**Lead Scotland**

****

**How to carry on learning after you have left school in Scotland**

**Easy Read**

Copyright images © Photosymbols. Prepared by Disability Equality Scotland

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A man smiling as he shares a document with a younger man. | This is a guide.  It is about how you can carry on learning after you have left school. |
|  | **Who this guide is for** |
| 3 young people looking relaxed and empowered, smiling with a Scottish flag behind them. | This guide is for:   * young people in Scotland * adult learners in Scotland * disabled people in Scotland * disabled people’s carers in Scotland |
|  | **How you can carry on learning** |
| A teenage boy pointing to one of 2 building options on the poster next to him. | You can choose to learn:   * at home * at college * at a local centre * anywhere else that feels right |
| A diary page showing Monday to Sunday. | You can choose to learn for a few hours a week.  Or you can learn full time. |
| **A list of items numbered 1 2 and 3.** | **3 ways to carry on learning** |
| **1** | **1. Adult Learning in your community** |
| A map of a local area showing 'my house' as well as a post office, a college, a library, a cafe, a day centre and a church. | Adult Learning in your community is also called community based adult learning or CBAL. |
| 4 people looking relaxed on or near a large sofa. | This kind of learning can happen:   * in community centres * in learning centres * in libraries |
| 3 smiling people in work clothes with work lanyards with their thumbs up. | Adult learning in the community is often organised by:   * the local council * charities * other organisations |
| 1 man supporting a woman as she writes at a table. Above them is the blue and white Lead Scotland logo. | For example, at Lead Scotland we can give free support to disabled people and carers.  This can be things like:   * 1 to 1 sessions in your home * group sessions in your community * getting a Learning Co-ordinator to help write an action plan to suit you |
| A computer screen showing a Lead Scotland website page. | If you want to know more about Lead Scotland’s support, you can click [here on Lead Scotland's website](https://www.lead.org.uk/support-for-disabled-people-to-learn/). |
| An Easy Read leaflet. | If you want to know more about adult learning in the community, you can click [here on Lead Scotland's website](https://www.lead.org.uk/cbal/). |
| **2** | **2. Further Education** |
| 3 young women looking empowered. | Further Education means learning for people who are 16 years old and older. |
| A woman supporting a younger man at a table as they fill in paperwork. | Further Education courses are often about real life and work. |
| A young woman using a laptop. A woman cutting cucumber into slices. A woman in overalls working on a plumbing job with an outside tap. | There are courses about:   * computer skills * speaking and listening skills * life skills – like money or cooking * learning English for people who speak a different language * work skills – like plumbing or childcare |
| A teacher at a board. A college with a sign. 2 women in a house shape. A woman in hi viz clothing and a hard hat, holding a stop sign. | Further Education courses can happen in places like:   * schools * colleges * a mix of school and college * specialist colleges for people who have learning difficulties or disabilities * home * work |
| A map of Scotland with 2 red dots to show Inverness and Glasgow. Below is a teenage boy looking at a book rested on his motorised wheelchair. | Scotland has 2 specialist colleges. 1 near Inverness and 1 near Glasgow.  To find out more about Cantraybridge College near Inverness, click [here on Cantraybridge College's website](https://cantraybridge.co.uk/).  To find out more about Corseford College near Glasgow, click [here on Capability Scotland's website](https://www.capability.scot/services/641-corseford-college). |
|  | **How to start a Further Education course** |
| A teacher standing in front of a board. An advisor standing next to the Skills Development Scotland logo. | There are lots of people who can help you to choose a course.  You can talk with:   * the person leading the course – they are called a tutor * a **careers advisor** at Skills Development Scotland organisation – click [here on Skills Development Scotland's website](https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/contact-us/)   A **careers advisor** is someone who knows about different jobs and choices. |
| A woman sat with a young man talking to him and helping him to fill out an application form. | These people will also help you to find the right forms or the right website button to ask to join the course.  This is called **applying** for a course.  It is a good idea to apply as early as you can before a course starts. |
| A smiling woman pointing to four different coloured squares, each with a question mark in it. | You can also talk with a **disability advisor.**  A **disability advisor** is someone who knows about disabilities and choices.  They can help you get the right support on your course. |
| **3** | **3. Vocational Training** |
| A woman in overalls working on a plumbing job with an outside tap. | **Vocational training** means courses which teach someone skills for a job. |
| A man wearing a hi viz vest choosing tools out of a large tool box. | These courses often happen at the work place.  They can be for new learners or for people already working who want to learn more. |
| A young man dressed in smart work clothes at a laptop. | Sometimes you get paid while you are working and learning.  Sometimes your learning gets you a **qualification**. |
|  | **Different kinds of Qualifications** |
| A cream coloured certificate with a signature and a decorative border. | A **qualification** is when you pass an exam or a course.  It means you have learned a set of skills and passed a test. |
