

Creating Connections

Helping young disabled people
and those with additional
support needs into work



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Introduction

Creating Connections is an additional support needs (ASN) network event for Ayrshire. The event aims to remove barriers for disabled young people and young people with additional support needs, to allow them to move into and sustain a Modern Apprenticeship (MA) and other opportunities leading to employment.

This directory aims to help you connect with organisations who support ASN in a variety of ways. It's an important step in facilitating a regional network of disability services in Ayrshire.

Our aims and objectives are to

- support young disabled people through transition periods in their education and into employment
- improve the uptake of Modern Apprenticeships by young disabled people
- inform young people and their influencers of opportunities and help available
- work with local training providers and employers to raise awareness of in-training support
- ensure more effective partnership working, and better sharing of information between Skills Development Scotland and partners
- help access local opportunities through enhanced referral routes
- advise both individuals and professionals as to which services are available and how to access them.

Please use the directory to contact organisations who may be able to help you find the information you need.



Employability Fund in Ayrshire

We want to support unemployed people to move towards and into work. To do this, we need to help them develop the skills and confidence employers are looking for. But to reach those people, we need to work at a local level. The Employability Fund supports services which have been developed to address the specific needs of local areas. Skills Development Scotland administers and manages the Employability Fund on behalf of the Scottish Government. We work with local employability partners to maximise the resources that are available in their area and avoid duplicating existing employability services. By working closely with our partners, we make sure that the fund is aligned to local areas and maximises opportunities for individuals. Local training providers work with employers to understand their skills needs and help them find and train the right individuals.

Stage 2

Individuals who enter this stage of their employability journey are not job ready. They should be ready to undertake activity at SCQF level 3 in terms of work-related tasks which means that, for example, they can work alone or with others on simple routine, familiar tasks under frequent supervision. They should also be able to participate in the setting of goals, timelines, etc. They may have core skill development needs and/or personal barriers such as motivation, self-confidence or self-discipline challenges which activity should help to address.

Stage 3

Individuals who enter this stage of their employability journey are likely to be closer to being job ready than those at stage 2. They should be ready to undertake tasks at SCQF level 4 in terms of work-related tasks which means that, for example, they can work alone or with others on straightforward tasks, contribute to the setting of goals, timelines, etc.

Stage 4

Individuals who enter this stage of their employability journey are likely to be job ready when they start in terms of their generic employability skills. They should undertake activity which allows them to develop specific skills which greatly improve their chances of gaining employment when the activity is completed.

For details of Training Providers offering Employability Fund opportunities at the stages above, please refer to Employability Fund page on Skills Development Scotland website. Referrals can be made through your local Skills Development Scotland Centre or DWP.

<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/for-training-providers/employability-fund/>



Scottish Apprenticeships

This year, 28,000 young people in Scotland will be supported through an apprenticeship – more than ever before. They’ll be learning as they work, gaining qualifications and getting insight from experts in their chosen field, in everything from engineering to scientific research. Apprenticeships have changed a lot in recent years, and there are now three different routes you can go down.

Foundation Apprenticeships

Foundation Apprenticeships, or FAs, are open to high school pupils in S5 and S6. As it’s the same level of learning as a Higher, you pick it as one of your subject choices. You’ll undertake college-style learning, and go out on a significant work placement too – making it a great introduction to the world of work and apprenticeships.

FAs are available in 12 different subject areas, including engineering, healthcare, and software development – all areas which have been identified as being useful to the Scottish economy. You can use your FA to apply for college or uni, you can apply for a related Modern Apprenticeship, or you could go straight into the world of work – the choice is yours.

Modern Apprenticeships

A Modern Apprenticeship is all about learning while you work – gaining skills and hands-on experience that employers value. With an MA, you get a full-time job, you’ll work towards an industry-recognised qualification – and you get paid too!

MAs are available in over 80 different industries, with more than 100 types of job available. Whether you have ambitions about becoming a civil engineer, a dental nurse or nursery assistant, there’s an MA for you.

To get into an MA, you apply for the role through the employer – you can check out current vacancies at www.apprenticeships.scot.



Graduate Apprenticeships

Graduate Apprenticeships are a new way to work towards a degree while you work. Designed by employers and industry specialists; they have been created with apprentices' development in mind. They are mapped to the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework, and range from level 8 up to level 11. There are currently 9 subjects across the three levels from Software Development to Financial Services, and they're available through a range of different learning providers, including Edinburgh Napier University and Heriot-Watt University. And you earn a salary too.

