



FARE Scotland

Attainment and Skills Partnerships

FARE Scotland is a voluntary organisation working in several disadvantaged communities throughout Central Scotland. The FARE schools programme works with the most disadvantaged young people and achieves improvement in attainment, health and wellbeing, skills and closing the attainment gap.

Investment of Pupil Equity Funding enables FARE to employ youth work staff in 24 secondary schools across Glasgow and East Renfrewshire, ensuring that young people have access to this vital support.

FARE Youth Workers, Developing the Young Workforce (DYW) Officers and Family Liaison Officers (FLO) plan and deliver a significant variety of non-formal learning opportunities, which help children and young people to develop the skills and attributes they need to thrive. This complements and enhances learning through the formal curriculum, maximising individual potential with appropriate support and challenge. For some young people, FARE Scotland's work is the key to unlocking learning, overcoming barriers to engagement, and providing a curriculum offer based on the needs of the learner.

The activities undertaken by FARE staff in schools is wide-ranging and deliberately designed to be flexible to allow them to be tailored to the needs of young people, families and schools. This includes primary school partnerships where youth workers provide one-to-one support, thematic group work, reading groups, play skills groups, P7 transitions, non-attendance support and approaches to tackling food poverty. In secondary schools FARE's support can include breakfast, after school and lunch clubs, literacy and numeracy support, one-to-one pupil support and pastoral care, mental health and wellbeing support, employability support, alternative curriculum, thematic groupwork and non-attendance/non-engagement support. In the senior phase this can also include exam preparation and study support, work experience, college, university, and job applications with a stronger focus on qualification delivery.

Across all their schools work, FARE offers a range of qualifications including SCQF level qualifications and Youth Awards, where appropriate and relevant to the young person.

In FARE's long-standing partnership with St Mungo's Academy in Glasgow, youth work is embedded as part of the school community. School and youth work staff work together and plan together, with a shared set of values and goals. This [video](#) showcases the effective features of this partnership and the impact on outcomes for

young people. Young people identify the crucial role youth workers play in providing mental health support, skills and opportunities to achieve. One young person said, *"I couldn't imagine a school without youth work"*.

FARE has developed its approach to collaborating with school leaders to support joint and coherent impact measurement using the National Youth Work Outcomes and Skills Framework, alongside SAC measures. This is helping each partnership to understand what's working and inform further improvement.

In 2023, FARE commissioned Social Value Lab to undertake an evaluation to understand and evidence the impact of the FARE programmes in Glasgow secondary schools. This provided robust evidence that FARE's schools programmes:

- contribute to a range of positive outcomes for young people and their families.
- support young people to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge, from personal skills to job-specific skills and qualifications.
- contribute to raising the attainment of many young people
- positively influence young people to improve their behaviour and make more positive choices.
- And that, FARE staff are a key source of mental health support for many young people.

As part of the research one formal educator said *"It allows us to do very bespoke packages for young people. So really putting that child at the centre, and then planning their school experience around their needs."*