

positive contribution

stay safe

enjoy and achieve

economic well-being

be healthy

Bristol 14 – 19 Learning & Skills Strategy

2008 - 2013

positive contribution stay safe enjoy and
achieve economic well-being be healthy
it's in our hands



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Part 1: Purpose of this Strategy

Introduction

The DCSF 14-19 Implementation Plan set out a long term programme for reform which will give all young people the opportunity to choose a mix of learning which motivates, interests and challenges them, and which gives them the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to succeed in education, work, and life.

Increased collaboration is vital in order to deliver the new opportunities that the 14-19 agenda offers and to respond better to the needs and circumstances of individual young people. In Bristol, there is an urgency to make the system work better for those young people in it now whilst still planning for the future.

Over the past two years significant progress has been made in raising attainment and improving educational opportunities across the City:

- 10% improvement in achievement 5 GCSE A*-C from 2005-2007 , to 47% in 2007
- Increase in 17 year old participation in education and work-based learning
- Percentage of young people NEET continues to decline.
- Increase in percentage of young people achieving level 2 by age 19
- Increase in percentage of young people achieving level 3 by age 19
- Formation of the 14-19 Learning and Skills Workstream group, reporting to JAR Implementation Panel
- Formation of three 14-19 Local Area Partnerships, geographically based – South, North and East Central
- Collaborative Guidance Framework developed and piloted as part of stepped implementation.
- Myplan4life supporting young people with planning for progression enabling them to access PlanIT web based developments, Futures4me and apprenticeships on line
- Curriculum diversification at key stage 4 with increased opportunities to access BTEC programmes, work-based programmes “Learn to Work “ and Young Apprenticeships and accrediting learning through other qualifications.
- Implementation of the Bristol September Guarantee panel.
- Investment in high quality facilities through BSF, the Academies programme and LSC Capital funding.
- Employers contributing to work-related learning.
- Establishment of Bristol Diploma Development Group

Context

14-19 developments in Bristol take place within the context of a changing and dynamic local landscape and within a vibrant and diverse city. The city itself continues to see significant economic and regeneration investment through projects such as:

- £500million Cabot Circus developments bringing with it the creation of 4,000 new jobs
- Harbourside developments: Bristol Harbourside Phase 2
- Bristol & Bath Science Park providing specialist accommodation for science and technology companies
- Hengrove Park developments including South Bristol Skills Academy, South Bristol Community Hospital and “Healthplex”
- Growth in passenger numbers and destinations from Bristol airport
- A new strategic planning group set up to design a masterplan for regeneration success in South Bristol

Economic indicators forecast that growth in Bristol will increase at a steady rate over the next twenty years - the draft Regional Spatial Strategy includes the expectations of 73,900 - 91,800 new jobs being created in the greater Bristol area over the next twenty years. Aerospace, media, social economy, tourism, environmental and high-tech business are all key sectors in the Bristol area. As a result of these market forces and likely changes to government planning policy, Bristol is expected to need to accommodate some 27,000 new homes over the next 20 years.

The greatest priority facing the city is to accelerate the pace of improvement in attainment at 16 in the maintained secondary schools in Bristol. Despite small year-on-year improvements the gap between Bristol and the national average for 5+ A*-C GCSE or equivalent (Level 2) had been widening, almost continually, since 1998. In 2006 the difference reduced to 15.4%, the lowest figure since 1997. This improvement has been sustained in 2007 with the difference now being 15.1%.

While attainment levels in the pre-16 maintained sector show a significant improvement on those achieving Level 2, this will take time to filter through to the Level 2 at age 19 figure, which has risen from 61% in 2005 to 62% in 2006 to 63% in 2007. Although the data refers to learners educated in Bristol, rather than necessary living there (as does the data at age 16), many young people go to neighbouring authorities for secondary education or into the independent sector. This outflow is reversed post-16, with young people who were at school in neighbouring authorities, or in independent schools, entering provision in the

city. However, more work is required if the overall attainment in Bristol to Level 2 by age 19 is to reach the level of its statistical and geographical neighbours.