To find out more about the different apprenticeship options visit www.apprenticeships.scot



Supporting Partners in Ayrshire

(present at event)

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>Action on Hearing Loss (Scotland)</p>	<p>Action on Hearing Loss (Scotland) have the 'Moving On' Transition 3 year project funded by The Big Lottery Fund. We support young deaf and hard of hearing people residing in the central belt to ensure they have a successful transition route from school into college/university, training, or into a job as well as support to find work experience/voluntary work opportunities. We also provide life and development skills to young people to ensure that they have the skills required for employment.</p> <p>We also work with employers and service providers to support them to provide the best possible service to deaf and hard of hearing people and to meet their obligations as contained in the Equality Act 2010 and to provide information on communication tactics, deaf awareness, equipment and Access to Work.</p> <p>www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/about-us/scotland/services-in-scotland/moving-on.aspx</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Ayrshire College (Inclusive Learning)</p>	<p>Ayrshire College's Inclusive Learning team provide extended learning support for students with additional support needs. Students can refer themselves or be referred by curriculum staff, student services, schools, social work or other external partners.</p> <p>The Inclusive Learning team aims to ensure that students have access to high quality, individualised support throughout their time at college. We work closely with colleagues in curriculum, funding and student services to support students to have a positive learning experience. The team supports students with a wide range of additional support needs including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • visual impairment • hearing impairment • Autistic Spectrum Disorder • physical disabilities • medical conditions • specific learning difficulties • unseen disabilities • mental health • social emotional and behavioural difficulties. <p>www.ayrshire.ac.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Ayrshire College (Supported Learning)</p>	<p>At Ayrshire College we provide opportunities for people with additional support needs.</p> <p>We help you develop and enhance your social, practical, vocational and life skills. We will help to prepare you for independent learning, build your self-confidence and help you to look for employment opportunities.</p> <p>With an emphasis on employability skills and enterprise activities, students can look forward to learning a variety of subjects which include customer care, retail skills, photography, and health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Our courses will help you to build the practical, personal and social skills to achieve your potential, build connections with partners in the community, and improve your levels of independence through activity based learning.</p> <p>www.ayrshire.ac.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>Braehead Foods</p>	<p>Braehead Foods are a fine food wholesaler, manufacturer and Scottish game producer who supply the best chefs in the hospitality industry across the UK and Europe. With absolute vision in fine cuisine, and our passion for the industry, our focus is on delivering excellent standards of service and quality.</p> <p>The business has worked exceptionally to break down barriers to employment, and created an inclusive workplace by supporting employees with learning and other disabilities or additional barriers to employment. The business also supports young people with learning disabilities through work-experience, volunteering and work placements engaging with a wide network of partners including local authorities, training providers and third sector organisations.</p> <p>Braehead Foods was keen to diversify its workforce after HR Manager Louise Stevenson attended an East Ayrshire Council Supported Employment Service event.</p> <p>She understands and cares about the employees and not only their ability to do the job well, but their own job satisfaction, professional development, social life, and ability to live independently in the community.</p> <p>“We want to provide appropriate support and encouragement for applicants who need it and where we can, we make reasonable adjustments to create an inclusive working environment, helping employees to feel comfortable and perform to the best of their ability.”</p> <p>www.braeheadfoods.co.uk hr@braeheadfoods.co.uk 01563 550008</p>
<p>Barnardo's</p>	<p>Barnardo's transforms the lives of the most vulnerable children across the UK through the work of our services, campaigning and research expertise.</p> <p>We believe we can bring out the very best in every child whether the issue is child poverty, sexual exploitation, disability or domestic violence.</p> <p>Barnardo's East, North and South Ayrshire Families' vision is to work creatively together with children young people and families on a journey through the good times and the bad to a healthier and happier future. We invest time and effort in equipping individuals with the tools and information to empower them to make informed choices in life.</p> <p>Our services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteering/befriending/mentoring • Tenancy support • Choices • Axis • Shine • Defuse • Youth Service • Excel • Intandem • Family resources • Stronger connections <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>CEIS Ayrshire</p>	<p>CEIS Ayrshire is a not-for-profit, third sector organisation which specialises in employability, training and business services. We cater for all ages and all stages of the Employability Pipeline and offer a tailored support package based on client needs.</p> <p>Operating across Ayrshire, Dumfries & Galloway and beyond, we offer a variety of programmes, dependent on the area and the client, with examples being Employability Fund, Individual Training Accounts, The Ayrshire Traineeship Programme and employability support.</p> <p>www.ceisayrshire.co.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Concept Northern</p>	<p>Concept Northern specialise in supporting people with additional support needs (ASN), physical disabilities and learning difficulties in employment, education and privately.