

# amazing things

A GUIDE TO YOUTH AWARDS IN SCOTLAND



**Awards  
Network**  
The network of youth  
awards in Scotland

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## DIRECTORY OF AWARDS

A Directory of Awards in table form, this alphabetical listing summarises at a glance the key features of awards listed, including age range, award programme components, SCQF level and accreditation.



“ We want each child to enjoy an education that encourages them to be the best they can be. This is an investment that impacts on individuals, families and communities.”

Improving the education and life chances of our children and young people is the defining mission of this Government. Our vision is of excellence and equity for all children and young people across Scottish education. We value the significant contribution that Community Learning and Development services, including youth work organisations, make to the progress and achievement of children in Scotland and we want to see this continue to expand.

The Scottish Government continues to support the youth work sector and one of the key ambitions of the National Youth Work Strategy is,

“A strong, responsive and imaginative youth work sector that supports and empowers young people is vital in our drive to improve their wellbeing and life chances.” National Youth Work Strategy 2014-2019

This is where the Awards Network—and this updated publication—plays such an important role. It is also good to see how this work, including the previous versions of Amazing Things, has influenced the development of other awards such as the Adult Achievement and Community Achievement Awards.

Recognising softer skills learned and practiced—often in non-formal as well as formal settings—is an effective way to demonstrate the skills employers look for. Raising attainment through the recognition of both soft and harder skills will support Scotland’s young people to become confident individuals and contributing citizens. Through the Scottish Attainment Challenge, the Scottish Government is working to achieve this. We are investing to raise attainment, to drive forward improvements on

educational outcomes in Scotland’s most disadvantaged communities. We want each child to enjoy an education that encourages them to be the best they can be. This is an investment that impacts on individuals, families and communities.

I am ambitious for Scotland and for Scotland’s young people and these awards contribute to building a successful Scotland. I would urge you to make best use of them and support our young people to flourish.

**John Swinney MSP,**  
Deputy First Minister  
and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills



“ We have a collective responsibility to our young people, and we need the collective will to make things better—to improve life chances for people of all ages, through learning, personal development and active citizenship.”

I would like to congratulate the Awards Network, and your growing membership, in your work to continue to develop and expand / extend these important awards. I am delighted to see that increasing numbers of young people are achieving youth awards—more than 80,000 in 2016–17—and awards are being delivered by local authorities and the third sector in an ever widening range of settings.

At the heart of our ambition for young people is the principle that everyone in Scotland has the right to access high quality learning to meet their needs and aspirations, not only in their school years, but throughout their lives.

We have a collective responsibility to our young people, and we need the collective will to make things better—to improve life chances for people of all ages, through learning, personal development and active citizenship. These awards absolutely support these responsibilities.

In the recent Education Governance Review consultation, children and young people told us that they want their schools and teachers to realise the value of extra-curricular achievements in their education. Youth awards are a great way to achieve this.

So, I would encourage everyone who works with young people—in schools, youth work settings, further education or in the workplace to make best use of this excellent resource.

**Graeme Logan,**  
Interim Chief Inspector of Education,  
Education Scotland





**While formal qualifications remain hugely important, employers tell us time and again that attitude and aptitude are the most important thing they look for when it comes to hiring school and college leavers. Ensuring that young people, whether still in education or already in the workforce, get exposure to community and volunteering opportunities and other non-formal learning through youth awards is great for their all-round development and the new skills and experience they gain along the way can be a real boost to employers, current and future.**

From an employers’ perspective, seeing young people take on these challenges is indicative of a positive, can-do, attitude—exactly what we want to see in the workforce. Being successful in a modern economy isn’t just about having the skills and experience necessary to do your job well, it’s about combining these attributes with the ‘soft skills’ that can take you further. Volunteering opportunities and becoming an active and engaged member of the community can be a really helpful way of teaching young people the communication, leadership and teamwork skills that businesses prize. It can also help them gain the confidence, resilience, enterprise, adaptability and ambition that will help them navigate an ever-changing jobs market.

We’re very pleased to once again lend our support to this publication. Amazing Things is an essential guide to all the fantastic youth award schemes that take place here in Scotland. Better showcasing the links between youth awards, volunteering opportunities and the business community is a hugely worthwhile endeavour. Amazing Things is an important first port of call for those searching for further information on the issue.

**“ Young people are the employees, entrepreneurs and business leaders of the future—it’s their ideas and hard work that will power future prosperity in Scotland.”**

Young people are the employees, entrepreneurs and business leaders of the future—it’s their ideas and hard work that will power future prosperity in Scotland. Ensuring that their personal endeavour, commitment and contribution to local communities is rewarded through real recognition will only encourage them to think bigger and we should do everything we can to make sure that awards of this nature are suitably highlighted.

As the voice of business in Scotland, we wish all award achievers well and offer our thanks and support to all young people up and down Scotland that are involved in youth award and community volunteering programmes—you make a hugely important contribution and it doesn’t go unnoticed.

**Hugh Aitken CBE,**  
CBI Scotland Director

**WELCOME TO THE 4TH EDITION OF AMAZING THINGS, THE GUIDE TO YOUTH AWARDS IN SCOTLAND.**

**Produced by the Awards Network, Amazing Things highlights opportunities and potential of youth awards to support and recognise the achievements of young people. Contributions from Government, education and employers demonstrate growing recognition of the role and value of youth awards to development of life skills and learner journeys towards further learning and employment. The impact of youth awards is ably illustrated through stories and views from young people.**

Amazing Things lists key features of a range of youth awards provided by members of the Awards Network. The Awards Network was established in Scotland in 2008 as a forum of providers of non-formal learning opportunities for young people, recognised by youth work awards. Its members work together to raise awareness of the range and impact of awards accrediting learning and achievements of young people aged 10–25. It recognises awards that use youth work approaches and are available throughout Scotland.

Since first published in 2008, Amazing Things has helped to foster greater recognition amongst educationalists, employers and young people themselves, of the value of youth work awards and their wider impact on young people’s learning, skills and personal development.

The awards listed include top awards of Awards Network member organisations as appropriate, but it is by no means a comprehensive guide. It is only possible here to list some of a much wider range of awards that can be achieved through their award programmes. Awards provider website and contact details are listed in the Directory of Awards Network Members.

The guide is aimed at everyone who places a value on young people’s voluntary effort to develop their own skills and improve the communities around them.



**Schools** will be able to see how young people’s extra-curricular activities complement formal learning and recognise the potential for youth awards to support attainment and achievement.

**Colleges** and universities will be able to recognise the importance of a wide range of prior learning, and also offer opportunities for students to develop skills and competence alongside their studies.

**Employers** will be able to better recognise youth awards and understand the way in which young people’s non-formal learning and community activities build up their ‘soft skills’, and make them more effective employees in the workplace.

**Youth organisations** will be able to identify ways of recognising and accrediting young people’s volunteering, achievement and self-development.

**Young people** can explore opportunities to harness youth awards to shape their own learner journey and gain recognition and accreditation for their achievements.

More information and supporting resources can be found by visiting the Awards Network’s website—**[www.awardsnetwork.org](http://www.awardsnetwork.org)**. The site includes a searchable awards database and will be regularly updated with information on new members and awards.





# Why Recognise Young People's Achievements?

**The youth work sector has long recognised the power and positive impact of youth work and related award programmes. #youthworkchangeslives is a statement of fact, not an aspiration.**

Traditionally youth awards were seen as something that happened beyond the school gate, with limited, if any, links to formal education. Curriculum for Excellence has challenged that, with innovative partnerships between school staffs and youth work practitioners helping to break down barriers between formal and non-formal learning, contributing in particular to personal development and preparedness for post-school learning, work and life.

**Educationalists** agree that *'All children and young people are entitled to have the full range of their achievements recognised'* (Building the Curriculum 5: a framework for assessment, Scottish Government, 2010). Whilst extra-curricular non-formal learning achievements of young people have for many years been recognised and celebrated through youth work, increasingly youth awards form important elements of learner pathways in schools and colleges, with achievement being a key 'improvement' measure.

**Young people** are quite clear that it's not just school-led activity that should be recognised. The 2017 *Education Governance: Next Steps* report noted that *'children and young people have said that they want their schools and teachers to realise the value of extra-curricular achievements in their education'*. There is a growing opportunity for young people's community activities to be both a support to, and an expression of, their school based learning.

The significance of young people's community based activity is evidenced in the *IPSOS National Youth Social Action Survey 2016* which records 52% of young people aged 10–20 in Scotland being engaged in meaningful social action—the highest rate across the UK. While many young people are content to volunteer without receiving any formal accreditation, a growing number see its value. For them, the possibility of using their volunteering experience as a way of strengthening their CV and enhancing their education progression and career prospects is a real incentive.

**Employers** place a high value on the employability skills that youth awards help young people to develop. *Study on the impact of Non-Formal Education in youth organisations on young people's employability, European Youth Forum; by Bath University / GHK Consulting*

noted that *'Of the top 6 skills and competences most often mentioned as demanded by employers, five are also amongst those developed to a high extent through involvement in youth organisations—communication skills, decision-making skills, team-working skills, self-confidence and organisational / planning skills'*.

Writing in the April 2017 edition of *The Link* (YouthLink Scotland), Jamie Hepburn MSP, Minister for Employability and Training noted the important role of youth work in creating opportunities for *'young people to develop skills that employers are calling out for: confidence, leadership and negotiation skills, learning to solve problems and to work well with one another'*.

The relative value of such skills is highlighted by the 2017 CBI / Pearson Education and Skills Survey: *'By far the most important factor employers consider when recruiting school and college leavers is their attitude to work (86%), followed by their aptitude for work (63%) and general academic ability (43%)'*.

## Be Awards Aware

Whilst there is clearly a commitment at the highest levels to recognise and value the achievements gained by young people through youth awards, such recognition remains insufficiently widespread. *The Review of Youth Awards* (Education Scotland 2015) noted that *'A lack of detailed knowledge and awareness of the full range of awards available, particularly in schools, is leading to missed opportunities.'*

**Awards Aware** is a scheme developed by the Awards Network to generate greater knowledge and understanding of youth awards and to encourage practice that recognises and celebrates achievement.

Sign-up to Awards Aware at — [www.awardnetwork.org/awardsaware](http://www.awardnetwork.org/awardsaware) and make a commitment today to recognise the achievements of young people and reflect this in your own and your organisation's practice.

# Youth Awards—Policy Context

## HOW YOUTH AWARDS CONTRIBUTE TO CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE, THE SCOTTISH ATTAINMENT CHALLENGE AND DEVELOPING THE YOUNG WORKFORCE.