Currently, different measurements and criteria are used to determine 'success' and 'achievement' in the post-16 sector, and direct comparison between schools and colleges is not possible. However, following the recent closure of small, under-performing sixth forms, post-16 Level 3 achievement rates at the two principal school sixth-form centres are above the national averages, two centres are showing improving results and increasing numbers, and only one centre is struggling – in terms of numbers and success. The three colleges generally perform at or about their national average benchmarks for success at A level, but are slightly below average on other Level 3 provision. Level 1 and 2 achievement is currently around the benchmarking averages for the colleges.

Schools, Colleges and other Training Providers are now working in closer collaboration through the three 14-19 Local Area Partnerships. To date curriculum diversification has included an increase in BTEC programmes, work-based learning opportunities through Learn to work and Young Apprenticeships and increased use of other accreditation including COPE, and adult literacy and numeracy qualifications. Common timetabling exists for Level 1 provision with City of Bristol College to enable young people from each of the three partnership areas to access these qualifications. Some common blocks for Level 2 qualifications are in place but there needs to be greater harmonisation to enable more young people to participate at Level 2.

A key priority now is to consolidate those aspects of these partnerships that have been most effective and secure effective city-wide planning of the post-14 curriculum so that more learners are following appropriate curriculum pathways, with access to progression routes, between 14 and 16.

The proportion of young people leaving school at 16 and entering employment without training is currently too high. Such employment is often low-skilled and temporary.

Post 16 places in the City are subject to change brought about by the Academies programme which is leading to an increase in overall post 16 numbers. A priority for the Workstream Group, supported by the Local Area Partnerships, is to ensure effective collaboration across the post 16 curriculum offer.

A priority for the City is to consolidate existing employer engagement and co-ordinate a more effective employer engagement infrastructure across the City. Alongside this there is a need to increase apprenticeship places for young people.

An ambitious submission to deliver Diplomas from 2008 was made by the South and East Central partnerships and after a

Careful review of feedback a decision was made not to apply for Gateway 2 but to submit a more robust Gateway 3 application in 2008 on the back of stronger partnership activity and processes and protocols.

With City of Bristol College also being a member of a pathfinder partnership delivering Diplomas from Sept 2008, opportunities exist to draw on their experiences for a later phased delivery in Bristol from 2010.

The level of collaboration between the City Council, Connexions and the LSC is extremely high and effective with the identification of key personnel and other resources to meet the challenge of local and readiness to deliver the 2013 entitlement.

Where we want to get to

In order to succeed in meeting the 2013 entitlement this strategy has been developed to:

- 1 Set the direction for 14-19 year old learning and skills through to 2013
- 2 Outline the actions required to support learning providers and learners in raising levels of participation, achievement and progression in Bristol and address the challenges that are faced

This strategy document links to and builds on:

- 1 Local LSC and college 14-19 strategies and development plans
- 2 Local authority secondary school strategy, the 'Bristol Challenge'.
- 3 Local Authority service delivery plans for secondary improvement and 14-19 learning and skills
- 4 DCSF 14-19 Implementation Plan and Youth Matters.

The aim of the strategy is to develop 14-19 as a coherent phase, building through to meet the 2013 entitlement by:

- 1 Providing a framework for the development of clearly defined and measurable actions to support increased participation, achievement and progression for all young people 14-19.

The strategy identifies four key Objectives which must be addressed if this aim is to be achieved. These are to:

1. Develop successful learners
2. Develop partnership working including workforce development
3. Develop pathways for learning
4. Establish first class learning environments

Within each of these Objectives, actions have been determined identifying the different partner organisations with responsibility for taking these forward within the one-year rolling programme of activity.