</p> <p>With more than twenty years' experience and an excellent record for professionalism we strive to treat each client as an individual, ensuring we meet their needs and circumstances.</p> <p>As the largest supplier and distributor of Assistive Technology (AT) in Scotland to colleges and universities through the Disabled Student Allowance (DSA), we have the experience and resources to assist both employers and employees regardless of geographical location.</p> <p>Our key skills include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistive Technology assessments • Assistive Technology training • keeping ahead of new technology • coaching • mentoring • Disability Awareness training. <p>By working closely with assessors, educational psychologists, HR departments and managerial staff we provide people with the technology, skills and confidence to be more productive and happier in the workplace, education and at home.</p> <p>Funding options may be available to support your clients/employees.</p> <p>Further information on our services, including our dyslexia specific SQA award and training programme accredited by City & Guilds, can be found on our website.</p> <p>www.conceptnorthern.co.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>CVO East Ayrshire</p>	<p>CVO East Ayrshire developed the WG13 project as an avenue into employment for those with additional barriers, creating a training café/restaurant with a venue space and a state of the art community telehealth and telecare digital hub where we are able to offer commercial work experience within a Supported environment. Based in Kilmarnock, WG13 works in partnership with other voluntary organisations, local authority and private sectors to raise the awareness of the vulnerability of the groups of young people we work with and the many challenging barriers they face in securing and sustaining employment. Our training course is bespoke and user led to ensure that the resources are available to address the hardest to reach individuals and steer them progressively towards education and employment. Being totally inclusive means we will work with young people who have been unsuitable for other training employment options due to the complexity of their additional support needs.</p> <p>Area covered: East Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>East Ayrshire Council, Vibrant Communities – Essential Skills</p>	<p>Vibrant Communities</p> <p>Essential Skills – Youth Literacies</p> <p>The Essential Skills Service works with 16-25 year olds who need help and support with reading, writing and numbers throughout East Ayrshire.</p> <p>Youth Literacies offer a range of innovative approaches to engage young people. These can be tailor made for the specific target groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build confidence and communication skills • Learner centred using everyday situations • Express ideas be creative and work as part of a team. • Use technology to improve literacies • Learn new skills while improving reading, writing and number skills <p>www.eac.eu/thebuzz</p> <p>www.facebook.com/eavibrantcommunities</p> <p>Area covered: East Ayrshire</p>
<p>East Ayrshire Council (Supported Employment)</p>	<p>Supported employment aims to assist individuals to find real jobs for real pay. Our job coaches support individuals on a one-to-one basis before entering employment to identify their existing skills, abilities and to think about what work environment may be a good match to their preferences. After identifying a suitable job match between an employer and employee, job coaches can help guide both parties through the recruitment process and are on hand to provide practical in work support and coaching to the individual from day one. After this the job coach will gradually phase out support in agreement with the individual and the employer but will continue to review the situation and offer guidance or support as necessary.</p> <p>www.eastayrshireworks.co.uk</p> <p>Address: Johnnie Walker Bond, 15 Strand Street, Kilmarnock KA1 1HU.</p> <p>www.facebook.com/EACSupportedEmployment/ @EACSupportedEmployment</p> <p>Area covered: East Ayrshire</p>
<p>Lagta part of Bosch</p>	<p>LAGTA part of Bosch is Scotland's longest established training provider for the Automotive Industry delivering apprenticeship training through-out Scotland since 1969. We have two training facilities Ayr & Eurocentral where we deliver Automotive Apprenticeships alongside Bosch and MOT Training courses</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Learn Direct</p>	<p>Learn direct in Scotland deliver a contract for Skills Development Scotland to support the delivery of Modern Apprenticeships. With a team of over 20 Assessors throughout Scotland delivering apprenticeships in various sectors.</p> <p>Employability Fund Training Stage 3 and 4 for people age 16 and over in North and East Ayrshire.</p> <p>Attendees learn more about the range of jobs in business services: customer service, business administration, hospitality, financial services & contact centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain employability skills: job searching, interview preparation and create a CV • Take part in our training sessions in customer service and business financial processes • Develop skills and confidence through team working • Gain a recognised SQA qualification in the 'Certificate of Work Readiness' and / or Personal Licence Holder Qualification • Gain Work Experience <p>Opportunity to gain accredited qualifications in Telephone Skills, Managing Customer Data, First Aid, Health & Safety</p> <p>Receive on-going support from our Work Coach to help you progress into employment or an Apprenticeship.