

## **What is the Ayrshire Festival of Learning?**

It is an exciting set of special events with a digital theme. It will be open to all - to find out what career opportunities are available at college and why digital skills are so important – whatever job you do.

What's different? Student generated content /peer career mentoring

## **Why do we need this event?**

To raise awareness of what colleges can offer and how in touch we are with what employers are looking for. We need young people to consider college as an option when they leave school – one that leads to all kinds of progression opportunities including university, apprenticeships and jobs. We don't want to be a second choice for a career path. Let's make Ayrshire College an option of choice – not a back-up plan.

By organising big wow open days that involve all the College we can make a great first impression. We want to do this differently - we will work with a group of event management students to plan and organise the event, and generate content and experiences that will engage the young people. The students will gain fantastic relevant work experience.

We want to have a digital theme because there is going to be a shortage of people with digital skills in the future, so we know these skills will be in high demand. All our courses have some degree of digital embedded in the course, we want to show this in different settings.

## **Objectives**

Attracting **young people** into our learning environment and show them what Ayrshire College has to offer; the skills they will learn and the jobs they can aspire to.

Engaging with **children** at an early age so they learn about what college's do, and are comfortable in this environment where digital skills are a high priority. Sowing seeds in young minds to get them thinking about the possibilities of what they might do when they grow up.

Supporting **parents** (and other influencers) to find out what learning opportunities are available and how to help their son/daughter make an informed choice about their future.

Showing the **community** what's going on in their back yard, and what Ayrshire College are doing to support the community.

Motivating **staff** during their staff development week to engage with digital skills to enhance their job role. Extending the successful peer mentoring concept.

## **When will this event be held?**

**Wed 14 and Thurs 15 February** - staff development days branded under the umbrella of Festival of Learning

## **Fri 16 February**

Ayr Campus: School – College taster day (aimed at S4 in South and North Ayrshire)

Kilwinning Campus: Girls into STEM Day (aimed at S1 & 2 in South and North Ayrshire)

(NB East Ayrshire Schools are still on holiday on this day)

**Sat 17 February** – Community day - open to all

**School – College Taster Day (16<sup>th</sup> February 2018)** - this will be aimed at S4 pupils who will be choosing their School-College programmes and Highers and thinking about next steps when they leave school.

All the above should incorporate a digital theme showing how this essential skill is embedded into all the courses.

Event Planning:

- 22 spaces per school (9 North Schools & 8 South Schools)
- Each pupil selects 2 activities
- Pupils select activities via Eventbrite
- Each Activity will run twice during the day

Event Schedule:

9:30-9:45am	Arrival
9:45-10:30am	Activity 1
10:30-10:45am	Break
11:00-11:45am	Activity 2
11:45- 12:30pm	Presentations

**Range of Activities:**

- HIVE
- Early Years
- Health and Social Care
- Construction
- Renewables
- Engineering
- Hair and Beauty
- Music and Sound Production
- Sport
- Business
- Events and Tourism
- Hospitality
- Art and Media
- Social Science

**Girls into STEM Day (16<sup>th</sup> February 2018)**

Girls into STEM will take place at Kilwinning Campus on Friday 16 February 2018.

The event, run in partnership with SmartSTEMs, is aimed at S1 and S2 girls. Each secondary school in North and South Ayrshire will be invited to bring along 10 pupils.

The proposed format of the day is as follows:

09.30 – 09.55: Registration/Meet the exhibitors

10.00 – 10.05: Welcome

10.05 – 10.25: Speaker 1 (TBC)

10.25 – 10.45: Speaker 2 (TBC)

10.45 – 10.55: Breakout into workshop groups

10.55 – 11.35: Workshop 1

11.45 – 12.45: Lunch/Meet the exhibitors

12.50 – 13.35: Workshop 2

13.40 – 14.25: Workshop 3

14.30 – 14.45: Wrap up and close

Each pupil will have the opportunity to attend three STEM based workshops. Most of the workshops will be delivered by the College, the rest by our partners and various other external organisations.

**Community Day (17<sup>th</sup> February 2018)** – this “open door event” will be a family fun day designed to appeal to younger children and their parents and the wider public who would like to see round the College and find out more about what we do.

Staff and student ambassadors will take tours around the College. The expectation will be that there will be curriculum activities to engage with and/or displays of work for the visitors to view. This will also be a great opportunity to promote evening classes/short courses/community courses.

We would work also with partners and small businesses in the community to create a “fun day” on our three main campuses. Ideas include:

Glasgow Science Centre roadshow

Coderdojo and computer games

Reptiles (Scales and Tails)

Owls

Therapy Animals

Book Bug

Face painting

Balloon characters

Hair braiding

Sports Games

Cookery demonstrations

Music - live bands

Messy play / arts and crafts

Crime scene

Puzzle room

Fire / Ambulance