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| **FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION** | | | |
| Meeting: **Curriculum and Student Affairs and Outcome** | | | |
| Presented by | Nicola Mulholland | | |
| Author/Contact | Nicola Mulholland | Department / Unit | SMT |
| Date Created | May 2024 | Telephone | 2734 |
| Appendices Attached | **Developing the Young Workforce / School College Partnership** | | |

1. **PURPOSE**

To update CSAO on the Senior Phase and School Activity.

1. **BACKGROUND**

This paper gives a detailed overview of the core School-College Partnership Activity that operates across the college. NCL has worked in partnership with local authorities for a number of years to support young people to engage with vocational education and provide opportunities for these individuals to experience work-based learning in a variety of modes.

1. **DETAIL**

New College Lanarkshire offers a varied programme to schools in four Local Authorities: North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire, East Dunbartonshire and Falkirk. Our courses range from level 1 to level 7 and cover over 33 disciplines. For AY 23-24 there were 1878 pupils from 156 class groups, bringing in a total of 6127 credits and an estimated separate income of circa £368k.

1. **BENEFITS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

* Recruitment to FT college programmes.
* Enhanced reputation in our local communities.
* Fulfilling national agenda obligations.
* Participating in the widening access agenda.

1. **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

The Board retains an overview of NCL activity in the interests of good governance.

1. **RISK**Pupils will not sustain the course which will lead to low PIs.

Pupils will not progress on to full time programmes.

Pupils do not have the correct entry requirements.

1. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is hoped that these courses will be feeder courses for the full-time programmes of the future.

1. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications.

1. **WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS**

There are no workforce implications.

1. **REPUTATIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

Engaging with pupils from our local communities can help to enhance and improve our reputation.

1. **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

There are equalities implications.

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| **CONCLUSIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**  CSAO are asked to note the information contained in this report and raise or discuss any issues which may prevent publication. |

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

* 1. This paper seeks to provide an update on the School-College Partnership Activity for academic year 2023 – 2024.

### **2. SCHOOL-COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP 2023 – 2024 KPIs**

### **FE PT**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Number of Pupils** | **Percentage** | **2022/2023** |
| Early Withdrawal | 109 | 8% | 66 (4.83%) |
| Further Withdrawal | 206 | 15.12% | 191 (14%) |
| Total number of students | 1822 |  | 1367 |

There has been an increase of overall enrolments in 2023/2024 of 455.

There has been an increase in early withdrawals in 2023/2024 of 43 pupils and an overall Credit loss of ~645. Some of this credit loss is due to nature of programme, such courses in Access and Progression. Other areas with high early withdrawals Early Learning and Childcare, and courses with Beauty, Aesthetics and Hair Design.

There has been an increase of further withdrawals in 2023/2024 of 11 pupils. Some of these withdrawals are due to nature of programme, such courses in Access and Progression. Other areas of high further withdrawals are Construction, Early Learning and Childcare, and courses within Beauty, Aesthetics and Hair Design, and Construction.

**HE PT**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Number of Pupils** | **Percentage** | **22/23** |
| Early Withdrawal | 2 | 3.85% | 2 (7.4%) |
| Further Withdrawal | 5 | 9.6% | 1 (3.7%) |
| Total number of students | 52 |  | 27 |

There has been an increase of overall enrolments in 2023/2024 of 25 pupils.

The number of pupils withdrawing early has stayed the same at 2 in 2023/2024.

There has been an increase in further withdrawals in 2023/2024 of 4 pupils.

Overall, we currently have over 1000 results outstanding for our core schools programmes, however the completion of these courses should not be impacted by industrial action as most strike action took place after our core school programmes had finished.