Delivering the strategy

The delivery of the strategy will be co-ordinated by the 14-19 Learning and Skills Workstream Group through the operation of the Local Area Partnerships. Oversight of the Workstream Group will be undertaken by senior representation from Bristol City Council, Connexions and the Learning and Skills Council.

Key Success Indicators

Success will be measured against the same quantitative indicators as used in the GOSW 14-19 progress checks, i.e.:

<http://www.qos.gov.uk/qosw/edskillshome/14-19imp/14-19progcheck/>

A) Participation

1. Percentage of 17 year olds participating in education and work based learning (judged against the 2005/06 national trajectory and progress made since 2004/05).
2. Reduce the proportion of 16-18 year olds who are NEET (judged against the progress made since 2004 towards the 2010 target).

B) Attainment

3. Percentage of young people achieving 5+ A*-Cs at GCSE or equivalent, including English and maths, (judged against the 2005/06 national trajectory and progress made since 2004/05).
4. Percentage of young people achieving Level 2 by 19 (judged against the 2005/06 national trajectory and progress made since 2004/05).
5. Percentage of young people achieving Level 3 by 19 (judged against the 2005/06 national trajectory and progress made since 2004/05).
6. Percentage of young people (aged 16-24) achieving an Apprenticeship (judged against the 2005/06 completions out of 16-24 population national average and progress made since 2004/05).

C) Progression

7. The proportion of Y11 learners who progress through the qualifications framework (i.e. L1, L2 and L3) by the age of 19 (subject to the proposed data being available on this indicator from 2008).

Success will be measured against the following indicators

	Performance Indicator	2007 Baseline	2008 target	2009 target	2010 target
1	GCSE 5+ A*-C inc En/ma	31.5%	40%	43%	Not yet set
2	Level 2 by age 19 Level 3 by age 19 (LSC)	63% 40%	64.5% 41%	66% 42%	67.5% 43%
3	Full time education at 16	76.5%	76.2%	76.7%	Not yet set
4	NEET at 16-18 (Connexions)	6.8%	7.1%	6.9%	6.8%

Part 2: Summary of Objectives

Objective 1 Developing successful learners

- 1 Motivate, inspire and support young people to make choices and participate actively in learning in order that they achieve their full potential*
- 2 Tailor learning to the needs and aptitudes of the individual learner*
- 3 Support progression in learning through high quality impartial information, advice and guidance.*

Objective 2 Developing partnership working including workforce development

- 1 Ensure that all staff are engaged in continuing professional development opportunities to build knowledge and skills required to support young people throughout the 14-19 phase.*
- 2 Develop mechanisms for the effective sharing and dissemination of knowledge, skills and resources*
- 3 Develop effective partnership structures and processes which support the local delivery of the City-wide strategy.*
- 4 Develop meaningful partnership working to ensure learning provision and pathways are planned collaboratively, and where appropriate delivered collaboratively, across the city*

Objective 3 Developing pathways for learning

- 1 Develop sustainable and cost effective 14-19 pathways for learning and progression*
- 2 Develop a wide range of learning pathways that draw on the economic and cultural strengths of the city, in order to best meet the needs of the individual learner whether at school, college, in the workplace or with a training provider.*

Objective 4 Establishing first class learning environments

- 1. Re-build or refurbish the City's secondary schools; major investment into e-learning infrastructure; further diversification in the structure of secondary school provision; significant development of Further Education provision.*
- 2. Ensure that the changes in funding arrangements and transfer of strategic responsibility for 16-19 year old learners are used to continue and further develop the best possible environment and range of learning provision for Bristol teenagers.*

