottish YE Company of the Year and continue their journey to the UK and European Company Programme Finals.

Company Programme supports students to gain confidence, practical know-how and attributes to prepare for work and provides interesting and relevant content to include in applications to education and training providers or future employers. By taking part in an online self-assessment, students receive a certificate to evidence the development of employability skills.

“I have become a lot more confident in being able to present my ideas and work and lead a team, which I’m sure will be a massive benefit when joining the real world of work”

Student

“Company Programme has been a priceless and life-changing experience. The programme has taught me the importance of networking, communication and about taking calculated risk”

Student

Learning Outcomes from Company Programme

- Develop confidence, an enterprising mindset and employability skills for successful transitions to the next stage of life
- Gain first-hand experience of work, job roles and working as a team
- Recognise the qualities and skills needed for employability and create positive accounts of these skills
- Gain self-awareness to recognise personal strengths and areas for personal development
- Understand self-employment/entrepreneurship as a career option
- Develop interesting and relevant content for inclusion in applications to education/training providers and future employers
- Develop a professional network

Supporting Schools

- Contributes to a stable, structured careers programme by providing an opportunity to prepare young people for work by developing enterprise and employability skills. It develops confidence to compete in the labour market and develops entrepreneurial skills for self-employment
- Provides encounters with employers and employees, an opportunity for students and the school to develop professional networks

Regional Support

Each school will be allocated to one of our 17 regions based on your location. Your Local Area Team will be the main point of contact throughout the programme for localised support and guidance.

SCQF Accreditation

The Young Enterprise Scotland Company Programme has an optional SCQF qualification attached at Level 6 worth 26 - 30 credit points.

The qualification is split into 4 units and closely follows the programme's milestone map and "learning by doing" ethos. The students upload a digital portfolio of evidence via Moodle and our team of markers at Glasgow Kelvin College continually assess the student's work throughout the year providing real-time feedback during the programme.

With over 300 students achieving the full award in our pilot year last year, we are excited to see more school across Scotland take up this fantastic opportunity for a practical enterprise qualification.

For more information and detailed guidance on how to embed the qualification at your school, please get in touch.

"I have facilitated the YES Company Programme for 2 full sessions and I LOVE it. The project builds on many skills and creates opportunities that are usually not available in an average school timetable."

From creativity, to leading, to problem solving - the skills that our young people are developing are incredible. The structure of the programme is simple and the pupils have thoroughly enjoyed it.

I believe that it was a good fit for our rurally based school as many young people came out of their shells, started thinking outside the box and developed their confidence. The formal pieces of work that were set for the pupils really portrayed the real struggle and efforts to set up a business and run it appropriately, tapping into the wants of the local community and incorporating the element of sustainability in their mission statement."

Business Teacher

National Digital Support Programme

National Virtual Launch (1st September 2020)

YES will kick off the year with a dedicated virtual launch event for all teams in Scotland to participate in. This will include inspirational talks from entrepreneurs, guidance on how to get started on the programme, an overview of YE Online and the support available, with top tips and tricks for running a successful company.

Monthly Virtual Training for Students (September - March)

Each month YES will provide online training sessions for students covering a range of different topics related to running the Company Programme. These will be available to replay if students are unable to watch live. Full dates/topics will be available in August.

Monthly Drop-in Support Calls for Staff & Volunteers (August - March)

We understand that some schools and volunteers need more support than others, so we will be setting up monthly drop-in sessions for any Centre Leads or Business Advisers to ask questions directly to the team at Young Enterprise Scotland for support or advice.

Online Trading Platform (August - June)

A new online trading platform from Young Enterprise UK will be launched in August to allow student companies to trade online. Student companies must have a business bank account in order to operate this.

Remote Business Adviser Support (August - April)

With time in school being limited, we will be moving to provide all Business Adviser support remotely through the use of video-conferencing tools. More specific details will be shared in August about the practicalities of this.



Venture - Fortrose Academy, Highland & Moray

Venture is a social enterprise from the Highlands of Scotland. Their Dementia Mitt, Knit Your Own Mitt Kit and innovative Past Times game bring generations together; tackle social isolation and support people living with dementia. The team won their local finals and then beat off competition from another 15 teams at the Scottish finals, winning the Scottish Company of the Year 2019 Award. At the UK Finals in London they went on to win the Disney Creativity award, Runner up Journey Award and overall 2nd Runner Up.

**Interested in finding out more about how to get involved?
E-mail fraser.morrison@yes.org.uk for more information.**