</p> <p>Area covered: East and North Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>National Autistic Society - Moving Forward Project</p>	<p>National Autistic Society Helping young autistic people with employment skills. The NAS' Moving forward project supports autistic 16-24 year olds from deprived areas in West and Central Scotland. We help people develop social confidence and prepare for work and other positive goals. www.autism.org.uk/movingforward Address: 1st Floor, 109 Hope Street, Glasgow, G2 6LL Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Partners for Inclusion</p>	<p>Partners for Inclusion was established as an independent charity in 2004 providing tailor-made support for people who have a learning or mental health difficulty, or both. Before Self-directed Support became a requirement, Partners was one of a small number of organisations that was already putting people in control of their own lives. We supported many people who in the past were described as 'challenging', or who had a long history of being excluded and not had a chance to live an ordinary life. Working closely with families, we developed person-centred service designs, so that each person has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their own budget for support – it's not mixed in with other people's money. • Support that suits them – no two support services are the same. • Their own support staff matched to what they need and are interested in their own home. <p>www.partnersforinclusion.org www.facebook.com/partnersforinclusion Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Project SEARCH</p>	<p>Project SEARCH is an employability programme open to East Ayrshire residents. It builds skills for competitive employment for 17– 29 year olds with learning disabilities and/or on the autistic spectrum who are ready for employment. The programme is collaboration between some of East Ayrshire's largest public employers and Project SEARCH and is based at University Hospital Crosshouse. Recruitment takes place in spring each year and ten young people will be selected to join the Project, which runs from August until June the following year. The success criteria and ultimate goal is for each of the ten young people to secure paid employment within the community. Area covered: East Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>Rathbone</p>	<p>Employability Fund: Providing support to unemployed 16+ to gain the skills, qualifications and experience needed to gain employment, enter Further Education or Modern Apprenticeships. Focuses on developing personal, social and employability skills.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 2 & 3 • No qualifications needed • Gain recognised SQA qualifications • Provision of work experience placements • 13wk programme, and you may be entitled to £55 per wk training allowance plus travel expenses. • Ayrshire wide access <p>Third Sector Challenge Fund: Supporting the most disengaged and disadvantaged people aged 16-64yrs who face multiple challenges and barriers to entering the labour market:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 1 • Outreach engagement • Intensive one to one support • Unemployed or inactive • Open to EF participants requiring additional support • Ayrshire wide access <p>East Ayrshire Framework: Supporting Stage 2 participants aged 16-64yrs requiring intense support in removing barriers to enable them to progress to FE/Employment, funded by the European Social Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stage 2 • Intense support with barrier removal • 16 – 64 years old, not in employment, education or any other training/ESF funded programme • Minimum 2 barriers to employment • Legally able to reside and work in the UK • East Ayrshire Residents only <p>Address: 11-15 Old Irvine Road, Kilmarnock, KA1 2BD www.rathboneuk.org Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>Remploy</p>	<p>As the country's leading employment and skills specialist, we are driven by our passion to transform the lives of disabled people, those with health conditions, and other disadvantages through sustainable employment and economic inclusion. Remploy Scotland has found fair work for more than 14500 disabled people. We currently deliver a range of employment and skills programmes, including Work First Scotland and Work Able.</p> <p>Our specialist advisors work with individuals throughout Ayrshire to understand their career aspirations and specific development needs. This enables us to create personalised support plans and equip individuals with the right skills to move into sustainable employment.</p> <p>Support is built on a coaching relationship with a dedicated case manager and coordinated access to skills and health support.</p> <p>Working in close partnership with many of the U.K.'s major employers, Remploy Ayrshire has exclusive rights to recruit for the very best local Disability Confident employers.</p> <p>WORK ABLE</p> <p>As a chosen provider on the Scottish Governments Work Able programme , Remploy Scotland provides specialised tailored support for unemployed people with health conditions or disabilities.</p> <p>The programme establishes an individual's goals and aspirations, and offers a holistic package of support, focusing on health and wellbeing, personal and social development, as well as core skills and ambitions. Clients are able to access a period of 12 months pre-employment support and development with a view to gaining fair and sustainable work. In addition to the pre-employment support, we continue to provide a further 12 months in-work support for our clients.</p> <p>WORK FIRST</p> <p>The Work First programme provides similar support for our clients, with a period of 6 months pre-employment support then an additional 6 months in-work support.</p> <p>For additional information or advice on accessing any of the above programmes please contact: Jayne Anderson on: Jayne.anderson@remploy.co.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>SAMH Positive Steps</p>	<p>SAMH Positive Steps assists adults living in North Ayrshire who experience mental health problems. We assist individuals to engage with mainstream services and to access volunteering, educational and employment opportunities. Support is on a one-to-one basis with some group activities.</p> <p>Staff work with individuals to identify goals focussing on what they want to achieve. These outcomes are personal to each person and staff will support individuals to overcome any barriers or to seek additional support.</p> <p>For individuals interested in employment, we offer our own personal employability pathway, detailing clear recovery plans with a defined and positive exit strategy.</p> <p>Through Peer Support Groups we will also enable individuals to share their own experiences in recovery.</p> <p>www.samh.org.uk</p> <p>Area covered: North Ayrshire</p>
<p>Sense Scotland - One Giant Leap Programme</p>	<p>One Giant Leap Programme is Sense Scotland's youth group for young people with disabilities in the process of leaving school in 2018/19. It aims to provide social and educational opportunities for the young people through youth groups held in TouchBase Ayrshire in Ardrossan, Ayrshire. It will be run by a team of staff and volunteers on a 2 separate evenings.</p> <p>The programme recognises the importance of friendships and has a strong focus on peer support. We provide a safe environment, where activities and leisure are central to self-development in terms of practical, social and emotional skills, while improving the quality of life as they move into adulthood.</p> <p>One Giant Leap is open to young disabled people in the process of leaving school in 2018/19.</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