| A young woman using a laptop. | There are lots of different qualifications.  Some are easier and shorter to do. Some are harder and longer to do. |
| A woman with her thumb up next to a long list of green ticks. | **1.** These are some of the qualifications for people who need extra support:   * International Certificate in Digital Literacy – how to use a computer * English for Speakers of Other Languages * Steps to Work award – * Award in **Volunteering** Skills |
| A woman supporting a boy while he writes. | **Volunteering** means working or helping an organisation but not being paid. |
| The blue and white Scottish flag. | **2.** Scotland has an important organisation called the Scottish Qualifications Authority. |
| The blue, white and lilac SQA logo. | The Scottish Qualifications Authority is often called **SQA** for short. |
| 2 young people playing badminton. A certificate. | SQA have National Qualifications in many different things – like sports, photography and science. |
| A cream coloured certificate with a signature and a decorative border. | The National Qualifications are called:   * Nationals * Highers * Advanced Highers |
| A man shaking hands affectionately with a teenage boy. | They start at National 1 – which is for people who need a lot of support to learn. |
| A woman holding a pile of study books. | They go up to Advanced Highers – which is for people who might be carrying on with education at university or at work. |
| A woman in mechanics overalls, crouching beside her tool box. | **3.** Scottish Vocational Qualifications are about work skills and work knowledge.  They are often called SVQs for short. |
| **1 5** | They start at SVQ Level 1 – which is for beginner workers.  They go up to SVQ Level 5 which is for experienced managers. |
| A pile of certificates spread out. | **4.** Other qualifications  There are lots of other types of qualifications too.  Things like:   * SQA Core Skills * National Certificates * National Progression Awards * City and Guilds |
|  | **Learning you have already done** |
| A woman supporting a younger man at a table as they fill in paperwork. | Don’t worry if you do not have many or any qualifications.  Lots of places will look at other learning you might have already done. |
| A young man with his hand to his chin as he thinks. In his thought bubble is another image of him doing another activity. | These might be things like:   * life experience – what has happened in your life so far * work experience – what work you have done * voluntary work – work you have done with no pay |
|  | **Support for disabled students** |
| A group of smiling people, some of whom have visible disabilities. | When you fill in an application form for a course it might ask you if you have:   * a disability * support needs |
| A red cross. | You don’t have to answer that question. |
| A woman in a wheelchair next to a ramp. Her speech bubble says 'I need...' and there is a timer and an easy read document to her side. | But if you do, the organisation has to try and give you the support you need. |
|  | You can find out more if you click [here on Lead Scotland's website](file:///C:\Users\smile\OneDrive\Desktop\Working%20on%20now\LEAD\ER%20Guide%20to%20Learning%20after%20School_F2.docx). |
|  | **Different kinds of support for disabled students** |
| A young woman waving at 2 people on her screen. | You might get support with your learning – things like computer software or extra time in exams. |
| A young man making a meal. | You might get support with your life – things like help getting to college or help making meals. |
| A bottle of vitamin pills and a dropper bottle of Omega 3. | You might get support with your health – things like medicines and exercise. |
| A young man shaking hands with a woman as he points to his plan with a tick list below it. | You might get support with your **career**.  A **career** is the different courses and work you do during your working life. |
| A smiling man on a train platform showing his train ticket. | You might get support with travelling to learn – things like taxis, train fares and money. |
| A computer screen showing 'click' and an Easy Read document to one side. | To find out more about who has the money to help you, please click **here**.  The link takes you to our main guide. Go to the part called ‘Funding for disabled learners’. |
|  | **Carers** |
| An adult daughter standing supportively next to her mum in a wheelchair. | An **unpaid** **carer** is someone who:   * helps someone else to do things like eat, wash, dress, get out * does not get paid to do it |
| The same mother and daughter chatting closely. | It can be harder for carers to carry on learning after they have left school. |
| Paperwork called Benefits - Carer's Allowance. | There is lots of support offered to carers.  Things like allowances. This means money paid to carers every month. |
| A computer screen showing 'click' and an Easy Read document to one side. | To find out more about what kind of help there is, please click **here**.  The link takes you to our main guide. Go to the part called ‘Support services for carers’. |
|  | **Money** |
| A man holding his hands open as if he is asking a question. Around him are lots of different booklets such as Jobseekers Allowance, Carer's Allowance and other benefits. | Disabled people can get extra money to help them.  These are often called **benefits**. |
| 2 people at a Job Centre Plus desk. The blue and pink logo of Social Security Scotland. The orange and black logo of Turn 2 Us. | There are lots of organisations who will help you work out your benefits.  Some of them are:   * Jobcentre Plus * Social Security Scotland * Turn2Us |
| A smiling young woman on her phone. | You can also phone us on our Lead Scotland free helpline at  0800 999 2568. |

Copyright images © Photosymbols. Prepared by Disability Equality ScotlandText, logo

Description automatically generated