

Milton Keynes 14-19 Strategy 2008 – 2013

November 2008





Milton Keynes - the challenge for 14-19

Milton Keynes is a vibrant, young city, growing to be the tenth largest in the country over the next 20 years. It plays a significant role in the economy of the sub-region and is recognised as a centre of innovation, research and development. The opening of the University Centre will provide a more visible higher education presence in the city centre and a vehicle to enable the creative industries to thrive. And now the city even boasts a successful football club!

Yet this scenario hides a number of paradoxes that pose a challenge to raising the aspirations and achievement of young people in the city. Although the city has a significant knowledge economy and has numerous opportunities for skilled manual labour, it is also reliant on a large base of low skill, casualised jobs. The widespread availability of these makes it harder to

encourage young people – and their families – to raise their sights as regards the need for qualifications. Patterns of participation post-17 reflect this, and achievement is yet to reach national levels. There are many high quality providers of 14-19 education and training but more collaboration is needed to ensure an offer that is comprehensive and inclusive for all young people in Milton Keynes. Even the design of the city, with its abundant green spaces and accessible grid system, makes travelling to learn difficult for some young people whose lives are bounded in relatively isolated communities and tied into a localised offer which may not always be appropriate.

The Milton Keynes 14-19 Partnership acknowledges the challenges: this is our vision to address them.

This document has been prepared by
Milton Keynes 14-19 Partnership. See page 4 for list of partners.

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List of partners

Local Authority:

- Director of Children's Services (Chair)
- School Improvement
- Adult Continuing Education
- Youth Service/Connexions

Secondary Headteachers

Special School Headteachers

Learning and Skills Council (LSC)

Milton Keynes Economic and Learning Partnership

Federation of Small Businesses

Milton Keynes College

Work-based learning providers

Higher Education

Large Employers

Voluntary Sector

Vocational training providers

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Introduction

The Milton Keynes 14-19 Partnership consists of a range of partners that either provide learning opportunities for young people in Milton Keynes or have an influence on learning.

This document is the Partnership's collective vision for young people aged 14-19. It sets out the Partnership's commitment to all young people in Milton Keynes in the years leading up to 2013 and explains how the Partnership will turn the values in *The Education and Training Strategy for Young People aged 14-19 in Milton Keynes* into action over the next five years. This strategy provides a framework to develop and sustain high quality provision for all young people aged 14-19 and is consistent with the Milton Keynes Children and Young People's Plan. The detailed tasks that will be undertaken in the short-term are contained in the series of *14-19 Implementation Plans*, each of which builds on the previous year's work.

The critical targets are to raise levels of participation, retention and achievement in this important phase of education. This will be achieved through delivering high quality education and training that provides an entitlement personalised to each young person. The Milton Keynes 14-19 Strategy aims to address key aspects of the Every Child Matters agenda, placing a high importance on ensuring that all young people remain healthy, stay safe and are able to achieve to their maximum potential, which in turn will enable them to make a positive contribution during this phase of their education and beyond. Supporting young people to achieve economic well-being is central to the strategy.

All institutions involved in the Partnership will continue to develop their ethos and values in order to meet the needs of their own community. Partners strive to ensure the best for their students and to meet their institutional targets, while subscribing to the shared aim of achieving the best for all through appropriate collaboration.



By 2013, every young person aged 14-16, in school or college, will be entitled to pursue a curriculum which includes the National Curriculum subjects, work-related learning, enterprise and careers education, religious education, sex, drug, alcohol and tobacco education, one of fourteen diploma lines, and a course in at least one of the arts, design and technology, humanities and modern foreign languages. For 2013 the Partnership has set aspirational targets for the city – see Appendix 1.

A changing economy means we need to ensure our young people have the right skills as they become adults and move into further or higher education, or into work with training. By 2015 all young people will stay on in education or training to 18 and beyond. And when they leave, we want them to have the skills they need to prosper in an economy requiring high level skills. Appendix 2 identifies the breadth of curriculum opportunities available to young people in Milton Keynes.