Skills Development Scotland	<p>We're the national skills agency for Scotland. With more than 1,200 colleagues working across the country in schools, careers centres and partner locations, we are passionate about skills development and its contribution to a modern, innovative and prosperous Scottish economy.</p> <p>We are committed to building a Scotland which champions fair work practices and a diverse workforce.</p> <p>Working with our partners, we strive to ensure employers have the right skills at the right time in high performing, fair and equal workplaces, and that every individual has the skills and confidence to get a job and progress in the workplace, achieving their full potential.</p> <p>We also provide careers information, advice and guidance, and work-based training programmes aimed at building the career management skills that will enable them to thrive in a changing economy.</p> <p>www.sds.co.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
South Ayrshire Council – Employability & Skills	<p>South Ayrshire Council's Employability and Skills team provide a range of flexible services to support individual's into sustained employment. They work closely in partnership with Skills Development Scotland, Department for Work and Pensions, secondary schools across South Ayrshire and partner organisations.</p> <p>What we do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work placements • group work • one-to-one support • confidence building • develop work readiness skills • engage young people through a range of activities • literacy support • vocational tasters. <p>www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/employability</p> <p>Area covered: South Ayrshire</p>
Susan Chan Associates	<p>Susan is an international executive consultant, based in Scotland, offering services across the UK and beyond. Susan is available for private consultations, training, workshops and consultancy.</p> <p>Susan offers training to organisations and service providers who work with young people, so that they are better equipped to thrive in workplace situations.</p> <p>Our unique tailored courses are based on a blend of:</p> <p>Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) and Compassion Focussed Coaching techniques</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • change comes with mindfulness and learning about neuroscience • experience greater well-being, health and resilience • fulfil your potential and improve personal skills • be more creative, calm and relaxed • improve concentration and focus <p>www.susanchanassociates.com</p> <p>info@susanchan.co.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
The Prince's Trust	<p>The Prince's Trust provide personal development, employability and business enterprise programmes to assist young people aged 13 to 30 into further education, training or employment. In Ayrshire, The Prince's Trust run employability programmes in specific sectors - such as health and social care, hospitality, woodlands and engineering - with access to entry level employment positions alongside their successful business enterprise and team programmes.</p> <p>www.princes-trust.org.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>The Salvation Army</p>	<p>The George Steven Centre Job Coaching Service offers advice, be-spoke person-centred training and on-job support for anyone with Additional Support Needs or other barriers to employment, such as addiction issues. As our Day Centre caters solely for Adults with a Learning Disability, we are especially equipped in supporting this client group. Whether support is required to prepare for a job interview, create a C.V. or search for a job, we can help. We also offer a training course on Employment Readiness which contains eight units specifically designed to help individuals with a Learning Disability gain a realistic insight to working life. Our Service can provide on and off-job support which matches the Scottish Government's model for Supported Employment in Scotland.</p> <p>www.salvationarmy.org.uk</p> <p>Address: George Steven Centre, Craigton Road, Kilbirnie, KA25 6LJ</p> <p>Facebook: The George Steven Centre</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>UCAN</p>	<p>Ucan Learn.Work.Live is a Social Enterprise based in Kilmarnock. We provide a supportive and friendly learning environment within which individuals can engage with a range of different activities.</p> <p>Key groups that we currently work with include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people • Individuals with learning disabilities • Individuals experiencing mental health difficulties • The long term unemployed <p>Our key aim is to "Develop People for Work and Life"</p> <p>In promoting an environment of support, choice and inclusion, we see a potentially significant impact on the individual's life choices; from greater independence in their personal lives to moving on from this service in to specific training, further education or employment.</p> <p>www.ucanlearnworklive.co.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>
<p>Values Into Action Scotland (VIAS)</p>	<p>VIAS stands for 'Values Into Action Scotland'. The organisation was established in 2007. VIAS promotes rights, choice and control for people with learning difficulties and individuals on the autistic spectrum. We work with other organisations to ensure that people live good, ordinary, independent lives in the community with person centred supports.</p> <p>Our main areas of work are around providing training and consultancy, campaigning and conducting research into what does and doesn't work in the lives of people with learning difficulties and individuals on the autistic spectrum.</p> <p>Employability is our main campaign theme as it is one of the key areas where people experience inequality. Current figures show that 86% of people with learning difficulties and individuals on the autistic spectrum are unemployed compared with 8.1% of the general population.</p> <p>www.viascotland.org.uk</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>