### **3. PROPOSED SCHOOL-COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY FOR 2024 – 2025**

**SLC**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course Title** | **24/25 Projected Enrolments** |
| Beauty | 16 |
| Beauty | 16 |
| Beauty | 16 |
| Construction A | 13 |
| Construction C | 13 |
| Construction E | 12 |
| Construction B | 14 |
| Construction D | 14 |
| Construction F | 14 |
| Creative and Digital Media | 13 |
| Creative and Digital Media | 8 |
| EE & Childcare | 16 |
| EE & Childcare | 15 |
| EE & Childcare | 15 |
| EE & Childcare | 16 |
| Engineering Skills | 15 |
| Engineering Skills | 15 |
| Hair & Barbering | 16 |
| Hair & Barbering | 16 |
| Hair & Barbering | 16 |
| Health & Social care | 13 |
| Health & Social care | 12 |
| Hospitality | 14 |
| Hospitality | 16 |
| Make-Up Artistry | 16 |
| Make-Up Artistry | 16 |
| Sport & Recreation | 14 |
| Sport & Recreation | 19 |
| UES | 15 |
| UES | 18 |
| FA Engineering Y2 Returners | 9 |
| SWAP Access to Engineering | 12 |
| Winter Leavers | 64 |
|  | **527** |

**NLC**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course** | **Projected Enrolments** |
| HNC Cyber Security | 28 |
| HNC CADD | 14 |
| HNC Social Services | 18 |
| FA Construction | 126 |
| FA Engineering | 15 |
| FA Social Services Children & Young People | 70 |
| FA Social Services Healthcare | 19 |
| Auto | 12 |
| Beauty | 46 |
| ELCC | 78 |
| NPA Exercise and Fitness Leadership | 26 |
| L6 Sports Coaching | 12 |
| Criminology | 19 |
| Football Participation, Coaching and Performance | 64 |
| ESOL | 15 |
|  | 562 |
|  |  |

**NCL ASN**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course** | **No. of class groups** |
| Robotics | 7 |
| Hospitality | 17 |
| Digital Media | 10 |
| Childcare | 9 |
| Sport & Fitness | 10 |
| Hairdressing | 10 |
|  | 63 |
|  |  |

**EDC**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course** | **No. of class groups** |
| Hair and Beauty | 34 |
|  |  |

**DYW Live**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Course** | **Projected Enrolments** |
| Introduction to Criminology/Psychology | 16 |
| NPA Legal Studies | 16 |
|  | 32 |

### **4. EVENTS**

NCL attend a large variety of school career events across the academic year.

In 2023/2024, we were in attendance at 43 school career events across four local authorities: East Dunbartonshire, North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and Stirling. Requests are already coming in to college for these events to be supported for 2024/2025, with some events already having taken place.

There are plans for NCL to have a presence at the forthcoming UCAS events in September 2024 to promote our core curriculum and provide pathway information for school-leavers.

We also plan to host further Community of Practice events, targeting key strategic areas of our core curriculum to build our reputation and promote our full-time courses.

### **5. STEM EVENTS**

We have several STEM events planned for the year ahead.

The first event will take place on 5th October 2024 in our Motherwell Campus. This is partnership with

Developing the Young Workforce regional group for East Dunbartonshire and Lanarkshire. We will be

asking key departments to contribute to this by providing workshops and we will host a range of STEM

employers on the day for pupils to engage with. We will ensure that pupils engage with our Advanced

Manufacturing Hub during this event to support meeting the targets set out in the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for SmartHub Lanarkshire that we deliver in partnership with North Lanarkshire Council.

A further two events are planned for later in the year, in collaboration with Smart STEMs, however, details of this have still to be finalised.

### **6. 10th ANNIVERSARY PRIZE**

The NCL 10th Anniversary Prize competition concluded on 4th of June with a celebration event in our Motherwell campus.

There were two entries for the Arts category and fifteen for the STEM category, with over 50 pupils in total involved in the competition from three different high schools across North Lanarkshire. The standard of entries was extremely high, and scoring cards were created with judging criteria to ensure a fair and equitable approach to deciding on the winners in each category.

The judging panel consisted of a range of both internal and external stakeholders. Our Principal and CEO chaired the proceedings, with North Lanarkshire Council being represented by Andrew McPherson, Deputy Chief Executive. Derek Harris, Chief Operating Officer at Skyrora, was also present for the judging of the prizes as the sponsor. In addition, Alan Moffat, Head of our Visual and Creative Arts Department helped to judge the Arts category, while Michael Balzo, Academic Leader of Science, helped to judge the STEM category.

