

## Welcome



**Fiona Robertson**  
Head of Education  
East Lothian Council

Here in East Lothian, we are very fortunate to have a continually increasing range of education options and vocational pathways, which lead to a diverse range of exciting learning and employment opportunities. I believe that our schools and our young people benefit greatly from the strong partnership support that we receive from local employers, further and higher education establishments and national bodies, such as Skills Development Scotland and The Edinburgh Chamber of Commerce. The council aims to make East Lothian one of the best places in Scotland to live, work and do business. Supporting our East Lothian pupils into a positive post-school destination is central to our vision of success. This factsheet provides helpful information on post-school opportunities and details where young people and parents can seek advice to help them decide on the future career options that will enable them to fulfil their ambitions and realise their aspirations.

**KT Tunstall on the route to her chosen career, showing there's really no right or wrong path - just YOUR path!**



Whether you're  
choosing subjects  
or getting ready  
to leave school

**there are so many  
opportunities  
waiting for you.  
It's an exciting time!**

International artist KT Tunstall said:

"I finished my Highers in 5th year and left school on my 17th birthday. I took a year out, and got a scholarship to a school over in America for a year where I started my first band, got into so much amazing music, met new friends and went on proper adventures. I then went down to London to Uni, but after that, the road I took was much less conventional. Even as a teenager, I knew I had to make a living doing something I loved. I needed to follow a path that would fulfil my soul, even if that meant potentially less financial reward. I chose music



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not because I wanted fame, but because it is what makes me happiest in life. I want to encourage all young people to believe in yourselves and your ability – even if it doesn't fit what other people see as 'normal'.

Be led by what you're passionate about and makes you feel most excited. If you work hard and stay focused, career success can often follow on naturally from that."

# East Lothian is leading the way in work-based learning, apprenticeships and agricultural studies

Work-based learning routes enable you to gain qualifications and work experience within a range of industries.

**These skills-based courses will help you to develop positive relationships with leading employers, provide funding to complete your studies and you also get paid if you're on a Modern or Graduate Apprenticeship.**

East Lothian Education Department, in partnership with East Lothian Works, is delivering three new Foundation Apprenticeships. From June 2018, we will be offering 20 places to East Lothian students in Scientific Technologies (Dunbar Grammar School), Financial Services (Ross High School) and Social Care; Children and Young People (Knox Academy). We are also offering Civil Engineering at the Construction and Technology Centre (Musselburgh Grammar School), in partnership with Edinburgh College. We have also secured employer partnership support from Charles River, Blackrock Financial Services and Morrison Construction.

Pupils will study the Foundation Apprenticeships over two years, at Level 6, which is the equivalent of Higher. This will be one of your core subject choices in senior school and will be studied alongside a range of traditional school-based courses.

The Foundation Apprenticeship involves classroom work but also hands-on experience with our partner businesses. You will be expected to work through two of your holidays in order to complete the SVQ elements of the course. The payback is the experience you will gain and the real skills you will learn. You will also be supported by influential business mentors, who are keen to develop their own workforce and there is a very good chance of a paid Modern Apprenticeship at the end of this course, as the Foundation Apprenticeship is the perfect route in. You might even want to progress onto a Graduate Level Apprenticeship which allows you to study for a degree whilst being paid to work in an industry-related job.

Entry to these courses is competitive, as spaces are limited, and will be based on an application and interview process. Foundation Apprenticeships are not for pupils who want to go to university at the end of their school experience. This is not a stepping stone. It is a work-based route to graduate qualifications, where our business partners benefit from the resource and time that they invest in the young person. All travel is covered and your wider curriculum is not affected, as most of the work takes place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

The Construction and Technology Centre in Musselburgh is offering a range of courses that lead directly into a construction career. You can study full time or on Tuesday and

Thursday afternoons, whilst still studying a full set of qualifications in school. Transport is provided and you will gain the CSCS qualification to enable you to work on a construction site. The centre is connected to a range of local and national employers within the construction industry. All courses are taught by Edinburgh College lecturers.

We are also excited to announce that as part of our partnership with the Scottish Rural College and the National Farmers' Union, we have a number of agricultural and rural courses, running at Level 4 and 5. This is just one element of our School to College Partnership. East Lothian is an agricultural heartland, with many opportunities in arable farming. It makes sense for the vocational offer to create pathways into these industries.