The strategy will enable the city to transform its 14-19 offer so that all young people continue in learning until the age of 18 by 2015 and:

- extend themselves to reach high standards of achievement;
- secure the functional and employability skills they need for work and future learning/training, including teamwork, problem solving and communication, thus meeting employers' and young people's needs
- develop the social skills and resilience needed to become independent, confident learners and effective members of the workforce.

The Partnership's vision for every young person in Milton Keynes



By 2013 our aim is for confident young people who are socially adept and can take their place in the local, national and global society. We aspire to develop capable, successful young people who thrive and prosper and can choose to study or work in Milton Keynes or beyond and can contribute positively to the city as residents.

All members of the Partnership take collective responsibility to:

- put the learner at the heart of what they do, listening and responding to the voice of young people and meeting their individual needs;
- offer flexible learning pathways that are attractive to young people, whilst meeting the national and local agenda, the needs of local employers and the vision of the city of Milton Keynes;
- increase participation and attainment levels year on year;

- equip all young people with the skills they need for continued learning and employment, whatever the pathway taken;
- develop intervention strategies to prevent disengagement and to re-engage the disaffected;
- provide high quality information, advice and guidance to support young people's choices of learning and progression;
- help overcome any barriers to participation and high achievement for all;
- assure, and continuously improve, quality of provision.

The Partnership will work together to provide access for all young people to a curriculum that is personalised to their needs by 2013. Integral to our practice is equality of opportunity for all.

The Partnership's priorities in the medium term

The Partnership will achieve its vision by focussing on the following seven priority areas in the years leading up to 2013.

Success

Most importantly, the Partnership will work to raise standards for all young people. A key aspect is to raise the aspirations of all by:

- celebrating the successes of our young people;
- developing and implementing the Foundation Learning Tier and ensuring appropriate support for learners newly arrived in the city with additional language needs;
- driving the NEET figure down and meeting the September guarantee;
- creating successful strategies for increasing the participation and achievement of vulnerable groups of young people;
- engaging the community as active partners in supporting young people's achievement.

Social and cultural development

All partners will seek to develop the social skills and resilience that our young people need in order to become independent, confident learners, employees and global citizens by:

- providing programmes of study to develop all students' personal competence;
- offering additional opportunities for personal development, as appropriate;
- ensuring that all students engage in exchange or international link programmes.

Employers

The Partnership will work closely with employers, work-based learning providers and education business partnership organisations to:

- bring the world of work into schools and to provide opportunities for all young people to experience



work-related activity which is personalised to their needs;

- encourage employers to be actively involved in developing programmes of learning and in supporting young people to achieve highly;
- encourage employers to provide apprenticeship and work experience places.

Curriculum

The Partnership will continue to promote a broader, personalised curriculum at Key Stage 4 and post-16 which includes diplomas, vocational and academic routes, alternative provision and work-based learning. The group will continue to develop a city-wide e-learning platform, with shared data and resources for providers. Partners will ensure that all young people are offered:

- consistently high quality education and training;
- employability, functional and life skills programmes;
- taster or induction courses prior to joining new courses;
- progression to level 4 or employment;
- accreditation of their learning from non-traditional sources.

Capacity

The Local Authority will continue to review capacity across the city and within the region in order to:

- ensure facilities and resources are best placed to meet the needs of the growing population, as well as the expectations of parents and employers, re-shaping and commissioning provision as appropriate;
- create opportunities for young people to access out-of-area provision;
- increase the provision of level 1 and pre-vocational courses, to support wider engagement and progression.



Progression

Partners will continue to contribute to higher education developments in Milton Keynes as part of helping all young people to achieve higher levels of qualification. Partners will work closely with local providers and other agencies to:

- increase the range of courses offered locally at level 4;
- encourage the maximum take-up of the opportunities at the University Centre by ensuring that courses are accessible;
- continue to raise aspirations and improve the opportunities for young people to study further, nationally and internationally.