4 Year Timeline through to 2013 Entitlement

Year	Local Key Developments	National Key Developments	Diploma Developments	Timescale
2007/ 2008	<p>Partnerships 3yr plans, underpinned by quality assurance framework. Nov '07 – Dec '08</p> <p>Functional skills pilot in three standalone centres</p> <p>Opening of Redland Green School and Brunel Academy</p> <p>Work related learning initiative and capacity building funding supports partnership development</p> <p>6th Form Support and Challenge</p>	<p>Foundation skills pilot</p> <p>Gateway 2 process</p> <p>6th Form Support and Challenge</p> <p>Foundation Learning Tier test and trial</p>	<p>Gateway 3 preparation: 2010 delivery</p> <p>Creative and Media Society, Health and Development IT Sport and Leisure Hospitality and Catering Engineering Construction Business, Administration and Finance</p> <p>Hair and Beauty Retail</p>	<p>Partnership planning Jan '08 – Dec '08</p> <p>Establishment of Line specific Diploma Development groups for first lines from Apr '08</p> <p>Recruit Diploma Champions, April/May</p>

	LA and LSC commence planning for transitional arrangements			
2008/2009	<p>Roll out collaborative Guidance Framework to all schools (Sept 08)</p> <p>Launch of Hartcliffe campus</p> <p>Oasis and Merchants' academies to open</p> <p>Colston Girls and Bristol Cathedral move to academy status</p> <p>Demand Led Funding for 16-18 provision</p> <p>AQA IB at St Brendan's</p>	<p>First five diploma lines being delivered</p> <p>First teaching of new A-level specifications</p> <p>Gateway 3 process</p> <p>Demand Led funding for 16-18 provision</p>	<p>Submission for first Diploma lines as above</p> <p>Gateway 4 preparation: 2011 delivery</p> <p>Humanities Science Languages *Retail Public Services</p> <p>CoBC involved in the delivery of the first five Diplomas in collaboration with the Kingswood Partnership (S. Glos)</p>	<p>Submission December '08</p> <p>Partnership planning Jan '09 – Dec '09 for next Diploma lines</p> <p>Establishment of Line specific Diploma</p> <p>Development groups for next lines from Apr '09</p>
2009/2010	CoBC's Skills Academy to open	Second tranche of diplomas delivered	Submission for 4 Diploma lines as above	<p>Submission December '09</p> <p>Partnership planning Jan '10</p>

	IB Delivery at St. Brendan's commences	Gateway 4 process New GCSE specifications	Gateway 5 preparation: 2012 delivery Travel and Tourism Land based and environmental Manufacturing	– Dec '010 for next Diploma lines Establishment of Line specific Diploma Development groups for lines from Apr '10
2010/2011		Third tranche of diplomas delivered New GCSE specifications in English maths and ICT	Submission to Gateway 6 First Diploma Lines delivered	Submission December '10 September 2010
2011/2012		Science, humanities and languages diplomas available	Next Diploma lines delivered. Year 2 of First Diplomas delivered	September 2011 September 2011
2012/2013		Raising expectations to stay in learning	Last 3 Diploma lines delivered. All 14 lines now available to all learners	September 2012 September 2012

The planning cycle for delivering the 14-19 reform agenda will operate through :

- A rolling year on year action plan identifying planned actions against each of the four strategy objectives, key steps for the year and with whom organisational responsibility rests (– see below for the actions for year 1)
- Mid year- February – review against actions and action planning for following year.

14-19 Learning & Skills ACTION PLAN 2008-2013

PLANNED ACTIONS		KEY STEPS: YEAR 1	RESPONSIBILITY
Objective 1- Developing Successful Learners			
1	Deliver targeted support to improve outcomes 2008-2011 through Accelerating Progress Programme (APP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Programme in place ▪ Priority this year: KS4 results 5 GCSEs including English and Maths 	School level, monitored by LA Raising Attainment Workstream Group
2	Establish common practice on Individual Learning Plans using 'My Plan for Life'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Priority this year: move towards universal for year 9 in all schools ▪ Introduce from Y7 as part of Guidance Framework pilot ▪ Facilitate data transfer to next level of learning post 16 - unique PIN ▪ Use data to plan provision 	Connexions/LSC
3	Improve the use of the Collaborative Guidance Framework to develop progression routes for students and teachers (links with 6 below)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently piloted in 3 schools ▪ Roll out to all schools target age groups in 07/08 (see also 2 above) 	Connexions
4	Support the development of WRL programmes in schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify pilot schools across whole city ▪ Develop workforce supported by a refocused teacher placement programme 	LA/LSC