**'A Review of Youth Awards in Scotland'** published by Education Scotland in 2015, described the establishing of the Awards Network in 2008 as *'a timely and creative response to curriculum for excellence... demonstrating a high level of public policy innovation emerging from the first national youth work strategy.'*

The Review recorded that:

- Young people gain a wide range of skills such as confidence, interpersonal, team working, leadership and employability through participation in youth awards
- Youth awards support young people in their learning and to progress to further and higher education, training and employment on leaving school
- For some young people facing additional challenges participation in youth awards is life changing

## Curriculum for Excellence

Curriculum for Excellence (CfE) is an approach that supports young people as they learn and develop the four capacities: successful learners; confident individuals; responsible citizens; and effective contributors. Encompassing the totality of planned learning of young people aged 3–18—formal and non-formal, within and outside the classroom—CfE provides a policy context in which the approaches and programmes of the youth work sector have gained wider currency and recognition. The 'four capacities' of CfE are at the heart of what youth work does.

The youth work approach exemplified by youth awards, is outlined in the *Statement on the Nature and Purpose of Youth Work* (YouthLink Scotland 2009). It aligns closely with the commitment in CfE to personalisation, choice and progression. Youth awards are about voluntary participation. Young people take control of their own learning. Many youth awards actively involve young people in the assessment of their own learning and in recognising their achievements through dialogue and record-keeping in portfolios and journals. Self-assessment, peer assessment, personal learning planning and portfolios are recognised reporting methods within CfE—all of these are key to award assessment processes.

## Scottish Attainment Challenge

John Swinney MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, highlights the role of youth work in closing the attainment gap: *'Youth work also has a role to play in transferring good practice in informal and community learning approaches into schools to help close the attainment gap between children from the most and least deprived communities. And as a partner in Developing Scotland's Young Workforce, youth work can help to increase the range of pathways available to young people to further learning, training and skills development'*. (Beyond the classroom: youth work and attainment—YouthLink Scotland Blog, 1 November 2016)

Leading the Attainment Challenge at Education Scotland, Graeme Logan notes: *"Increasingly, we are seeing youth workers work alongside teachers and others who support children and young people, and the (youth work) sector has a key role to play in helping us to achieve our vision of excellence and equity for every child and young person... Youth workers often connect with young people in a way that makes a tremendous difference to confidence and self-esteem as well as to knowledge and skills."* (YouthLink Scotland Blog, 20 December 2016)

Offering different learning pathways, youth work awards can address perceived barriers to learning and achievement. The range of awards available provides significant opportunities to broaden learning experiences within schools and community settings.

Developing the Young Workforce

*‘Our education system, along with the range of employability and training opportunities provided across the country, must ensure that all of our people are equipped with the skill sets and attributes to successfully take part in our changing and evolving economy.’ (Scotland’s Labour Market Strategy, The Scottish Government, August 2016)*

Youth awards provide a framework for young people to develop leadership skills and take on leadership roles, work as a team, explore new peer groups and environments, develop organisational abilities and develop and exercise a range of communication skills. Often referred to as ‘soft skills’, these are the very skills that employers prize.

**“ Youth Awards promote an important route through which young people have the opportunity to work towards a recognised accreditation that they can use to demonstrate their skills and achievements to employers and open up further options for their learning journey.”**



**Sarah Griffiths, Senior Policy Officer, DYW Employer Engagement Team, Scottish Government writes:**

The Scottish Government’s *Youth Employment Strategy –Developing the Young Workforce* encourages young people to take up a variety of pathways to broaden their skills and experience of the world of work. Youth Awards promote an important route through which young people have the opportunity to work towards a recognised accreditation that they can use to demonstrate their skills and achievements to employers and open up further options for their learning journey.

We know that the transition from education and work is an important phase in the life of a young person. With the Developing the Young Workforce Programme, the Scottish Government want to make sure that every young person has the right advice and the information that they need to make informed decisions about what they want to do. The Youth Awards are a good example of the different ways that young people are gaining the experience they need to make the right choices for their future.



YOUTH AWARDS—FROM CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENTS TO FUNDAMENTAL BUILDING BLOCKS

**There is much within the Scottish education system, and particularly within individual schools, of which we can be justifiably proud. It is, however, in a constantly and rapidly changing world, vital that in the education of Scotland’s young people, we have an education system which is able both to look inward and be evaluative and critical, while at the same time look outward, and seek the support of willing partners to enhance and develop existing good practice.**

Schools have grown to realise that the paths which young people pursue through learning are complex and variable, with multiple points of exit and transition to further learning. Schools have increasingly bought into the concept of learning journey and realised that they have an obligation to individual children to offer and support a learning experience which matches their interests, aptitudes and career aspirations. The challenge of delivering such an individualised experience at school and system level, particularly in a time of austerity and scarcity of resources, cannot be underestimated. Nor, however, can this be used as an excuse not to think imaginatively, or act boldly in the best interests of young people.

Schools have grown to understand the critical importance of living within, drawing from and contributing to their community in the search for learning resources and activities which not only will stimulate but will also contribute to and have relevance within a widely varied curricular provision. In this context youth award activities are moving from being enhancements to the curriculum to being fundamental building blocks within it.

Amongst the top ten skills identified in 2016 by the World Economic Forum as being required by the workplace of 2020, are people management, coordinating with others, service orientation and critical thinking. Schools having recognised and acknowledged this, are pro-actively seeking partners with expertise, with whom to work in the delivery of such skills in their curriculum. The importance of youth awards to the delivery of a broad, relevant and stimulating curriculum

is both obvious and critically important to school leaders. The positive impact which can be gained by young people in the development of such skills through engagement in youth award activities cannot be underestimated. The promotion and recognition of the contribution of wider achievement in a young person’s formative development and personal effectiveness is a powerful lever in unlocking potential and in promoting the value of lifelong learning.

The challenge now facing schools and the education system in relation to youth awards is twofold:

- ➔ to continue to develop the flexibility of curricular provision to enable the learning experience on offer to better meet the need of each individual child at the appropriate stage on his / her learning
- ➔ to find ways of ensuring that all of the learning experiences on offer are recognised as valuable, and afforded due value, by all in society

The national gains to be made through growing a society and an education system which promote the relevance of all learning, and develop a love of learning through such an approach to enhancing the life chances of individual young people cannot be overemphasised.

**Jim Thewliss,**  
General Secretary,  
School Leaders Scotland



## STUART'S JOURNEY— HOW YOUTH AWARDS SHAPED MY CAREER

**At 17 years old I was volunteering at my local youth clubs. I was still at school and enjoyed going to the clubs as it gave me something fun to do in the evenings and weekends. I achieved a Dynamic Youth Award and took part in games training. It was then suggested that I would be able to complete a Platinum Youth Achievement Award (YAA).**

After I completed the YAA, I was able to plan, deliver and evaluate a fun and appropriate session, no matter the group, which is something I wasn't able to do at the start of my award.

While completing my YAA, I began to see how much I enjoyed volunteering with young people and realised that I would love to have a career in Youth Work. I began to evaluate where I stood in terms of achieving this, and identified which training would help me gain the skills I needed to get a job. I followed my YAA by completing a PDA in Youth Work, to give me a national qualification that I could use to help me get my dream job. A few months later I applied to become a Youth Work Trainee and I was delighted to get the position.

I am now a Project Coordinator for Youth 1st, a job which I had identified in my planning stage of my Platinum YAA as a future goal. I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to gain my Platinum YAA. It helped me to grow as a person, gaining confidence and life skills I would never had achieved otherwise. More importantly, it showed me that I wanted a career in Youth Work and was the starting point in me achieving this. It has led to me gaining a variety of qualifications that have allowed me to get my current job and to be able to pass on my skills and experiences to other young people. I am able to show them that there are opportunities out there for everyone, and that by taking part in awards and training they too can achieve anything.

## STEPHANIE'S BLOG— A LIFE-CHANGING CHALLENGE

**We often associate learning with a classroom. Whenever we think of learning we picture a school. However, learning goes way beyond this; people are capable of learning and growing as an individual out with an enclosed environment.**

The Outward Bound Trust is a prime example of this — they allow young people the chance to learn in an environment that is like no other.

This summer I took part in the Outward Bound Skills for Life Award at The Trust's Loch Eil Centre and it was by far the best experience of my life. Skills for Life taught me many things over the course of 19 days. Some of them were obvious physical achievements and abilities. I learned how to canoe, navigate using a map and compass, how to survive in the wilderness and I even climbed to the summit of Ben Nevis. These achievements were phenomenal for me.

However, there were also many mindful abilities that I learned that took a little bit more thinking and time in which to develop and be recognised. I personally believe that the mental achievements are so much more valuable. During my Outward Bound adventure I learned a lot about myself—I learned to have confidence in myself and others. I learned to put my trust in other people as well as having to trust myself, whether that be facing a personal fear or making a team decision. I learned to believe in myself and I realised that making friends from around the world isn't as scary as it first seemed.

Outward Bound has taught me how to be more resilient than ever, I've learned that plans don't always go the way you want them to so you have to be accepting and flexible. Acceptance is something I've come to terms with extremely well and that all thanks to the Skills for Life Award. Maybe something doesn't work out the way you hoped or you are having a rough day, but I have now learned how to accept and embrace these situations and to make the most of it.

From self-management to making the most of new opportunities, Outward Bound has given me the chance to grow as a person.

## GRAEME'S JOURNEY— A LEARNING ADVENTURE

**The Queen's Scout Award is the top Youth Award in Scouting. It recognises leadership and teamwork and requires high standards of commitment and motivation. Scouts aged 16–24 must complete a number of achievements over a balance of wide-ranging skills before they turn 25 in order to achieve the award.**

Scouts must complete five challenges or obtain a Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award, which include volunteering in the community for 12 months, learning and developing a new skill, taking up a new physical activity, undertake a 3-night expedition in wild country and participate in a 5-day residential. Additionally, Scouts must complete 18 nights away, 12 of which must be camping, and activities that improve the environment, help them to understand the wider world and celebrate the values of Scouting.

To achieve his Queen's Scout Award Graeme took part in a 4-day / 3-night expedition in Iceland, during which he also took part in whale watching and got to relax in thermal pools after long days hiking.

Graeme said:  
“Gaining my Queen's Scout Award is an amazing achievement. I have learned so many new skills, met so many new friends and this has boosted my confidence. Scouting has had a huge influence on my life, giving me opportunities that would not have been possible before.”