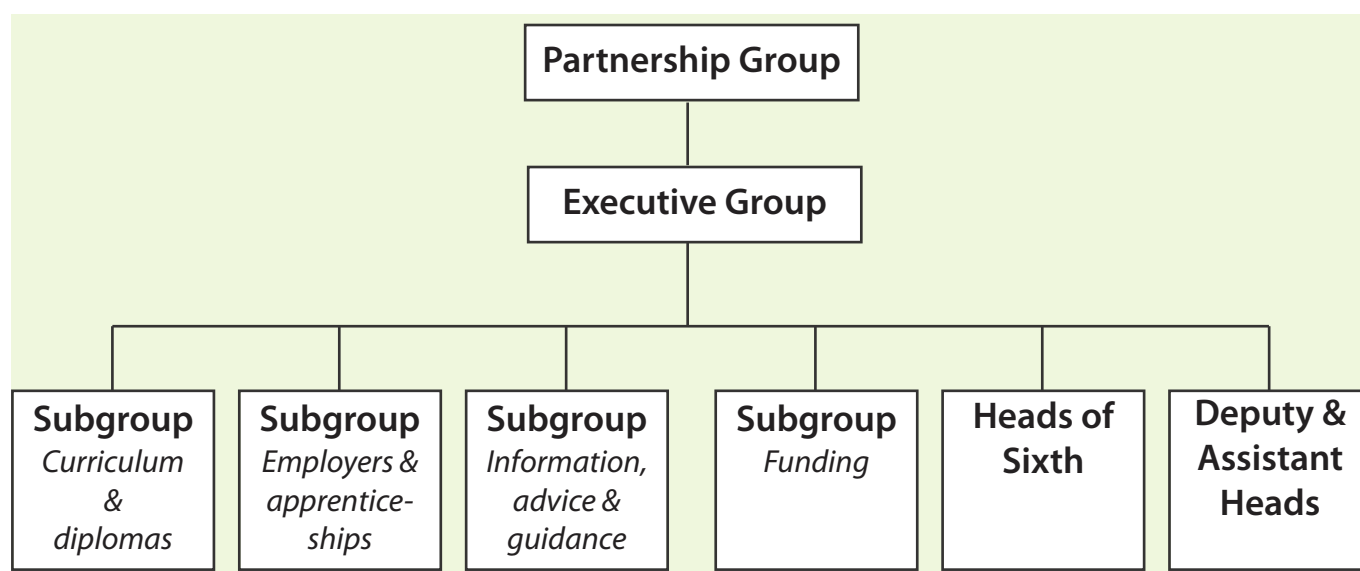
Guidance

The Partnership will ensure that all young people are provided with high-quality, impartial information, advice and guidance by:

- informing all young people of the broadest possible range of opportunities;
- working with schools, employers, the college and other providers to improve careers and other advice available to young people and their parents;
- coordinating regular job fairs and other careers activities across the city;
- continuing to develop, maintain and publicise the area-wide prospectus;
- making sure that the integrated youth support service develops successfully.

How the Partnership is organised

The Partnership's structure will incorporate the groups below. The subgroups will take responsibility for the effective delivery of the two-year action plans that set out the work needed to make progress on each of the above priorities.



Organisational Arrangements

● 14-19 Partnership:

- Chaired by the Director of Children and Young People's Services. Takes the lead on key strategic decisions. Membership as identified at Annex 5. The group will meet, as a minimum, once each term. Additional meetings may be called as the group decides.

● 14-19 Executive Group:

- Main responsibility is to progress business on behalf of the Partnership, ensuring momentum and direction is maintained. The group is chaired by the Assistant Director (School Improvement) and consists of one representative from each of:
 - headteachers;
 - MK college;
 - school improvement;
 - LSC;
 - Federation of Small Businesses;
 - Connexions;

- training providers;
- MKELP.

- Subgroups and working groups will be formed each year as necessary, agreed by the Partnership. For 2008-09 the subgroups are:
 - Curriculum and diplomas
 - Employers and apprenticeships
 - Information, advice and guidance
 - Funding
 - Heads of Sixth
 - Deputy & Assistant Heads

For terms of reference, see Appendix 4.