5	Deliver Integrated Youth Support to increase participation in learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ establish lead co-ordinator for Youth Matters in each area ▪ target young people to secure their access to Positive Activities ▪ develop provision that meets young people's needs 	LA
6	Ensure access to educational and recreational leisure time activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ strengthen link between ESP and Youth Services ▪ audit provision ▪ develop Core Offer to meet need 	LA
Objective 2 – Developing Partnership Working			
7	Review and develop 14-19 strategy for 2008-2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Produce new strategy supported by all partners 	LSC/LA/CX/Area Partnerships
8	Establish sustainable procedures and protocols to ensure the views of learners inform the delivery of the 14-19 curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collect and analyse views of learners ▪ Adviser, Attendance & Participation ▪ Engage leaders of all institutions and organisations in establishing views and using them to shape provision 	LA/schools/colleges/Training Providers
9	Establish Quality Assurance processes working to the citywide framework for provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft framework to 14-19 workstream group ▪ Share draft framework with partners ▪ Support further improvement of quality of teaching and learning ▪ Focused dialogue on improving quality of outcomes on post 16 education and training (LSC and LA) 	LA (Sarah Williams)/LSC/schools/colleges/TPs

10	Secure sustainable mechanisms for planning a cost effective offer that is city wide and in partnerships, 14-16, 16-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Map funding against need/provision ▪ Key discussion item for 14-19 workstream group to determine centrally and/or locally held funds 	LSC LA/LSC (Moyra Pascoe/ Sarah Williams)
11	Strengthen the engagement of employers in the design and delivery of work based training and education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Link from 6 key vocational areas to employers ▪ Build comprehensive picture citywide, including schools ▪ Focused teacher secondment to shape curriculum ▪ Link with Education Business Partnership Forum/network (see also 6 above) 	LA/LSC
12	Workforce development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop strategic workforce development plan to ensure the whole city is well prepared for future developments ▪ Draw together key objectives from existing plans, and ensure alignment and collaboration where it adds value 	LA/LSC/Connexions/schools/ colleges/TPs/VCS
Objective 3 – Developing Pathways for Learning			
13	Establish and use a protocol for sharing information between learning venues across the city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ (2) above will partly address this ▪ Pre 16 to post 16 broadly in place ▪ Post 14 data transfer will fast become a priority 	LA with LSC
14	Confirm and develop pathways which complement the citywide resource, relate to learner need and employer strength and need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess learner need to ensure provision in place ▪ Involve employers in course development ▪ Ensure clearly shown in Prospectus ▪ Develop capacity of Area Partnerships ▪ Further develop cross Bristol team to support development 	Area Partnerships /LA/LSC