“My expedition to Iceland was an incredible experience, especially hiking in the northern part of the country. At the time of the expedition, I was studying geography at Stirling University so this was an amazing opportunity to get to undertake a project on a glacial flood, known as a jokullhlaup.”

“I'll never forget it and I am now planning to take my Scout Group to Iceland so they can experience the beauty of the country.”

As well as this, his skill was to learn more about cooking and baking which in part led to a job in the hospitality industry. Graeme is now a volunteer leader, sharing his learning and skills with more young people.

## BAQAR'S JOURNEY— OVERCOMING BARRIERS TO SUCCESS

**Baqar, 16, suddenly found himself a few years ago transported from Iraq to Scotland, unable to speak any English.**

Shy and reserved, he struggled to integrate at school and found communication with his peers and engagement with the curriculum extremely difficult. Consequently, he had few friends and became increasingly isolated both in class and at break times.

Baqar joined The Prince's Trust Achieve programme in school which offers students the chance to try industry taster days, giving them practical experience across different sectors to inspire their career choice. This gave Baqar the opportunity to build up communication and team working skills and to start thinking about what he wanted to do after he left school.

The programme focussed on personal development and at first, Baqar found it difficult to participate. However, a visit to a local technology business, Artronix transformed his progress. At Artronix, he was desperate to get started on the electronics challenge. Not only was he first to finish but he was able to help others in the team who were struggling.

It became clear that Baqar's main barrier to educational success was his language skills so The Trust provided specialist tuition. Baqar really began to shine. He took part in the Achieve programme's enterprise challenge and achieved the top score. At the regional final, he was able to give a presentation in front of a large audience.

Baqar has gained a Prince's Trust qualification, Personal Development and Employability (PDE) qualification at SCQF Level 4. The Achieve course helped him realise his ambition and he is planning to go to college and study to become an electrician.

He says, “Now I can speak to my friends and understand my lessons which I couldn't do before I went to The Prince's Trust.”

A BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO CREDIT-RATING AND THE SCQF

The Curriculum for Excellence established an entitlement to recognition of achievements by young people. Some of the awards featured in Amazing Things lead to recognised formal qualifications. A number of others, whilst not resulting in a levelled qualification, are nationally (and indeed internationally) recognised for their curriculum content, approach and outcomes. What they all provide is the opportunity for young people to achieve!

Recognition of achievement of awards can be personal and the impact profound, but awards provide valued evidence of successful completion of a personal learning journey. Many young people are happy simply to gain recognition through an award. Others are increasingly looking to see how these compare to more formal qualifications gained at school or college. The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) provides a comparison of the wide range of Scottish qualifications and learning programmes. It covers qualifications from school, college, university, youth awards, apprenticeship and other work-based qualifications. The SCQF helps employers, admissions officers and others to understand qualifications they are not familiar with, the level of difficulty, the amount of learning, and the range of qualifications achieved.

Each qualification or learning programme is given a level and a number of credit points. The level of a qualification indicates the level of difficulty and the number of credit

points indicates the length of time it takes to complete. One SCQF credit point represents an average of 10 hours of learning time.

A growing number of youth awards are now credit-rated, offering young people the opportunity to gain a recognised qualification. Examples include ASDAN's Certificates of Personal Effectiveness (CoPE), Sports Leaders UK Awards, Youth Scotland's Youth Achievement Awards and YouthLink Scotland's Participative Democracy Certificate. Such awards can be listed by the SQA alongside other qualifications gained by young people and may also be captured on Insight.

The Table of Awards in Amazing Things records the SCQF levels attributable to credit-rated awards where appropriate. More information, including a searchable database of credit-rated awards can be found at: [www.scqf.org.uk](http://www.scqf.org.uk).

THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK				
SCQF Levels	SQA Qualifications		Qualifications of Higher Education Institutions	Apprenticeships & SVQs
12			Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
11			Masters Degree, Integrated Masters Degree, Post Graduate Diploma, Post Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship SVQ
10			Honours Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Professional Apprenticeship
9		Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Certificate	Graduate Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
8		Higher National Diploma	Diploma Of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship Technical Apprenticeship SVQ
7	Advanced Higher, Awards, Scottish Baccalaureate	Higher National Certificate	Certificate Of Higher Education	Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher			Modern Apprenticeship Foundation Apprenticeship SVQ
5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5			Modern Apprenticeship SVQ
4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate		SVQ
3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3			
2	National 2, Awards			
1	National 1, Awards			



AIR TRAINING CORPS (RAF AIR CADETS)

Featured Award:  
→ Air Training Corps Award

- Aim:
- Promote and encourage a practical interest in aviation and the Royal Air Force among young people
  - Provide training which will be useful in the Services and civilian life
  - Encourage the spirit of adventure and develop qualities of leadership and good citizenship

Better known as the 'Air Cadets', the UK-wide cadet force is a 'military' uniformed youth organisation with more than 40,000 members aged between 12 and 20 years, supported by c. 16,000 volunteers in over 900 squadrons. Sponsored by the Royal Air Force, it equips young people with skills for careers in the RAF and attitudes and attributes that are highly valued by employers in civilian life.

<https://www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets/>  
Contact details: Air Cadet Regional Headquarters (Scotland and Northern Ireland)  
Leuchars Station, St Andrews, Fife KY16 0JX  
t: 01334 857564 e: ACO-RHQ-ScotlandNIreland-D@mod.uk



ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND (AWARDS NETWORK ASSOCIATE MEMBER)

Featured Award:  
→ Heritage Hero Awards

- Aim:
- To improve self-confidence and wellbeing through engagement with challenging heritage projects
  - To inspire young people to develop a lifelong interest in Scotland's past
  - To increase awareness of how to access Scotland's heritage in schools, youth groups and similar organisations
  - To help foster links between heritage organisations, community groups and young people

Learning forms an integral part of Archaeology Scotland's activities. Our aim is to encourage understanding of, and promote involvement in, Scotland's archaeological heritage for all ages and levels of interest—from formal education to informal learning. We offer learner groups support and information about what archaeology is and how it can be used in delivering learning activities. We have online resources and activity kits available for loan, as well as information bases for teachers and youth workers, information on Young Archaeologists' Club and links to other websites which you may find useful. Archaeology Scotland's Heritage Hero Award scheme for young people in Scotland was launched in January 2017 following an extensive pilot involving schools and youth groups across Scotland.

<https://archaeologyscotland.org.uk/>  
Contact details: Rebecca Barclay, Heritage Training Officer,  
Stuart House Suite 1a, Eskmills, Station Road,  
Musselburgh, East Lothian EH21 7PB  
t: 0300 012 9878 e: hto@archaeologyscotland.org.uk





ARMY CADET FORCE

Featured Award:  
→ Army Proficiency Certificate

Aim:  
→ To inspire young people to achieve success in life with a spirit of service to the Queen, their Country and their local community, and to develop in them the qualities of a good citizen

With 41,000 cadets (aged 12–18) and 9,500 adults in over 1,600 locations in every corner of the United Kingdom, the ACF is one of the country’s largest voluntary youth organisations. It is also one of the oldest, tracing its history back to 1859. We provide progressive cadet training, often of a challenging and exciting nature, to foster confidence, self-reliance, initiative, loyalty and a sense of service to other people.

We encourage the development of personal powers of practical leadership and the ability to work successfully as a member of a team. Some of our activities have a military theme, others have more of a community focus but they all inspire young people to challenge their limits, become more independent, confident and able to step up to any challenge.

<https://armycadets.com/>  
Contact details: Martin Passmore, ACFA Scotland,  
2 Montgomery Court, Hepburn Gardens,  
St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9LT  
t: 07714 295424 e: acfascotland@btconnect.com



ASDAN

Featured Awards:  
→ Certificate of Personal Effectiveness  
→ Employability Qualifications  
→ Event Volunteering Qualifications  
→ Key Steps Award  
→ Life Skills Challenge  
→ Personal Development Programmes  
→ PSD Qualifications  
→ Short Courses

Aim:  
We recognise that young people are multi-talented and we celebrate that diversity, seeking to:  
→ Engage, motivate and reward learners  
→ Make learning relevant and transferable  
→ Support a range of learning approaches and contexts  
→ Promote active learning and learning to learn

ASDAN is a charity with awarding body status, providing courses to thousands of schools, colleges, training providers and youth centres across the UK and beyond. Our courses offer flexible ways to accredit personal and social education, skills development and enrichment activities, mainly for the 11–25 age group. ASDAN’s programmes and qualifications explicitly grow skills for learning, skills for employment and skills for life.

<https://www.asdan.org.uk/>  
Contact details: John Furness,  
ASDAN Regions and Partnerships Director,  
t: 07816 161762 e: johnfurness@asdanteam.org.uk



BOYS’ BRIGADE (THE)

Featured Awards:  
→ The President’s Badge  
→ The Queen’s Badge  
→ KG VI Youth Leadership Training

Aim:  
→ To recognise young people’s achievements during their time in the Boys’ Brigade, developing skills in leadership, communication, outdoor expeditions, working with people and volunteering in the wider community

The Boys’ Brigade (BB) is a Christian voluntary uniformed youth organisation founded in Glasgow in 1883, working to develop and support young people from the age of 5–18 years. The Boys’ Brigade in Scotland has around 17,000 youth members in 425 groups, across all local authorities. It operates with the support of c. 3,500 adult volunteers.

The BB is committed to seeing lives enriched by supporting children and young people to reach their full potential by providing opportunities to meet together and engage in a range of fun and developmental activities and experiences. We offer a progressive programme of educational and sporting activities, together with residential experiences. There’s something for every young person whether it’s camping or kayaking, first aid or five a side. Members develop skills, build confidence, make friends, take responsibility and are encouraged to make a real difference in their communities—sharing the values that make us who we are. Programmes are linked to our own age appropriate award schemes and many groups also take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.

<http://scotland.boys-brigade.org.uk/>  
Contact details: Alan Hunter, Training & Development Officer,  
The Boys’ Brigade, Carronvale House, Carronvale Road,  
Larbert, Stirlingshire FK5 3LH  
t: 01324 562008 (Option1) e: alan.hunter@boys-brigade.org.uk



BRITISH RED CROSS

Featured Award:  
→ British Red Cross RED Programme

Aim:  
→ To recognise, empower and develop young people to do something positive for the community

The British Red Cross is a volunteer-led humanitarian organisation that helps people in crisis, wherever and whenever they are. We are part of a global voluntary network, responding to conflicts, natural disasters and individual emergencies. We help vulnerable people in the UK and abroad prepare for, withstand and recover from emergencies in their own communities.