Both teams from the Arts category submission were invited to attend our celebration event, while 6 teams from the STEM category made it through to the final. Pupils were invited to bring their parents and carers on the night, as well as colleagues from both schools.

### **6. 10th ANNIVERSARY PRIZE (cont.)**

Our Lady's High School (OLHS), Cumbernauld, emerged as the winner in the Arts category with their innovative proposal for an art exhibition aimed at raising awareness and funds for sustainable issues. Inspired by Yayoi Kusama's 'Infinity Rooms,' the students designed an interactive installation filled with art made from recycled materials, aiming to attract community engagement and donations for countries impacted by climate change. Their project included crafting flowers from recycled plastic bottles and creating a space in Cumbernauld Town Centre where visitors could exchange household waste for donation tokens. Runners up in this category was a team from Greenfaulds High, Cumbernauld, who created a mosaic plate using colour to gently balance the positive messaging around sustainability with the stark warning of the impact of our carbon footprint.

In the Stem Category the standard of entries was so strong the judges spilt the prize between a team from Taylor High school and a team from Our Lady High school, Cumbernauld.

Taylor High School's "Tree Week" initiative earned one of the joint winners' spots in the STEM category. The project featured a week-long series of activities designed to promote environmental awareness and action among students. Activities included tree planting, litter picking, a no-tech day to reduce carbon footprints, and a sponsored walk to raise funds for climate change research. The initiative highlighted the importance of trees in carbon sequestration and the role of collective action in combating climate change.

The OLHS group clinched the other joint winner title with their impressive back garden windmill designed to power mobile phones. Their project demonstrated how wind energy could be harnessed using a small-scale windmill to generate electricity for everyday devices. Additionally, they proposed an alternative hydro-power method using water to achieve the same outcome, showcasing a versatile approach to renewable energy solutions suitable for urban settings.

Each of the winning teams received £500 and a trophy. They also had the opportunity to visit Skyrora’s state-of-the-art facilities in Cumbernauld.

Going forward, the college is committed to working with the winning entries to bring them to life. Work is already underway with Taylor High to plan for Tree Week in Spring 2025, working with the cluster primaries and our colleagues in Science. We are also hoping to be able to print a 3D version of the sustainability electricity generator and for our Art department to work with OLHS to create the art exhibition in Cumbernauld.

We are hoping to build on the success of this event in AY24/25 by running another competition with a view to this becoming an annual event.

### **7. QUALIFICATION DEVELOPMENT**

NCL has been working in partnership with Grove Academy in Dundee and Education Scotland to develop a new qualification for schools at SCQF level 6.

This qualification has been developed to support Grove Academy to accredit the pupils for the work they undertake in relation to Mate Scotland ROV competition. The qualification is called Engineering Challenge and the assessment strategy is based on project-led assessment.

### **7. QUALIFICATION DEVELOPMENT (cont.)**

This qualification has been through the credit-rating process and is on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework, capturing the same number of SCQF points as a C pass at Higher. The qualification is now also registered with Insight so that it attracts tariff points to support schools in evaluating their attainment performance.

The first cohort of pupils will be accredited in AY2024/2025 and there is lots of interest from Education Scotland as this development work goes some way to address some of the reform recommendations in the Hayward report. It has been proposed that this qualification will be showcased, along with other alternative school qualifications, at a conference event hosted by Education Scotland in the coming months.

Following from this development, there has also been interest in other schools adopting this qualification and there has been interest from F1 in Schools UK in either adopting the qualification or developing something similar to meet the needs of their competition.

### **8. IMPROVEMENT**

There are several key development strands for improvement for AY 2024/2025, which are captured in

action plans, which have been shared with staff and our TU colleagues.

Some of these developments are:

* Testing and introduction of a new online enrolment system.
* Creation of a dashboard for our school-college partnership programmes.
* Induction packs for those delivering on our school-college partnership programme.
* Celebration events/open evenings for pupils, parents, carers and school colleagues.
* Improve IT access for staff delivering out in schools.
* Development of the website page to include videos and testimonials.