15	Develop collaborative delivery 14-16 and consider strengthening planning for 16-19 (links with 3 above)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthen capacity for partnership working ▪ Include VCS ▪ Involve employers ▪ Link with developing LSC employer strategy and WRL project 	Partnership Chairs and LA (Kate Campion) LA (Pauline Marson) with VCS (Trevor Jones) Executive and LSC
16	Raise awareness and information of pathways across the city through the 'Areawide Prospectus'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ September Guarantee to be in place ▪ Employers to be clear on expectations on learning if 16 or 17 year olds enter jobs 	LSC
17	Reduce the % of NEET in each partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Clear strategy needed ▪ To include focus on those young people entering employment without training ▪ Deliver the learning place guarantee for all 16 year olds 	LA (Pauline Marson) and LSC
18	Increase the range and quality of vocational programmes for young people, including the apprenticeship programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Funding issues to be identified ▪ Support programmes to be in place ▪ Engage WBL providers in Area Partnerships 	Area Partnerships/LSC
19	Develop BTECs as a stepping stone towards Diplomas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure programmes are in place for delivery from 2008 onwards and as a stepping stone towards Diploma development ▪ Develop work based placements to support BTEC development 	LSC/LA/schools/colleges
Objective 4 – Establishing First Class Learning Environments			
20	Plan the use of space and virtual learning environments across each Partnership using specialist resources, new build, refurb and specialism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Map provision ▪ Link to (1) (5) (6) and (14) above ▪ Ensure VCS accreditation included 	Area Partnerships
21	(i) Develop the South Bristol Skills Academy and Vocational Centre at Hartcliffe; and (ii) ensure specialist facilities are developed in a cost effective and planned way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prepare capital case for LSC funding ▪ Manage the project on time and on budget ▪ Engage partners to achieve continued support 	City of Bristol College/LSC

22	Address the needs of learners with SEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appropriate provision at all levels ▪ (5) (6) and (14) should ensure this ▪ Use needs of this and other key groups to check available provision meets the needs of all 	Area Partnerships
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Part 3: Strategy into action

Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements

The 14-19 Workstream Group (Strategic Partnership) will monitor the delivery of the actions in the 14-19 Learning and Skills Strategy Action Plan and will report on delivery to the Bristol Children and Young People's Trust.

The Workstream Group will evaluate progress in achieving the four objectives of the Strategy with reference to the key Performance Indicators, on the basis of reports from Advisers to the Board.

The Workstream Group will be accountable to the Bristol Children and Young People's Trust with regard to young people aged 14-19.

Key Stakeholders

Key Stakeholders in the delivery of the 14-19 strategy include:

- Bristol City Council
- West of England LSC
- Connexions West
- Bristol secondary schools and secondary special schools
- The Park
- City of Bristol College
- Filton College
- St Brendan's Sixth Form College
- Bristol University

- University West of England
- West of England Training Provider Network
- Business West
- ABLAZE
- Education Business Partnership
- Community and Voluntary sector
- Government Office - SW
- Young People 14-19
- Parents

Appendix 1

Membership of Key Bodies

14-19 Workstream Group (Strategic Partnership)

Chair, Chief Executive, Connexions West of England

CYPS Programme Director, Transforming Learning

CYPS Programme Director, Integrated Youth Offer

Adviser, 14-19

North Partnership Chair

South Partnership Chair

East Central Partnership Chair

Principal, City of Bristol College

Principal, St Brendan's VI Form College

Ablaze, Director

Representative from Young Bristol and VOSCUR

Connexions Development Manager

LSC Partnership Director

Professor of Education, University of the West England

Membership of the Local Area Partnerships

South	East Central	North
<p>Ashton Park Bedminster Down, Brislington Enterprise College City Learning Centre - Brislington City of Bristol College Florence Brown Hartcliffe Engineering Community College Kingsdon Manor Merchants Academy New Fosseyway Oasis Academy: Bristol The Park St Bernadette RC Secondary St Brendan's Sixth Form College St Mary Redcliffe and Temple Whitehouse Centre</p>	<p>Briarwood Special School Bristol Brunel Academy Bristol Metropolitan College City Academy Bristol City Learning Centre 3 City of Bristol College Colston Girls' Academy Elmfield School for Deaf Children Fairfield High School John Cabot Academy The Meriton St Matthias Park Pupil Referral Unit</p> <p>Colston's Girls School to be invited to join</p>	<p>Bristol Gateway School City of Bristol College Cotham School City Learning Centre – Monks Park Filton College Henbury Secondary School Kingsweston Special School Monks Park Secondary School North Bristol Post 16 Institute Portway Community School Redland Green School St Bede's Catholic College</p> <p>Bristol Cathedral School to be invited to join</p>