The RED programme is an internal British Red Cross accreditation scheme for all young (15–25 year old) volunteers engaged with the organisation. It is designed to **Recognise** the hard work and time young volunteers invest; **Empower** young volunteers by self-assessing the skills, knowledge and competencies they have gained whilst volunteering; and **Develop** ethical leadership skills.

We also provide a range of educational resources and workshops on First Aid and the impact of stigmatising behaviour towards refugees, migrants and asylum seekers.

<http://www.redcross.org.uk/>  
Contact details:  
t: 0344 871 1111  
e: information@redcross.org.uk

# Awards Network Members



## CVQO

### Featured Awards:

- BTEC Diplomas in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community and Music for Practical Performance

### Aim:

- To provide an alternative route to employment and higher education for learners aged 16–19

CVQO (Cadet Vocational Qualifications Organisations) is a UK-based education charity offering a broad range of vocational qualifications, designed to recognise the work undertaken by young people and adult volunteers within youth organisations. CVQO works closely in partnership with a wide range of uniformed youth organisations, including Cadet, Police and Fire Services, to deliver internationally recognised qualifications.

Through CVQO, young people can gain a qualification that validates what they have learned in their youth group, increasing the opportunities they have to progress to further education or employment.

<https://www.cvqo.org/>

Contact details: Martin Passmore, ACFA Scotland,  
2 Montgomery Court, Hepburn Gardens,  
St Andrews, Fife KY16 9LT  
t: 07714 295424 e: acfascotland@btconnect.com



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

### Featured Awards:

- The Duke of Edinburgh's Award
- The Duke of Edinburgh's Leadership Award

### Aim:

- To inspire, guide and support young people in their self-development and recognise their achievements

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is a world leading youth charity which gives all 14–24 year olds the chance to develop skills for life and work. We engage, inspire and empower over 300,000 young people a year across the UK and from every possible background. The Award is delivered by 80 organisations across Scotland, who in turn manage over 900 DofE Groups. These organisations include all Scottish Local Authorities, 40 independent operators and 5 of the larger national voluntary youth organisations.

Our structured programme of volunteering, physical and skills based challenges inspire, guide and support young people to achieve. Young people plan their own programme at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, building their own individual learning plan. The positive effects of the DofE are proven and far-reaching. Communities are enriched with passionate and driven volunteers; businesses benefit from work ready, competent recruits; and young people are given the confidence to shine.

<https://www.dofe.org/>

Contact details: The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Scotland,  
Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5EZ  
t: 0131 343 0920 e: scotland@dofe.org



## GIRLGUIDING SCOTLAND

### Featured Awards:

- Baden-Powell Challenge Award
- Chief Guide's Challenge
- Queen's Guide Award

### Aim:

- To provide a series of challenges that enables girls to develop their own skills whilst contributing to guiding and their local community

We are Scotland's leading charity for girls and young women. We empower c. 50,000 girls in Scotland (400,000 across the UK) to be their best and face the challenges of growing up today. We've been doing that through adventure, friendship and fun for over 100 years. Through our progressive, age-appropriate development programme we build girls' confidence and raise their aspirations. We give them the chance to discover their full potential and encourage them to be a powerful force for good, all while offering girls a space to have fun.

**We offer a safe, welcoming girl-only space** for girls and young women to try new things, help other people and discover their passions and talents—all while having fun with a group of ready-made friends!

**We're dedicated to girls leading the way**—they choose activities, challenges and events that inspire them, and our volunteers support them to make it happen.

<https://www.girlguidingscotland.org.uk/>

Contact details: Guiding Development Manager,  
Girlguiding Scotland, 16 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh EH3 7AH  
t: 0131 226 4511 e: gdmanager@girlguiding-scot.org.uk



## GIRLS' BRIGADE IN SCOTLAND (THE)

### Featured Award:

- The Queen's Award

### Aim:

- To encourage girls and young women to make a personal commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ while respecting other faiths, and inspire them to make a contribution to the Girls' Brigade and to service in the wider community

The Girls' Brigade in Scotland (GBS) is a lively, vibrant, inclusive organisation for girls and young women. We are a volunteer led uniformed organisation which was founded on Christian principles over 120 years ago but which remain our bedrock today. Open to girls of all faiths or none, and supported by c. 1,500 adult volunteers, we operate through 230 companies serving over 9,000 members in local communities throughout Scotland. All GB companies are affiliated to local churches and are an integral part of both church and local community.

Girls' Brigade in Scotland offers girls and young women of all ages the opportunity to discover new skills, enjoy new experiences, make new friends and have fun in a supportive, nurturing environment. Adult leaders have been trained to help the young people in their care to reach their full potential through a programme of age appropriate informal learning, the pinnacle of which is achievement of the Queen's Badge.

<https://www.girls-brigade-scotland.org.uk/>

Contact details: The Girls' Brigade in Scotland,  
11a Woodside Crescent, Glasgow G3 7UL  
t: 0141 332 1765 e: enquiries@girls-brigade-scotland.org.uk





GLASGOW KELVIN COLLEGE  
(AWARDS NETWORK ASSOCIATE MEMBER)

**Featured Award:**  
→ Community Achievement Awards

**Aim:**  
→ To support, recognise and accredit learning and achievement in a community setting

The Community Achievement Awards are context-independent and designed to support, recognise and accredit learning and achievement in a community setting. They are designed for delivery by partners in liaison with Glasgow Kelvin College, with submissions assessed by the College's CLD team.

The Community Achievement Awards framework provides formal recognition and additional personal value to volunteering, community based and social justice based projects, recognising the impact of collective efforts in supporting community based organisations and groups and supporting people in development of their personal and group capacity.

These Awards provide people supporting their communities with the opportunity to progress with their own journey and also the space to encourage others around them into a learning or personal development capacity. The Awards at SCQF level 4 support initial engagement with community activities, at SCQF levels 5 and 6 provide an effective support and supervision framework for volunteers and at SCQF level 7 support community engagement with service design.

<http://www.glasgowkelvin.ac.uk/>

Contact details: **Craig Green**,  
Head of Community and Information Services,  
Glasgow Kelvin College, 1200 Westerhouse Road,  
Glasgow G34 9HZ  
t: 07736 162553 e: craig@glasgowkelvin.ac.uk



JOHN MUIR TRUST (THE)

**Featured Award:**  
→ The John Muir Award

**Aim:**  
→ Encourages people to connect with, enjoy and care for wild places

The John Muir Trust is a UK-wide conservation charity dedicated to protecting and enhancing wild places. The Trust takes its name from John Muir (1838–1914), the pioneering, influential Scots-born American conservationist who was passionate about the wild. His message—that we all need to experience, enjoy and care for wild places—is as relevant today as it ever was.

The John Muir Award is the only award to focus on the natural environment and wild places, encouraging first hand experiences for individuals, groups or families — non-competitive, challenging and progressive. To achieve a John Muir Award, each participant meets four Challenges; Discover, Explore, Conserve, Share; completes the required time commitment; shows enthusiasm and commitment towards their involvement; has an awareness of John Muir; and understands what the John Muir Award is and why they are participating. There are three levels of the John Muir Award that encourage a progressive involvement.

<http://www.johnmuiraward.org/>

Contact details: **Toby Clark**, John Muir Award Scotland Manager,  
John Muir Trust, Glasgow Science Centre, 50 Pacific Quay,  
Glasgow G51 1EA  
t: 0141 420 5021 e: toby@johnmuiraward.org  
tw: @johnmuirtrust



OUTWARD BOUND TRUST (THE)

**Featured Award:**  
The Outward Bound Skills for Life Award

**Aim:**  
→ To prepare young people for their future by equipping them with skills for life through the power of learning and adventure in the wild

Established in 1941, The Outward Bound Trust is a charity that lives and breathes outdoor education, it's in their DNA. From the moment participants arrive at centres they're immersed in spectacular scenery and introduced to a world of new experiences. From rowing across lakes and camping in the wild, to lighting fires and building shelters, Outward Bound® empowers young people to conquer mountains — both real and metaphorical.

The Trust's Skills for Life Award is the flagship programme in which they deliver this. Attracting young people from across the country and around the world, participants are invited to step outside of their comfort zones for 19 days to have a real adventure. What's more is that the Award's outcomes have been specifically developed to give participants the clarity to realise their ambitions and achieve their life goals. Whether it's college, university, an apprenticeship or something else entirely this Award will help get you there.

*"It was the best three weeks I've ever experienced and has changed me as a person as well as given me lifelong friends in the process"* **Honor: Skills for Life Award participant summer 2017**

<http://www.outwardbound.org.uk/skillsforlife/>

Contact details: **The Outward Bound Trust in Scotland**,  
Roberston House, 152 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4TB  
t: 0141 413 0244 e: enquiriesscotland@outwardbound.org.uk



Inclusion • Citizenship • Equality

PLAYBACK ICE

**Featured Award:**  
→ Moving On—Transition in Action Award

**Aim:**  
→ To support the development of children and young people's wellbeing and essential skills in order for them to be better prepared for learning, life and work, engaged citizens, lifelong responsible learners, who are self-aware, caring and connected to others

Playback ICE awards aim to support learners to develop a range of skills and qualities so that they are more prepared to lead a healthy, safe, fulfilling and responsible life. Award units respond to the current priorities of government in relation to the National Improvement Framework, Developing Scotland's Young Workforce and Health and Wellbeing—developing skills for learning, life and work. Learners will feel and be: Included—Connected—Engaged—Achieving—Planning—Progressing.

Playback ICE was established in 2000 from an identified set of needs, voiced by children and young people to be included as active members of society with equal opportunities. Our purpose from then has been to support inclusion, citizenship and equality agendas and help transform the lives of children and young people no matter their starting point or experience in life.

<http://www.playbackice.com/>

Contact details: **Playback ICE Ltd**,  
489 Lanark Road, Edinburgh EH14 5DQ  
t: 0131 453 5514 / 07515 346084  
e: administrator@playbackice.com

# Awards Network Members



## PRINCE'S TRUST (THE)

**Featured Award:**  
→ **Achieve Programme**

**Aim:**  
→ **To help disadvantaged young people to change their lives and get into work, education, training or volunteering**

The Prince's Trust helps disadvantaged young people to get their lives on track. Many of the young people helped by The Trust are in or leaving care, facing issues such as homelessness or mental health problems, or have been in trouble with the law.