We also have over 50 vocational courses that you can engage with on the School to College menu. These courses take place on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Milton Road campus of Edinburgh College, just outside Musselburgh, in schools and with employers. All courses start at 1.45pm and there is a central transport plan in place. Courses range from Green Keeping to Psychology and from Hairdressing to Retailing.

Please speak to your local secondary school, or your SDS careers advisor, to investigate these options further. Information on Foundation Apprenticeships can be found at [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot)

## WHAT EMPLOYERS LOOK FOR...

Ability to work as a team member

Shows initiative

Hands on, practical work experience

Problem solving

Honest and dependable

Common sense

Self-confidence

Versatility & a can-do approach

Organised

Communicate well with colleagues at all levels in the organisation

Strong work ethic

Helpful attitude

Good listening skills

**Did you know** there are **28,000 jobs in East Lothian?** 18,000 of them are full-time and the wide range of industries include:

## EAST LOTHIAN'S TOP INDUSTRIES

1	Human health and social work activities	5,000
2	Wholesale & retail trade, repair of vehicles	3,500
3	Education	3,000
4	Accommodation and food service activities	2,500
5	Manufacturing	2,000
6	Professional, scientific & technical activities	2,000
7	Arts, entertainment & recreation	2,000
8	Construction	1,750

## OUR BIGGEST EMPLOYERS

1	East Lothian Council [ <a href="#">Local Government</a> ]	3,500
2	Belhaven Brewery Co. Ltd [ <a href="#">Drinks Manufacturing</a> ]	1,883
3	Spotless Commercial Cleaning Ltd. [ <a href="#">Building Cleaning &amp; Maintenance</a> ]	1,230
4	Charles River Laboratories Edinburgh [ <a href="#">Research &amp; Development</a> ]	851
5	British Energy Generation (UK) Ltd [ <a href="#">Electric Power Generation</a> ]	750
6	East & Midlothian NHS Trust [ <a href="#">Healthcare</a> ]	580
7	Tesco Stores Ltd [ <a href="#">Retail</a> ]	467
8	Queen Margaret University [ <a href="#">Higher Education</a> ]	435
9	Enjoy East Lothian Ltd. [ <a href="#">Sports &amp; Fitness</a> ]	292

# Gold Investors in Young People

East Lothian Council has been awarded *Gold Investors in Young People (liYP)* status for its ability to recruit, develop and retain young people. Positive destinations stand at 93.5% and the council has won the accolade of second most improved Scottish Local Authority for participation in work-related activities.

No matter what career you have in mind, we have Skills Development Scotland careers advisers, guidance teachers, teachers and support workers at East Lothian Works, to give you the right advice and support to realise your dreams.

Your careers adviser and the school teams can help with your subject choices.

[www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/marketplace/opportunities) has a section on careers and qualifications.

[www.studyinScotland.org](http://www.studyinScotland.org) and [www.ucas.com](http://www.ucas.com) can help you find the right university or college and course for you.

It's also worth checking [www.theguarantee.org](http://www.theguarantee.org) as this features a mix of education and employment opportunities and [www.myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk) for council job opportunities.

# No matter what you want to do, we have friendly and supportive teams to help you

**Please involve your parents/carers. Talk to your guidance teacher, your favourite teacher, or your school career adviser.**

### Skills Development Scotland

Advice on careers and training.

Musselburgh Office: 0131 665 3120

### East Lothian Education Department

East Lothian Council, John Muir House  
Brewery Park, Haddington EH41 3HA  
01620 827827

[customerservices@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@eastlothian.gov.uk)

### East Lothian Works

9-11 Lodge Street, Haddington EH41 3DX  
01620 827262

[ELworks@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ELworks@eastlothian.gov.uk)

### Edinburgh College

0131 669 4400

[courseinfo@edinburghcollege.ac.uk](mailto:courseinfo@edinburghcollege.ac.uk)

[www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk](http://www.edinburghcollege.ac.uk)

### Queen Margaret University

[www.qmu.ac.uk](http://www.qmu.ac.uk) 0131 474 0000

### Business Start Up

If you're thinking about starting your own business, contact Business Gateway at [www.bgateway.com](http://www.bgateway.com) make an appointment to speak to an adviser on 01620 827870 or email [economicdevelopment@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:economicdevelopment@eastlothian.gov.uk)

### My World Of Work

Visit [www.myworldofwork.co.uk](http://www.myworldofwork.co.uk) to find tips on job hunting, funding for training and further education and to connect with employers offering all sorts of opportunities like apprenticeships, internships and work experience.