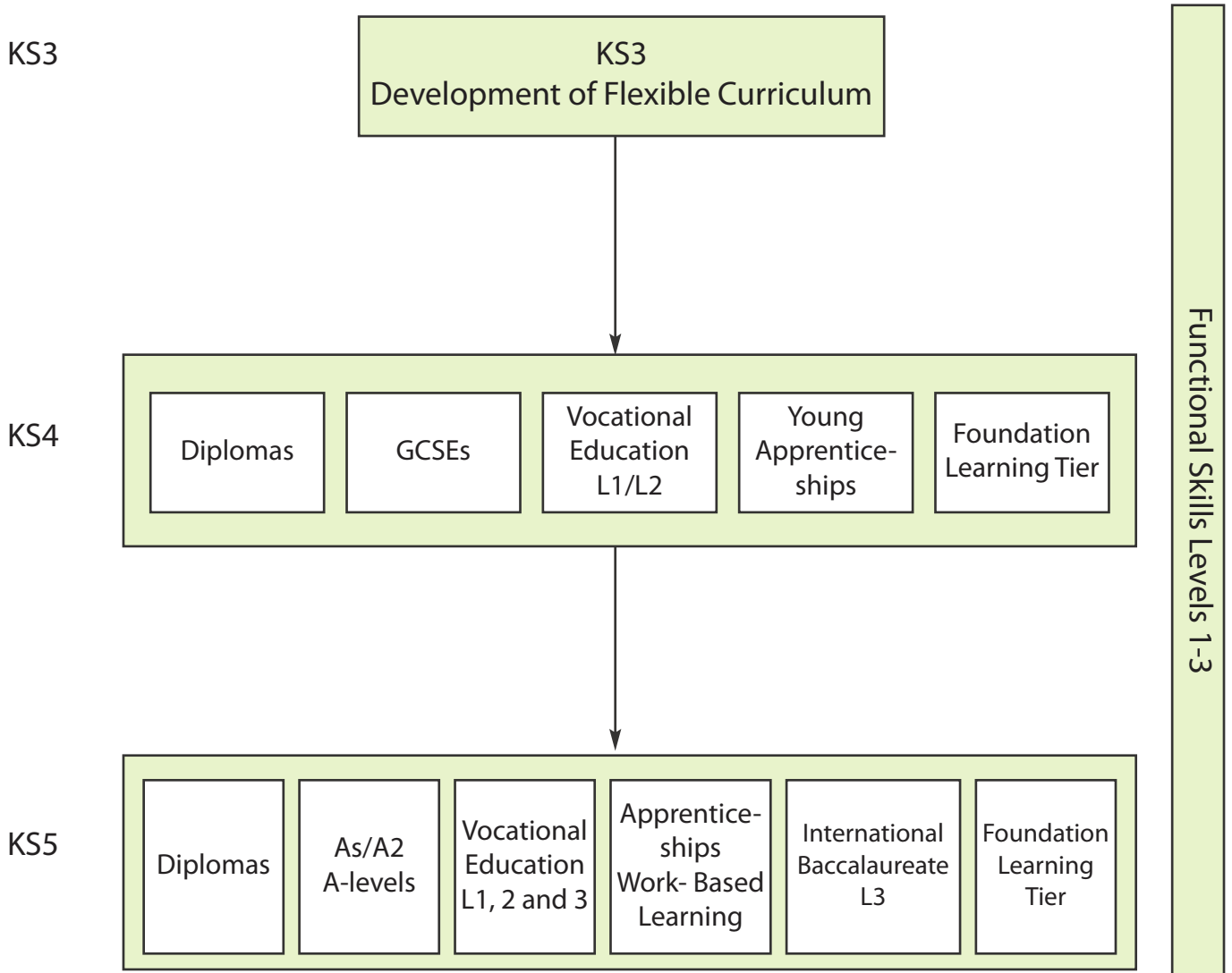
The 14-19 Executive Group will monitor the implementation of the 14-19 action plan twice a year against its performance targets and will report progress to the Milton Keynes Children's Trust Board. The Partnership will report to Government Office of the South East its performance against its annual progress check's key indicators, which measure how well the Partnership is doing.