Our programmes help young people at risk of exclusion to stay in school and continue to learn; they develop the confidence and motivation of the unemployed to turn their lives around; and they support young people to develop their skills to find work or start their own business.

Our education programme **Achieve** is a personal development course for 13–19 year-olds who are at risk of underachievement or exclusion. This course offers a practical approach to learning to help them fulfil their potential.



## SEA CADETS

**Featured Award:**  
→ **Sea Cadets Programme**

**Aim:**  
→ **To give young people the best possible head start in life through nautical adventure and fun based on the customs and traditions of the Royal Navy**

Whether at sea or on land, the Sea Cadets offers young people across the UK amazing opportunities for personal development by learning new skills and working in teams.

We offer an environment where young people find new confidence and inspiration. Today, 14,000 young people based in 400 units in towns, cities and ports across the UK are challenging themselves and developing new skills, like sailing, boating and rock climbing—supported by 9,000 volunteers.

The Sea Cadets Pathway develops life skills; instills participants with key values; and leads to internally and externally recognised qualifications, equipping young people for life and work.



## SCOUTS SCOTLAND

**Featured Awards:**  
→ **Queen's Scout Award**  
→ **Chief Scout's Awards—Gold, Platinum, Diamond**  
→ **Explorer Scout Young Leader Scheme**

**Aim:**  
→ **Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society**

Scouting is the largest co-educational uniformed youth organisation in Scotland, with c. 39,000 young people supported by over 11,000 adult volunteers (part of the 640,000 scout members across the UK and 31 million worldwide).

Scouting exists to actively engage and support young people in their personal development, empowering them to make a positive contribution to society. Scouting takes place when young people, in partnership with adults, work together based on the values of Scouting and: enjoy what they are doing and have fun; take part in activities indoors and outdoors; learn by doing; share in spiritual reflection; take responsibility and make choices; undertake new and challenging activities; make and live by their Promise.

Scouts Scotland provides a progressive non-formal age appropriate curriculum for young people aged 6–25, culminating in the prestigious Queen's Scout Award.



## SKILLFORCE

**Featured Award:**  
→ **Junior Prince's Award**

**Aim:**  
→ **To empower children and young people to make positive choices and feel 'comfortable in their own skin'**

SkillForce is a national education charity. Our mission is to empower children and young people to make positive choices and feel 'comfortable in their own skin', building confidence, resilience and good character using the skills and experience of ex-Services personnel. We provide a range of innovative award programmes delivered by predominately ex-Services personnel to children and young people aged 5–19. Programmes are delivered within schools and other settings.

SkillForce believes that a clear set of positive moral values is essential to young people developing a strong sense of self. We particularly value courage, respect, integrity, honesty, kindness and compassion. These moral values will help us to support the young people, our staff and our stakeholders to make positive choices and dare to be their best selves.

<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/>

**Contact details: Prince's Trust Scotland,**  
Cumbrae House, 15 Carlton Court, Glasgow G5 9JP  
**t:** 0141 204 4409 **e:** [webinfo@princes-trust.org.uk](mailto:webinfo@princes-trust.org.uk)

<http://www.sea-cadets.org/>

**Contact details: Sea Cadet Corps (Northern Region),**  
MOD Caledonia, Rosyth, Fife KY11 2XH  
**t:** 01383 425 931 **e:** [astewart@ms-sc.org](mailto:astewart@ms-sc.org)

<http://www.scouts.scot/>

**Contact details: Graeme Luke, Head of Scouting Operations,**  
**Scouts Scotland,** Fordell Firs, Hillend,  
Dunfermline, Fife KY11 7HQ  
**t:** 01383 419 073 **e:** [graeme@scouts.scot](mailto:graeme@scouts.scot)

<http://www.skillforce.org/>

**Contact details: SkillForce,**  
Edwinstowe House, High Street, Edwinstowe,  
Nottinghamshire NG21 9PR **t:** 01623 827 651  
**Contact details Scotland: Andrew Currie,**  
**t:** 07807 686038 **e:** via website





## SPORTS LEADERS UK

**Featured Award:**  
→ Sports Leadership Award

**Aim:**  
→ To ensure the UK's future generations are equipped with leadership skills for life

Sports Leaders UK is an independent social enterprise, reaching out to young people throughout society through applied, practical learning. Through awards and qualifications, we create a fun and dynamic focus, with essential health, employment and social benefits.

Sports Leaders UK awards and qualifications equip young people with employability skills for life improving motivation, self-esteem, communication, team work and confidence. Leadership volunteering is a vital part of all our courses allowing young people to practice and build their skills in order to 'Give More. Become More.' to improve employability. All of the awards and qualifications are practical—learners learn by doing rather than through written work. There are no exams—assessment is made upon a learner's ability to lead and demonstrate their leadership skills for a certain period of time, within a specific setting. Delivery of some awards requires organisations to register as a Qualification Centre—see website for details.

<https://www.sportsleaders.org/>

Contact details: Sports Leaders UK,  
24 Linford Forum, Rockingham Drive, Linford Wood,  
Milton Keynes MK14 6LY  
t: 01908 689180 e: [contact@sportsleaders.org](mailto:contact@sportsleaders.org)



## SQA (SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY)

**Featured Awards:**  
**Wider Achievement—**  
→ SQA Employability Award  
→ SQA Leadership Awards  
→ SQA Personal Development Awards  
→ SQA Volunteering Skills Awards

**Aim:**  
→ To help young people develop knowledge and skills through experience and activity, preparing them for the world of work with accredited qualifications

SQA helps people to realise their potential and to achieve their ambitions by providing a wide range of high quality, internationally recognised qualifications and associated services. SQA has a wide range of Awards which are designed to recognise wider achievement. These Awards recognise the life and work skills that learners gain from activities they may already be taking part in at school, at college, youth organisations or elsewhere—such as sport, mentoring, voluntary work or fund-raising activities.

SQA's Wider Achievement qualifications are designed to be flexible and can capture achievement in smaller chunks of learning. They are divided into units which can be taken and certificated by themselves or grouped together. There is no external assessment and the qualifications are ungraded. All achievements are recorded on the nationally recognised Scottish Qualification Certificate.

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/>

Contact details: SQA Customer Contact Centre,  
t: 0345 279 1000 e: [customer@sqa.org.uk](mailto:customer@sqa.org.uk)



## VOLUNTARY ACTION SCOTLAND (VAS)

**Featured Award:**  
→ The Saltire Award

**Aim:**  
→ Celebrating and recognising the volunteering achievements of young people in Scotland

**Saltire Awards is the Scottish Government's national youth volunteer awards.** They celebrate and recognise the commitment, contribution and achievements of young volunteers in Scotland, aged between 12 and 25.

Young people gain nationally recognised certificates, signed by Scottish Government Ministers, for the different amounts of volunteering they do. Certificates are available for 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 and 500 hours of volunteering activity—plus 'outstanding achievement'. They can recognise both volunteering that a young person does with a local community, good cause or via school or youth group; AND volunteering that a young person does as part of another youth award which has a volunteering element.

Saltire Awards is delivered in each local authority area by the local Third Sector Interface (TSI); they provide support and assistance on achieving and accessing the Saltire Awards.

The Saltire Awards is coordinated at a national level by Voluntary Action Scotland.

<https://saltireawards.org.uk/>

Contact details: For Saltire Awards in your area  
contact your local TSI—find details here  
<http://www.vasotland.org/find-your-tsi>  
**Other inquiries: Voluntary Action Scotland,**  
Robertson House, 152 Bath Street, Glasgow, G2 4TB  
t: 0141 353 7318 e: [info@vasotland.org](mailto:info@vasotland.org)



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE SCOTLAND

**Featured Award:**  
→ Company Programme—Strathclyde 'Exam'

**Aim:**  
→ To inspire and equip young people to learn and succeed through enterprise

Young Enterprise Scotland has been operating for over 40 years and each year works with over 10,000 students across Scotland in a variety of inspiring enterprise and entrepreneurship programmes. Our programmes—a number of which carry SQA accreditation—are suited for young people aged 5–30 across primary, secondary and tertiary educations, as well as in prisons, secure and residential units and with community groups.

Our Company Programme is the ultimate business and enterprise experience for S5/S6. The pupils set-up and run their own company through the academic year with support from local business volunteers and Young Enterprise Scotland staff, with the opportunity to compete on a local, regional, national and European level to be crowned Company of the Year. They develop a wide range of skills and receive an invaluable entrepreneurial experience. All Company Programme pupils can sit the reflective Strathclyde 'Exam' which is offered in partnership with the University of Strathclyde Business School and the Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship.

<http://yes.org.uk/>

Contact details: Young Enterprise Scotland,  
Rouken Glen Centre, Rouken Glen Park, Thornliebank,  
Glasgow G46 7UG  
t: 0141 406 772 e: [admin@yes.org.uk](mailto:admin@yes.org.uk)



## YOUNG SCOT

### Featured Award:

→ Annual Young Scot Awards

### Aim:

→ To recognise the achievements of young people who are outstanding, inspirational or benefit their community, helping to promote a more positive perception of young people in Scotland

Young Scot is the national youth information and citizenship charity. We provide young people, aged 11–26, with a mixture of information, ideas and incentives to help them become confident, informed and active citizens. We understand that every young person is different and provide a universal service which meets their ever-changing needs.

Since its launch in 2006, the Sunday Mail Young Scot Awards has celebrated the inspirational contributions of thousands of young Scots who have made a real difference to communities across Scotland. These annual nominated awards cover a wide spectrum of activity categories and recognise the amazing achievements of some of Scotland's truly remarkable young people. They shine a light on the positive contributions young people make every day and provide a fantastic opportunity to see their efforts and dedication celebrated.

<https://youngscotawards.com/>

Awards web: <https://youngscotawards.com/>

Contact details: Young Scot,

Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5EZ

t: 0808 801 0338 e: [infoline@young.scot](mailto:infoline@young.scot)



## YOUTH SCOTLAND

### Featured Awards:

→ Dynamic Youth Awards

→ Youth Achievement Awards

### Aim:

→ To support young people to achieve their full potential

Youth Scotland is Scotland's national charity for the support and delivery of community based youth work, providing quality youth work programmes, accredited non-formal learning awards, information, resources and training. It is the largest youth organisation in Scotland, serving a membership of over 64,000 young people and 7,600 youth workers (including 5,000 volunteers) in 1,100 local groups.

Its Dynamic Youth Awards and Youth Achievement Awards recognise and accredit young people's non-formal learning and achievements and are delivered in a range of settings through a growing number of Operating Agencies (including local authorities, voluntary agencies, colleges and schools) and by participating units (including youth groups, volunteer centres, youth councils and schools). Dynamic Youth Awards offer a progression route to Youth Achievement Awards, which at Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum levels provide an open framework that providers can mould to fit their existing programmes.

