

#YSAttain:

Improving young people's attainment in Falkirk Council



During 2019/20, Falkirk Council partnered with Young Scot to support local young people facing barriers to their attainment. Together, we offered care experienced young people free travel, leisure access and Young Scot Rewards – all accessed using their Young Scot National Entitlement Cards (Young Scot NEC).

Objectives:

- Improve the health and wellbeing of young people living in Falkirk who are facing barriers to their attainment.
- Take away the financial barriers when engaging in education, extra-curricular activities and employment.
- Give access to free services and support without stigma.

#YSAttain is part of the 'Attainment Challenge: National Strategic Partnership' – a collaboration between the Scottish Government, Young Scot, Local Authorities, Transport Scotland, the Improvement Service and the National Entitlement Card Programme Office. Since 2017, we've been partnering and using the Young Scot NEC to improve young people's lives.

Over the year, Falkirk Council gave **75** care experienced young people access to smart-travel, leisure activities and rewards using their Young Scot NEC.

Bus Travel

Young people saved over £3000, making nearly 2700 journeys (September 19-August 20). Their Young Scot NEC was loaded with First Bus tickets using a Transport Scotland App, which they could then use on bus travel across Falkirk.

Leisure Access

Young people were also given access to a Falkirk Community Trust (FCT) leisure Membership, using their Young Scot NEC as proof of entitlement. Young people were encouraged to attend by staff who supported them.





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Young Scot Rewards

Young people taking part in #YSAttain accessed vouchers for supermarkets, clothes and entertainment via a 'Closed Group' on young.scot – accessed via their Young Scot NEC. The young people earned Young Scot Rewards points for completing surveys, attending workshops, youth groups and extra-curricular activities – and then exchanged these for rewards. When lockdown restrictions allowed, the young people were also able to exchange their points for driving lessons and vouchers for coffee shops.

Impact:

- Financial barriers to travel and leisure facilities removed or reduced.
- Increased engagement with school, employment and wider community.
- Young people's mental health and wellbeing supported.
- Increase in young people's confidence and independence.
- Increased awareness of universal Young Scot services.

"It has made a difference as I have seen a huge saving in money and I am able to get to places I need to go easier rather than worrying about the cost of it"

Join #YSAttain

The delivery of products and services using the Young Scot NEC is a practical and non-stigmatising way of supporting young people. Are you interested in introducing a similar initiative in your area?

Here are some questions to consider:

- O How is the Young Scot NEC currently used in your area?
- What is the local need for young people in your area?
- O How can you involve young people in designing entitlements?
- O Is there an existing funding stream which could be utilised to deliver entitlements? (If not, Young Scot will support you to explore these avenues).
- Which staff team has capacity to support delivery of entitlements?

"It has made my life easy because I don't have to pay for travel and it saves me a lot of money"

"It has gotten me to go out and engage more"