Appendix 1: Targets for the Milton Keynes Strategy

			06-07	National 2006-07	07-08		08-09	09-10	2013
		Source	Actual		Target	Actual	Target	Target	Target
1	Percentage of 16-18 year olds in education, training or employment with training	CYPP	93.3%	92% 94.3% SE*	93.6%	94%	93.6%	93.6%	93.6%
2	Percentage of 17 year olds in education and training – entire post 16 sector	14-19 Progress Check	74.6%			78.2%	78.2%	78.2%	83%
3	Progression to HE: number of MK aged 18 and 19 commencing first year in HE	14-19 Progress Check	27%	43%		27%	31.6%	36.2%	50%
4	Percentage of 16-18 year olds in NEET	14-19 Progress Check	6.5%	7.5%	6.2%	5.8%	5.9%	5.9%	0%
5	The proportion of 16 to 18 year olds with LDD in EET rises year on year	CYPP	78%	77.3% 84% SE	79%	80%	82%	84%	90%
6	Percentage of leavers successfully completing Apprenticeship framework	14-19 Progress Check	56%	60%	71%		74%	77%	85%
7	Percentage 19 year olds reaching Level 2 Threshold	14-19 Progress Check	63%	73.9% 77.6% SE	62%		66%	71%	85%
8	Percentage 19 year olds reaching Level 3 Threshold	14-19 Progress Check	38%	48% 55.3% SE	40%		43%	46%	54%
9	Percentage of learners achieving 5+ A*-C at GCSE (or equiv) inc Eng and Maths by age 16	LA	40%	46.7%	45%	42.1%	50%	53%	Nat
10	Average A Level (or equiv) point score per student	LA	709.8	731.2		722.5	735	747.5	785

* South East

Appendix 2: Qualifications progression model 14-19



Appendix 3: Starting dates for teaching of diploma courses

The table below shows in which year we expect to start teaching each diploma – these will be offered at all three levels.

Diploma	Start
Construction an the Built Environment	2008
Creative and Media	2009
Information Technology	2009
Hair and Beauty	2009
Engineering	2010
Society, Health and Development	2010
Business Administration and Finance	2010
Public Services	2010
Sport and Active Leisure	2010
Retail	2010
Hospitality	2011
Travel and Tourism	2011
Environmental and Land-based Studies	2012
Manufacturing and Product Design	2012
Humanities	2012
Languages	2012
Science	2012

Appendix 4: Terms of reference



14-19 Partnership

The purpose of the Milton Keynes 14-19 Partnership is to work together, contribute to a shared vision, and develop an effective implementation plan for children and young people in relation to the 14-19 agenda. The Partnership will:

- enable all young people to thrive and prosper;
- ensure the sustainability of the 14-19 infrastructure;
- monitor attainment, standards, progression, participation and retention of young people aged 14-19;
- challenge underperformance and champion good practice;
- promote inter-agency and partnership working, to increase effectiveness;
- identify and meet the needs of vulnerable groups;
- encourage and promote innovative approaches and the sharing of good practice;
- maintain effective information, advice and guidance systems for young people and their parents/carers;
- engage employers and higher education institutions in a manner that allows them to shape and contribute to 14-19 provision, thus allowing the development of effective and appropriate progression routes for young people;
- work with, and make recommendations to, other decision-making bodies which have an impact upon 14-19 provision and services (e.g. schools' forum);
- act as a broker, managing and gaining the most from our relationships with local, regional and national agencies whose work relates to 14-19 learner entitlement.

Membership

Local Authority – Director of Children's Services (Chair)
School Improvement

Secondary Headteachers
Learning and Skills Council

Milton Keynes Economic and Learning Partnership
Federation of Small Business

Work-based learning provider
Higher Education

Milton Keynes College
Youth Service/Connexions

Large Employer
Voluntary Sector

Special School Head teacher
Aimhigher

Accountabilities

Schools, college, the LA and LSC all have statutory responsibilities to provide young people with the full 14-19 learner entitlement, together with information, advice and guidance (IAG) and all other relevant services.

The 14-19 Partnership exists to enable all partners to fulfil these responsibilities.

Partners are collectively responsible, and accountable to one another, for the quality of the 14-19 related provision and services they provide.

The 14-19 Partnership will report regularly to the Children's Trust Board.

Collaboration

Partners enter this agreement in the spirit of mutual professional respect and openness, committing themselves to share and discuss information and opinions openly, whilst respecting, where appropriate, the confidentiality of information and discussion.

Notes

For more information, contact

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