<http://www.youthscotland.org.uk/>

Contact details: Youth Scotland,  
Balfour House, 19 Bonnington Grove,  
Edinburgh EH6 4BL

t: 0131 554 2561 e: [awards@youthscotland.org.uk](mailto:awards@youthscotland.org.uk)



## YOUTHBANK SCOTLAND

### Featured Awards:

→ Decision-making Skills

→ Developing Leadership Skills

→ Introduction to Young People's Grant Making Skills Level 1 / 2

→ Young People's Grant Making

### Aim:

→ Involve, Invest, Inspire young people through grant making and empowerment initiatives nationally with local impact

YouthBank Scotland is an innovative grant making and empowerment initiative run by young people for young people. YouthBank Scotland builds on young people's skills and experiences to enable them to give cash for action, funding young people's ideas for the benefit of the wider community. Through support for local YouthBanks, provision of training for young people and those who engage young people, YouthBank Scotland's mission is to:

- Involve young people in decision making and grant making.
- Invest in young people's potential and their ideas.
- Inspire others to do the same.

YouthBank Scotland's training programmes are based on strategic and practical knowledge of youth participation and engaging young people as financial decision makers and organisational leaders developed over 15 years across the UK. Our training enables young people to play active leadership roles in their communities. YBS can offer both nationally accredited training on decision-making, leadership and grant-making skills; and non-accredited training on fundraising, team building and involving young people.

<http://www.youthbankscotland.org/>

Contact details: YouthBank Scotland,  
Rosebery House, 9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5EZ  
e: [info@youthbankscotland.org](mailto:info@youthbankscotland.org)



## YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND

### Featured Award:

→ Participative Democracy Certificate

### Aim:

→ To give young people the opportunity to develop their active participation, citizenship and social capital

YouthLink Scotland is the national agency for youth work. It is a membership organisation and is in the unique position of representing the interests and aspirations of the whole of the sector both voluntary and statutory. It champions the role and value of the youth work sector, challenging government at national and local levels to invest in the development of the sector.

YouthLink Scotland's Participative Democracy Certificate (PDC) is an award that provides accreditation to young people actively involved in decision-making in groups. It gives participants the opportunity to acknowledge and develop communication, decision-making and participation in the context of democratic engagement. It fits in nicely with Pupil Councils, where supported by the youth work and CLD sector, Youth Councils, Youth Forums, young people making a difference on a local, national and global scale or involved in developing their group or organisations programmes.

<http://www.youthlinkscotland.org/>

Contact details: Sarah Robertson,  
Senior Development Officer (Training),  
YouthLink Scotland: The National Agency for Youth Work,  
9 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh EH12 5EZ  
t: 0131 313 2488 e: [srobertson@youthlinkscotland.org](mailto:srobertson@youthlinkscotland.org)



# Awards Directory

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS
<b>Achieve Programme</b> <i>(by The Princes’ Trust)</i>		<b>SCQF Levels 3, 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>13–19</b>	<b>Other Prince’s Trust qualifications (inc. PDE qualification); opportunities to access a range of qualifications; elements may also contribute towards other awards e.g. Saltire Awards</b>
<b>Air Training Corps— BTEC Diploma in Aviation Studies—achieved on reaching Master Air Cadet</b> <i>(by Air Training Corps)</i>	<b>Junior Cadet; First Class Cadet; Leading Cadet; Senior Cadet; Master Air Cadet; Instructor Cadet; Staff Cadet</b>	<b>Pearson Edexcel</b>	<b>12–20</b>	<b>DofE; CVQO; SQA; elements can also support achievement of other awards, e.g. Saltire Awards</b>
<b>Army Proficiency Certificate</b> <i>(by Army Cadet Force)</i>	<b>6 levels: Basic; 1 Star; 2 Star; 3 Star; 4 Star; Master Cadet</b>	<b>SCQF Level 4 Army Cadet Achievement, Teamwork and Citizenship Award</b>	<b>12–17</b>	<b>DofE; CVQO / BTEC (at 16+); SQA; elements can also support achievement of other awards e.g. first aid and Saltire Awards;</b>
<b>Baden Powell Challenge Award</b> <i>(by Girlguiding Scotland)</i>			<b>12+</b>	
<b>BTEC Diplomas in Teamwork and Personal Development in the Community and Music for Practical Performance</b> <i>(by CVQO)</i>	<b>Level 5 Diploma</b>	<b>Diploma in TPD— BTEC Level 5</b>	<b>16+</b>	<b>Awards programmes of the Cadet Services</b>
<b>Certificate of Personal Effectiveness</b> <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	<b>2 levels</b>	<b>SCQF Levels 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>14+</b>	
<b>Chief Guide’s Challenge</b> <i>(by Girlguiding Scotland)</i>			<b>14–25</b>	

PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	SKILLS/ COMPETENCES	DISTINCTIVE FEATURES
The programme explores the following: Personal and social development; Life skills; Active citizenship; Enterprise project; Preparation for work	Personal and social development skills; working with others; managing money; enterprise awareness; employability skills	The Achieve programme can be delivered in a variety of settings such as youth centres, pupil referral units, youth offender institutions and at a Prince’s Trust centre. It is designed to help disadvantaged young people (including those at risk of exclusion or not reaching their attainment capabilities) who are struggling to develop important character skills through relevant, engaging and informal learning that can lead to achievement of recognised Prince’s Trust qualifications
A staged syllabus opens possibilities for activities, specialist technical training and rank promotion. Opportunities include Air Cadet Pilot Scheme; Cadet leadership courses— see Air Cadet website for more details	‘Military’ skills, with aviation focus—flying, gliding, engineering; media; music; adventurous activities; sports; leadership; shooting; first aid; parachuting; radio and cyber communications	This award encourages the development of citizenship alongside aviation and related military skills, with progressive training linked to ability and age and an interface with the DofE Award
A progressively challenging syllabus includes: Cadet and the Community; Drill and Turnout; Expeditions; Fieldcraft; First Aid; Navigation; Military Knowledge; Music; Shooting; Signals; Skill at Arms; Sport	‘Military’ skills; adventurous activities; teamwork; leadership; discipline; self-confidence	This award encourages the development of citizenship alongside military skills, with progressive training linked to ability and age and an interface with the DofE Award
Girls complete tasks across five zones: Healthy Lifestyle; Global Awareness; Discovery; Skills and Relationships; Celebrating Diversity	Planning; organisational skills; research; communication skills	Open to Guides who have gained at least two Guide Challenge Badges
See CVQO website for more detailed information on the range of awards and vocational qualifications offered	Leadership; teamwork; communication; problem-solving; personal commitment	Through CVQO anyone can gain a qualification that validates what they have learned in their youth group
Visit the ASDAN website for details of each of the programmes listed	A wide range of ASDAN awards provide opportunities for personal and social development skills; teamwork; problem-solving; confidence; managing risk; employability and other skills and attributes to equip young people for work, learning and adulthood. See details on ASDAN website	These awards provide opportunities to recognise the wider achievements and skills of young people gained through their extra-curricular activities. They provide strong progression routes to other award opportunities and qualifications
This Chief Guide’s Challenge is split into two phases. Phase 1: try 3 new activities; Phase 2: enhanced commitment to an existing or new activity	Skills for life and personal understanding from Community Action; Creativity; Fit for Life; Independent Living; International; Leadership; Out of Doors; and Personal Values	Open to members of Girlguiding’s Senior Section and rooted in the Look Wider programme

# Awards Directory

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS	PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	SKILLS/ COMPETENCES	DISTINCTIVE FEATURES
<b>Chief Scout's Diamond Award</b> <i>(by Scouts Scotland)</i>			15–24	<b>Meets DofE Silver requirements; Saltire Award</b>	12 nights away; 4 activities from International/ Communities/ Values; hold Silver DofE or complete 4 challenges—activity, physical, service; 3-day expedition	Commitment and dedication; time management; teamwork; personal development; using initiative; self-motivation; ability to achieve personal goals	Requires participants to be Explorer Scouts or Scout Network members for at least 12 months to complete
<b>Chief Scout's Platinum Award</b> <i>(by Scouts Scotland)</i>			14–17	<b>Meets DofE Bronze requirements; Saltire Award</b>	6 nights away; 2 activities from International/ Communities / Values; hold bronze DofE or complete 4 challenges—activity, physical, service; 2-day expedition	Commitment and dedication; time management; teamwork; personal development; using initiative; self-motivation; ability to achieve personal goals	Requires participants to be Explorer Scouts for at least 6 months to complete
<b>Community Achievement Award</b> <i>(by Glasgow Kelvin College)</i>	<b>Progressive levels of Community Activities at:</b> Level 4— <b>Getting Involved;</b> Level 5— <b>Assisting;</b> Level 6— <b>Delivering;</b> Level 7— <b>Designing</b>	<b>SCQF Levels 4, 5, 6 &amp; 7</b>	12+	<b>Awards recognising volunteering, e.g. Saltire Award</b>	Each level is based around a 3 stage process: Planning—choosing an activity and setting milestones; Implementing—carrying out activity as outlined in planning stage; Evaluating—reviewing success, thinking about what could have been done differently, identifying learning and looking at the benefits to the self and others	A range of skills and attributes developed through volunteering and community action, including volunteering skills; planning; evaluation; community social action	The awards are designed to allow people involved in, assisting in the delivery, delivering or developing community activities the opportunity to design their own learning regarding personal milestones and achievements in partnership with varying levels of community participation
<b>Developing Decision-making Skills in Young People</b> <i>(by YouthBank Scotland)</i>	<b>2 Levels</b>	<b>SCQF Levels 5 &amp; 6</b>	12–25	<b>YouthBank Young People's Grant-making Skills; awards recognising volunteering</b>	Refer to YouthBank Scotland for details	Decision-making skills, particularly related to grant-making	Enables young people to play active leadership roles in their communities, making decisions on cash for action and funding young people's ideas on community improvement
<b>Developing Leadership Skills</b> <i>(by YouthBank Scotland)</i>	<b>2 Levels</b>	<b>SCQF Levels 5 &amp; 6</b>	12–25	<b>YouthBank Young People's Grant-making Skills; awards recognising volunteering</b>	Refer to YouthBank Scotland for details	Leadership skills, particularly related to grant-making and community action	Enables young people to play active leadership roles in their communities; making decisions on cash for action and funding young people's ideas on community improvement
<b>DofE Leadership Programme</b> <i>(by Duke of Edinburgh's Award)</i>		<b>SCQF Level 5</b>	16–25	<b>Saltire Award; SQA Volunteering Award</b>	Introduction to the DofE; Teamwork/ Leadership skills; Managing a DofE group; Practical DofE Leadership	Leadership; teamwork; planning; risk assessment; group dynamics	Using specific courses from the DofE's Modular Training Framework, it is aimed chiefly at current DofE participants and Award holders aged 16+ who wish to develop their leadership skills
<b>Duke of Edinburgh's Award</b>	<b>Bronze; Silver; Gold</b>		14–25	<b>Uniformed orgs; John Muir Award; Saltire Award; Heritage Hero Awards</b>	Volunteering; Physical; Skills; Expedition; Residential (Gold Award only)	Commitment; determination; teamwork; flexibility; awareness of own potential; self-belief; resilience and independence	The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is delivered by schools, youth organisations and others in all 32 local authority areas across Scotland and in 144 Nations and is based on participants building there own learning programme. Gold Award achievers are invited to a celebration event at Holyrood Palace
<b>Dynamic Youth Awards</b> <i>(by Youth Scotland)</i>	<b>1–5 Star Awards</b>	<b>SCQF Level 3</b>	10+	<b>Progression route to Youth Achievement Awards</b>	Plan, work through, review and evidence participation in a personal challenge	Planning ahead, working with others, communication skills, self-awareness, study and organisation skills	Awards follow a Plan-Do-Review structure that provides a flexible framework to accredit planned or existing activities at SCQF level 3