Name of Organisation	Profile
<p>Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA)</p>	<p>VASA is South Ayrshire's local Third Sector Interface. It's recognised by Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council as fulfilling a key role in ensuring the continued development of a robust Third Sector in South Ayrshire.</p> <p>One of the main key purposes is volunteering development this includes volunteering opportunities, volunteer support and Saltire Awards. Saltire Awards is a youth awards scheme for 12-25 year olds young people can participate in various volunteering opportunities and earn certificates throughout their volunteering journey. These certificates are recognised by the Scottish Government and are signed by Scottish Government Ministers.</p> <p>The best part about the Saltire Awards is that it is free and easy to gain your certificates and you receive Young Scot reward points too.</p> <p>www.voluntaryactionsouthayrshire.org.uk</p> <p>www.saltireawards.org.uk</p> <p>Address: 27-29 Crown Street, Ayr KA8 8AG</p> <p>@VASouthAyrshire & @SA_Saltire</p> <p>Area covered: South Ayrshire</p>
<p>Yipworld</p>	<p>Yipworld is an award winning youth and community organisation based in Cumnock, East Ayrshire. The core purpose is for our youth work activities to contribute to the personal, social/emotional and educational development of children and young people.</p> <p>Day to day activities include youth work through outreach in schools and rurally isolated communities and in partnership with local and national youth work focused organisations. A wide variety of activities offered six days per week where equality and diversity is priority for the services we deliver. Everything from music and media; drama; sport and recreation; arts and crafts; quizzes and games, issue-based workshops through to national and European youth work programmes are embraced by the young people using our service.</p> <p>Key achievements include benchmark quality awards including 'Investor in Young People' accreditation and European Framework for Quality Management.</p> <p>www.yipworld.org</p> <p>Address: 19 Barrhill Road, Cumnock, East Ayrshire, KA18 1PG</p> <p>@Yipworld2000 (Twitter); Yipworld. (Facebook); @yipworld.2000 (Instagram)</p> <p>Area covered: All Ayrshire</p>



East Ayrshire

Ayrshire College
Kilmarnock Campus
Hill Street
Kilmarnock
KA1 3HY
Tel: 01563 523501

Skills Development Scotland centre
55 John Finnie Street
Kilmarnock KA1 1BH
Tel: 01563 527165

North Ayrshire

Ayrshire College
Kilwinning Campus
Lauchlan Way
Kilwinning
KA13 6DE
Tel: 01294 559000

Skills Development Scotland centre
Rivergate Shopping centre
Irvine KA12 8EH
Tel: 01294 272421

South Ayrshire

Ayrshire College
Ayr Campus
Dam Park
Ayr
KA8 0EU
Tel: 01292 265184

Skills Development Scotland centre
37 Carrick Street
Ayr KA7 1NS
Tel: 01292 281421