

Partnerships in Practice

Effective collaboration isn't without its challenges! Practitioners engaging with sessions delivered through Education Scotland and YouthLink Scotland during 2024 identified the following challenges – and potential solutions.

Barriers/Challenges to partnership working	Suggested solutions	Sources of support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data sharing – this is important to jointly measure impact • Rurality – access to opportunities • Access – centralised services • Funding – investment and sustainability • Clarity over roles and knowing who's who • Sharing information • Capacity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint funding applications and involving local authority youth forums • Effective communications • Planned and committed collaborative working, e.g. Involving youth work partners in planning attendance and engagement strategies • Target support where its needed most- using a range of data to identify areas of need • More youth workers based in schools and working alongside formal education practitioners • Resources to support schools to develop their own model, based on local need/context, ensuring sustainability • Creating networks and sharing evidence/success stories 	<p>YouthLink Scotland SAC national programme Working alongside Education Scotland's Attainment Advisors and CLD Team to support strengthened collaboration. The following professional learning resources are designed to support schools and their partners to develop a model for collaborative working that meets the needs of the local context. These are based on the key principles of effective collaboration.</p> <p>Lost in Translation Youth Work: a Guide for Schools Developing Youth Work and School Partnerships Understanding Impact</p> <p>Additionally, the Youth Work and Schools Collaborative is an online network to share practice and develop collaborative solutions to addressing the poverty-related attainment gap.</p> <p>Other resources Education Scotland, Scottish Attainment Challenge, self-evaluation resource The purpose of this self-evaluation resource is to support the achievement of equity in Scottish education. It includes a section with examples of features of highly effective practice and challenge questions on collaborating with partners.</p> <p>Scotland's Equity Toolkit Scotland's Equity Toolkit aims to provide an accessible and adaptable resource for local and sectoral needs to support the refreshed mission of the Scottish Attainment Challenge. The</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth work and school planning cycles to align	toolkit has been designed to support practitioners in their practice and decision-making by providing access to a range of evidence, research and practice, and importantly, identifying the conditions contributing to success. It includes a section on families and communities.
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