# Awards Directory

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS	PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	SKILLS/ COMPETENCES	DISTINCTIVE FEATURES
<b>Employability Award</b> <i>(by SQA)</i>		SCQF Levels 3 & 4	14–18	Other SQA Awards— see SQA website for further details	Two Mandatory Units: Preparing for Employment—First Steps; Building Your Employability Skills; +1 Optional Unit from Responsibilities of Employment; Dealing with Work Situations	Generic employability skills; job-seeking skills	Prepares young people for the world of work. It builds the confidence of learners in their ability to gain and sustain employment and enables them to be effective contributors to society. Young people identify their achievements and experience and develop job-seeking skills
<b>Employability Qualifications</b> <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	Entry 2 & 3: Level 1 & 2	SCQF Levels 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	14+		At least 6 credits required for an Award, including 1 core unit. A Certificate requires 15 credits including 2 core units	General employability skills; exploring opportunities and applying for jobs; enterprise skills	ASDANs Employability Qualifications provide a framework for developing and recognising general employability skills
<b>Event Volunteering Qualifications</b> <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	Entry 3; Level 1 & 2		14+	Saltire Award	Event purpose; volunteer responsibilities; personal responsibilities; reflection	Volunteering skills; skills to make an effective contribution to events, including timekeeping, health and safety, task planning	Provide a means to recognise and accredit school and extra-curricular voluntary and community activities
<b>Explorer Scout Young Leader Scheme</b> <i>(by Scouts Scotland)</i>		ILM Development programme certificate	14–17	Meets practical elements of SQA Leadership Award (SCQF 6)	10 training modules and 4 Missions	Leadership; communication; interpersonal skills; planning; commitment; decision-making; coping with responsibility	Requires a sustained commitment to volunteering and training. Participants can register with ILM and get on-line access to ILMs extensive leadership and management resources
<b>Heritage Hero Awards</b> <i>(by Archaeology Scotland)</i>	Explorer; Detective; Bronze; Silver; Gold		10–25	YAA; DYA; DofE; John Muir; uniformed orgs	5 elements at each level: Plan; Investigate; Engage; Inspire; Reflect	Knowledge and understanding of 'cultural' heritage; self-confidence; teamwork; well-being	A group award that provides for individual challenge, with a focus on 'cultural' heritage
<b>John Muir Award</b> <i>(by The John Muir Trust)</i>	Discovery Award; Explorer Award; Conserver Award		open	DofE; uniformed orgs; YAA; DYA; Heritage Hero	4 Challenges and 3 Levels: Discover; Explore; Conserve; Share	Fosters understanding of sustainability, biodiversity, environment, citizenship and supports a range of goals relating to health and well-being, youth work, employability and more	The only Award that focuses on the natural environment and wild places. Non-competitive, inclusive, challenging and progressive, it helps individuals, groups and families to connect with and care for wild places
<b>Junior Prince's Award (The)</b> <i>(by SkillForce)</i>			9–14	Sports Leadership	Team-building and problem-solving challenges: Team sports; Outdoor pursuits, including camping out for a night (where possible); First Aid training; Navigation skills; A social action project; Material on Remembrance and respect. Learners complete a log book to record and reflect on their achievements	Confidence and resilience; teamwork and leadership skills; nationally recognised awards for sports leadership, First Aid and navigation	The Award can be delivered in school time or after school, during a whole year or within a term, and can be tailored to specific requirements. The programme is delivered by SkillForce Instructors—predominantly ex- Services personnel who understand what it takes to build teams, solve problems, succeed at challenges and lead, as well as serve others in highly demanding and pressurised situations
<b>Key Steps Award</b> <i>(by ASDAN)</i>			10–14	Counts as 2 Credits for ASDAN Personal Development Programmes and CoPE qualification	Challenges drawn from 9 modules: Identity; Community; Health; Citizenship; Environment; Personal Finance; Enterprise; Values; International	Personal challenges help develop personal skills and responsibility for own learning	A flexible programme that can be completed on-line through ASDAN's e-portfolio system. Can be followed for up to 3 years or less than 1. Suitable for formal and non-formal settings

# Awards Directory

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS	PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	SKILLS/ COMPETENCES	DISTINCTIVE FEATURES
<b>King George VI Youth Leadership Training</b> <i>(by Boys’ Brigade Scotland)</i>		SCQF Level 7	17–21	DofE Gold; Saltire Award	1 week residential training; 12 months supervised leadership; Final 1 week residential	Leadership; team building; relationship building; exploring and sharing Christian faith; Youth Leader Training and practice	Open to members of the BB aged 17–22 serving in any of the four youth sections: Anchors, Juniors, Company, Seniors. The programme is endorsed by the CLD Standards Council
<b>Leadership Awards</b> <i>(by SQA)</i>		SCQF Levels 5 & 6; endorsed by Chartered Management Institute	16–18	Explorer Scout Young Leader Scheme; BB KG VI Leadership Training; DofE Leadership; other awards with a volunteering element	Two mandatory units: Leadership—an Introduction (20 hrs); Leadership in Practice (40 hrs)	Awareness of leadership skills, styles and qualities; self-confidence; working with and respect for others	Nurtures leadership styles which show respect and tolerance for others and promotes responsible citizenship. Examples of activities include organising an event, running a community newspaper, setting up an enterprise company and peer mentoring
<b>Life Skills Challenge</b> <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	Pre-entry to Level 1		12–16	See ASDAN website	See ASDAN website for e-learning Challenge opportunities	Life skills, from communication and problem solving to IT and employability	An on-line bank of challenges designed to structure learning and demonstrate achievement in a wide range of work and life skills. Suitable for young people with additional support needs
<b>Moving On - Transition in Action Award</b> <i>(by Playback ICE)</i>		SCQF Levels 2, 3 & 4	12–25	Units can support other PSE programmes; links also to the Playback ICE Essential Skills for Employment Award (SCQF 3 & 4)	Units include Self-Evaluation; Action Planning; Rights and Responsibilities; Making Decisions; Health and Wellbeing; Citizenship (includes a Volunteer Experience); Planning My Future (includes Work Experience); Managing My Money; Independent Living; Travelling. Complete programme delivers 24 SCQF Credit Points	Focus on employability, personal development, health and wellbeing, life skills, citizenship, volunteering and work experience offering learners opportunities to progress, build, develop and consolidate their knowledge, values, attitudes and skills, along with improving their ability to relate their learning and achievements to their own future, wellbeing and employability	Assessment, moderation and verification made easier as the performance criteria is set out clearly for teachers and students alike via the guidance books and student portfolios. All the material to support the delivery of these units are both published and digitally available. Our SCQF units comply with the senior phase benchmarking tool—INSIGHT
<b>Outward Bound Skills for Life Award</b> <i>(by The Outward Bound Trust)</i>	1. Discover Adventure; 2. Serious Adventure; 3. The Skills for Life Award; 4. The Ultimate Expedition		15–19	DofE Gold (residential); uniformed organisation top awards	Includes a 4-day instructor led expedition, a 10-hour solo experience and a 4-day youth led expedition	Self-confidence and self-belief; communication; teamwork; self-management; problem-solving; creativity; resilience; leadership and responsibility	Throughout this 19-day residential experience your dedicated instructors will play a huge role during your journey, coaching you to success and sharing their skills, knowledge and experience with you throughout
<b>Participative Democracy Certificate</b> <i>(by YouthLink Scotland)</i>		SCQF Level 5	open	Can be delivered in tangent with other awards	4 hours of independent individual research, presentation on research findings; 6 hours of training on specific skills such as communication, setting ground rules, decision making, working in groups; 8 hours of recorded decision making meetings; and 2 hours of personal reflection	Participate safely and effectively in groups; Carry out research effectively; develop presentation skills; express voice and demonstrate social commitment; broaden perspectives through new experiences and thinking; make reasoned decisions; manage formal relationships	The Participative Democracy Certificate (PDC) is an award that provides accreditation to young people actively involved in decision-making in groups. It takes 20 hours to complete. Delivery and support staff must be CLD or youth work trained to ensure a youth work approach is adopted. A group award that requires individual research