### Developing the Young Workforce

DYW works to improve employers' engagement with schools and colleges in the region, encouraging and supporting employers to open up job and development opportunities to more young people.

Find out more and access support:

Twitter: @DYWEdinMidEast

0131 221 2999 [dyw@edinburghchamber.co.uk](mailto:dyw@edinburghchamber.co.uk)

[www.edinburghchamber.co.uk/dyw](http://www.edinburghchamber.co.uk/dyw)



# Case Study

**Cameron Renton** (18) is a former Dunbar Grammar School pupil who decided to embark upon a work-based learning route. The opportunity to study Construction Skills at the East Lothian Construction and Technology Centre arose in his subject choice meeting in S4.

The Construction and Technology Centre in Mansfield Road, Musselburgh, is a joint project between East Lothian Council and Edinburgh College, in partnership with major construction firms including Morrison Construction and Hart Builders. Students work towards the SCQF level 4 Skills for Work Construction Skills or the SCQF level 5 SQA National Progression Award in Brickwork – attending the centre as part of their school timetable.

Having arrived at the CAT Centre, Cameron demonstrated a real talent and aptitude for joinery. The lecturers were really impressed by his work ethic and his ability to persevere.



Cameron's confidence grew as he picked up new skills and he decided that he wanted to be an apprentice joiner. At this point in his education he had a number of options open to him. However, he decided to pursue further training through the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) who passed his CV on to Guthrie Contracts.

Cameron has now been working with Guthrie for a year as a Modern Apprentice. Director Alick Bird said: "Cameron gets on well with his workmates and has a good attitude towards the work that he is

carrying out for us. He has been involved in house kits, small and large extensions, insulation, plasterboard and all internal finishing work."

Getting a place at the Construction Skills Centre was a turning point for Cameron. He said:

*"I always knew I wanted to get into construction, so when the chance to study at the Construction Skills Centre came up, it was ideal for me. I really enjoyed it and then getting the apprenticeship with Guthrie has been great. This is what I'll do for life now!"*

If you're interested in an apprenticeship or in attending the Construction Skills Centre, talk to the school team or the careers adviser at your school. You can also visit [www.apprenticeships.scot](http://www.apprenticeships.scot) or email East Lothian Works and someone will get back to you to discuss your options [elworks@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:elworks@eastlothian.gov.uk)

## Positive Destinations

**If you need a helping hand to boost your confidence and find the right career path, an Activity Agreement might be right for you. There are so many choices out there and sometimes you need a champion to fight your corner, amplify your voice or encourage you to take an idea forward.**

Activity Agreements are flexible arrangements for 16–19 year olds who are not yet ready to go into full time training or employment. We have a range of mentoring schemes and Activity Agreements that can help you to think clearly and find the best opportunities for you. Life throws up challenges and sometimes we need a bit of help to get back on track. East Lothian Works has a team who can find you work, work experience or a college place. They can help you to overcome your fears and find the best way forward. Often the biggest challenge is admitting that you need help. You will develop supportive professional relationships and you be able to influence the support that you are comfortable with.

The part time training involved in an activity agreement is tailor-made to fit around your interests and tackle any gaps you may have with learning and progression. Training comes in the form of bite sized taster sessions. We have a diverse range of activities from music to motorcycles and climbing to aromatherapy, as well as many others.

East Lothian Works has also been partnering with some exciting organisations to promote **STEM** career choices (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) in S2–S4. Programmes are currently running in schools to give pupils taster sessions to introduce you to the huge variety of exciting jobs in this sector. One really successful programme involved S3 and S4 girls from Ross High School, Preston Lodge and Knox Academy, working with the RAF.

And remember – there's no such thing as a stereotypical careers for boys or girls these days. What's stopping you from being a female engineer or a male nursery nurse? The answer is – absolutely nothing!



Please talk to your guidance teacher, a teacher that you trust, your careers advisor, your parent or carer or email [East Lothian Works elworks@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:elworks@eastlothian.gov.uk)