# Awards Directory

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS	PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	SKILLS/ COMPETENCES	DISTINCTIVE FEATURES
Personal Development Awards <i>(by SQA)</i>		SCQF Levels 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	15–18	SQA Awards—see SQA website for further details	3 or 4 Mandatory Units: Self in Community; Self and Work; Practical Abilities; (+ at L4-6) Self-awareness	Self-awareness; self-confidence; self-reliance; working with others; task management; organisational skills	A key feature is the potential for personalisation and choice: learners can focus on their own development needs and, with support, set targets and identify tasks to address these needs
Personal Development Programmes <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	3 levels: Bronze; Silver; Gold		14–16	Meets half of credits required for CoPE qualification at Levels 1 & 2. Progression also to PSD qualifications	13 Modules; 1 or 2 Credits per section, leading to Bronze (6); Silver (12); Gold (18). Skill and Challenge requirements; Production of an organised Portfolio; Summary of Achievement; Personal Statement and a Record of Progress	Teamwork; Learning; coping with problems; numeracy; literacy; use of IT	Suitable for formal and non-formal learning settings, developing, recording and certifying personal qualities, abilities and achievements and introducing young people to new activities and challenges
Preparing for Adulthood Programmes <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	4 Programmes		9–19+	Scope for progression through PSD and Employability qualifications	New Horizons—special education needs (9–13); Transition Challenge—sever/ profound learning difficulties (14–16); Towards Independence—moderate to profound and multiple learning difficulties (14+); Workright (14+) work-based/ work experience programme of study	See ASDAN website for programme details	Developed for learners with a range of learning difficulties/ additional support needs
President’s Badge <i>(by Boys’ Brigade Scotland)</i>			14–15	DofE Bronze; Saltire Award	Christian faith development course; Teamwork skills; + options to include badge achievement, volunteer service, residential course, DofE Bronze	Teamwork; communication; volunteer service	Open to BB members aged 14–18
PSD Qualifications <i>(by ASDAN)</i>	Entry 1–3; Level 1–2		14–19		13 units ranging from Community Action to Healthy Living and Managing own Money (see ASDAN website)	Social and life skills	Recognises learning and achievement in formal and non-formal settings
Queen’s Award (The) <i>(by Girls’ Brigade Scotland)</i>			16–25	DofE; Saltire Award	7 modules: Voluntary service; General study paper; Initiative tasks; Christian growth; GB service; A project; And attendance at a national residential course	Leadership, teamwork, responsibility, knowledge, discipline, research skills, self-motivation and a huge amount of dedication	Girls across the world work towards this highest award in the Girls Brigade, which requires a minimum of 2 years to achieve. The Award encourages a personal Christian commitment, while respecting other faiths
Queen’s Badge (The) <i>(by Boys’ Brigade Scotland)</i>			16–18	DofE; Saltire Award	Skills-based training to support BB Company/ community work or life skills training for personal development; 30 hours+ responsibility in Church or BB; 30+ hours community service; Two from three of: learn/ develop a skill; enhance/ take up a new physical activity; 3-day expedition; Final residential experience; maintain log and record achievement	Leadership; communication; outdoor expedition skills; people skills; community service	Open to BB members aged 16–18, it is normally achieved over two BB sessions (years). The aim of this top award in the BB is to recognise young people’s achievements during their time in the BB, developing skills in leadership, communication, outdoor expeditions, working with people within their BB Company or Church and community service
Queen’s Guide Award <i>(by Girlguiding Scotland)</i>			16–25		The Queen’s Guide Award is based on challenges split across five elements: Service in guiding; Outdoor Challenge; Personal skill development; Community action; Residential	Teamwork; time management; organisational skills; planning and evaluation; community skills; communication skills	The culmination of a progressive development programme that enables each participant to develop their skills and give sustained service to their community and to guiding.
Queen’s Scout Award <i>(by Scouts Scotland)</i>			16–24	Meets DofE Gold requirements	18 nights away; 6 activities from International / Communities / Values; hold Gold DofE or complete 5 challenges—activity, physical, service; 4-day expedition; 5-day residential	Teamwork; leadership; resilience; problem-solving; research; communication; volunteering; commitment and resolve	Attaining the Scout Association’s top award requires demonstrating a balance of wide-ranging skills and takes at least 18 months to complete. Recipients are invited to a celebration event at Windsor Castle

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS	PROGRAMME ELEMENTS	SKILLS/ COMPETENCES	DISTINCTIVE FEATURES
<b>RED Programme</b> <i>(by British Red Cross)</i>	<b>3 levels:</b> <b>Recognise;</b> <b>Empower;</b> <b>Develop</b>		<b>15–25</b>	<b>Saltire Award; YAA; DoF;</b> <b>other awards with a</b> <b>volunteering element</b>	'Recognise' tier is secured after 6 months volunteering. 'Empower' involves self-assessment of skills, knowledge and competencies gained after 12 months volunteering. 'Develop' is a 5 module ethical leadership programme undertaken after 24 months volunteering		The RED programme is for young volunteer members of the British Red Cross
<b>Saltire Awards</b> <i>(by Voluntary Action Scotland)</i>	<b>4 levels:</b> <b>The Challenge;</b> <b>The Approach;</b> <b>The Ascent;</b> <b>The Summit</b>		<b>12–25</b>	<b>Saltire Awards can</b> <b>recognise all volunteering</b> <b>activity components</b> <b>of other youth awards</b> <b>including DoF; uniformed</b> <b>orgs; DYA; YAA</b>	Awards recognise 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 and 500 hours of volunteering activity. Plus Outstanding Achievement	Citizenship; commitment; community action; personal development and employability skills; CV development	Scottish Governments national youth volunteer awards. Recognises volunteering undertaken by young people aged 12–25. Helps young people to reflect on, capture and communicate their personal development gained through volunteering. There are no costs involved; Saltire Awards is free of charge
<b>Sea Cadets Programme</b> <i>(by Sea Cadets)</i>			<b>12–18</b>	<b>DoF; CVQO / BTEC</b> <b>(at 16+); National</b> <b>Governing Body (NGB)</b> <b>awards incl. RYA, BCU</b> <b>and BSAC</b>	Adventure and Challenge; Progressive training; Personal Development; Competitions and Events	'Military' skills; adventurous activities; watersports skills; navigation; engineering, catering; music; communication; teamwork; leadership; citizenship; innovation	The Sea Cadet Pathway is progressive development programme delivered through nautical adventure and fun based on the customs and traditions of the Royal Navy, leading to internally and externally accredited qualifications
<b>Short Courses</b> <i>(by ASDAN)</i>			<b>13–19</b>	<b>Contributes up to 3 Credits</b> <b>for ASDAN PSD and</b> <b>6 Credits for CoPE</b>	30+ programmes: vocational; work related; sports and activities and more (see ASDAN website)	See ASDAN website for programme details	Flexible, portfolio-based programmes designed to accredit up to 60 hours activity and skills across a range of topics and curriculum areas. Evidences individual ability rather than attainment
<b>Sports Leadership Award</b> <i>(by Sports Leaders UK)</i>		<b>SCQF Levels</b> <b>4, 5 &amp; 6</b>	<b>12+</b>	<b>YAA; DYA; Duke of</b> <b>Edinburgh's; other</b> <b>awards with a</b> <b>volunteering component</b>	See Sports Leader UK website for details on the range of qualifications available in Scotland	Leadership; activity planning and review; cognitive skills (e.g. problem solving); self-confidence; teamwork; resilience	Frameworks that equip young people with the knowledge and ability to create and lead activity sessions in a variety of sports, dance and other recreational settings
<b>Volunteering Skills Awards</b> <i>(by SQA)</i>		<b>SCQF Levels</b> <b>3, 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>14–18</b>	<b>Saltire Award; YAA; DoF;</b> <b>uniformed organisation</b> <b>awards; other awards with</b> <b>a volunteering element</b>	Three mandatory Units: Preparing to Volunteer; Volunteering Experience; Volunteering—Investigative Project	A range of skills and personal development experiences which will help to prepare for responsibility, further education and employment	Provides formal recognition of volunteering activity
<b>YES Company Programme</b> <b>Strathclyde Exam</b> <i>(by Young Enterprise Scotland)</i>		<b>Strathclyde</b> <b>University</b>	<b>S5/6</b>	<b>Contributes towards</b> <b>SQA wider achievement</b> <b>awards, incl. SQA</b> <b>Leadership Award</b>	Pupils set-up and run their own company during an academic year with support from local business volunteers and YES staff. They undertake all tasks related to set up and operation of a business, including product/ service planning and development; production and delivery; people and financial management; sales and marketing	Participants develop a range of entrepreneurial and business related skills and understanding, including leadership; product/ service planning & development; sales and marketing; people & financial management; business processes; customer satisfaction; impact on society; performance evaluation	Set up and run a company with support of local business volunteers and YES staff; local/ regional/ national and European level competition; the opportunity for reflection on the experience of running their business, with accreditation through the YES Exam which is offered in partnership with the University of Strathclyde Business School and the Hunter Centre for Entrepreneurship



# Awards Directory

AWARD	LEVELS/ PROGRESSION	SCQF LEVEL/ EXTERNAL RECOGNITION	AGE RANGE	LINKS/ CONTRIBUTES TOWARDS OTHER AWARDS
<b>Young People’s Grant Making Skills</b> <i>(by YouthBank Scotland)</i>	<b>Decision-making 1; Decision- making 2</b>	<b>SCQF Levels 4 &amp; 5</b>	<b>12–25</b>	<b>YouthBank Decision- making and Developing Leadership Skills programmes; other awards recognising volunteering</b>

<b>Youth Achievement Awards</b> <i>(by Youth Scotland)</i>	<b>4 levels: Bronze; Silver; Gold; Platinum</b>	<b>SCQF Levels 4, 5, 6 &amp; 7</b>	<b>14+ (16+ for Platinum)</b>	Plan, work through, review and evidence participation in a series of personal challenges that require learners to take increasing individual responsibility, the higher the award level. Responsibility ranges from participating in activities at Bronze, assisting with planning and organising activities at Silver, planning and leading activities for others at Gold and undertaking a series of challenges that allows the learner to perform as a peer educator at Platinum	Learners take ownership of their learning, plan ahead and solve problems as they arise, work with others, develop communication skills and resolve differences by negotiation, explore and manage their feelings, enhance their self-awareness, build self-esteem, develop study and organisational skills	Awards follow a Plan-Do-Review structure that provides a flexible framework to accredit planned or existing activities from SCQF level 4–7
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Nominated Awards

<b>Young Scot Awards</b> <i>(by Young Scot)</i>			<b>11–26</b>	<b>Other awards recognising volunteering, e.g. Saltire Award</b>	12 Award Categories: Young Hero; Sport; The Arts; Health; Entertainment; Volunteering; Unsung Hero; Environment; Community; Enterprise; Diversity; Excellence in Education	Recognises a wide range of skills and achievements	The Young Scot Awards are designed to recognise and celebrate the achievements of young people and groups aged 11–26 throughout Scotland who make a difference to the lives of others in their community and country. 3 shortlisted candidates in each Awards Category attend the gala national final
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# Members and Agencies that form the Awards Network



## OBSERVER MEMBERS







# amazing things

All children and young people are entitled to have the full range of their achievements recognised.

(Curriculum for Excellence - Building the Curriculum 5)

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