

Hello from your Careers Advisor!

My name is Nicol Rhodes, and I am based in school 4 days a week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Throughout the school year pupils of any year group can access support.

I work for **Skills Development Scotland** which is the national skills agency of Scotland. Skills Development Scotland (SDS) is here to support you and your child throughout their time in school and after they leave school.



In Port Glasgow High School, I am the professionally qualified careers advisor offering career information, advice, and guidance (CIAG) and I support individuals to build their career management, work-based and employability skills, throughout their career journey, from school, into further learning opportunities and employment.

As the world of work is changing fast, it's very important that young people are ready to meet those changes. Having the right information, or knowing how to get it, helps when pupils need to make career decisions. That's where Career Management Skills come in. They help pupils understand themselves and the world around them, helping them to take control of their career with all its potential opportunities.

Career Management Skills are grouped under four themes:

- **Self:** Understanding your personality, interests and values are key to making the right career decisions
- **Strengths:** Know how to use your talents, skills and personal qualities
- **Horizons:** Explore the world of work, training, and learning
- **Networks:** Identify who can help you in your career journey

Find out more about Career Management Skills at:

<https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/my-career-options/what-are-career-management-skills-and-how-can-they-help-you>

Support within school can include:

- Intensive one-to-one career guidance
- Group sessions
- Drop-in clinics at lunch times
- Availability at school events like parents' evenings

How can I help you?

As a parent or carer, you have a leading role when your child is making decisions about their career.

That's why it's important to be prepared and feel confident when they come to you for advice.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of your child's career development progression with me, please do so by either contacting your child's Guidance teacher or email me directly at Nicol.Rhodes@sds.co.uk.

You can see me either in school or in the Skills Development Scotland Centre at 112 West Blackhall St, Greenock Tel: 01475 553710

The websites below also provide advice and information to assist with career decision making:

My World of Work— <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>

Apprenticeships.scot— www.apprenticeships.scot/

UCAS— <https://www.ucas.com/>

To find out more about Skills Development Scotland

<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/scotlands-careers-services/>

Please feel free to get in touch.

Nicol

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From Skills Development Scotland

UCAS At the heart of
connecting people
to higher education



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Hello from the DYW School Coordinator!

I am Ciaran McGugan, and I am based in the school every Monday, Tuesday and on a rotational basis on Wednesdays. I am here to provide employability support for all year groups, and to build employer links between the local community and the school.

I work for [Inverclyde Council](#) in partnership with [Developing the Young Workforce West Regional Group](#) as part of a team of 5 in Inverclyde, with a presence both full-time and part-time in each secondary school across the council. [Developing the Young Workforce \(DYW\)](#) is the Scottish Government's Youth Employment strategy to better prepare young people for the world of work.

I am from Inverclyde. I grew up in Greenock and I am passionate about delivering success for every young person in the school, if they are working with me directly or not.

In Port Glasgow High School, I am here to provide young people across the school support in a wide variety of areas surrounding employability such as:

- Delivering 1:1 employability coaching and support
- Securing and designing bespoke work placements to further work-based learning for Young People
- Engaging with employers to secure employability support such as delivering careers talks, coaching, mock interviews and work tasters/accreditation
- Supporting careers events
- Providing young people with volunteering/training opportunities

Or DYW team aim in school is to ensure every young person goes on to a positive destination when they leave school be that to Further/Higher Education, Apprenticeships, Training, or Full-Time Employment.



My appeal to you

As those caring for our young people, you are the biggest single group within our school community to have links with employers and businesses.

You can help steer the type of contact we have with employers.

My job includes engaging with employers and businesses to build links which will allow the school to utilise the links resources to benefit the young people within the school. I will be seeking out these opportunities, however, as one of the biggest groups within this community, you may have links that I cannot access, so my plea to you is that if you have any links/ideas you think would be beneficial to the school, please get in contact with me.

Also, if your child has been to see me and you would like to be involved in those discussions or to have any further information on our plans for them, please don't hesitate to get in touch at:

gw21mcguganciaran@glow.sch.uk (Mobile) 07385434471

The websites below also provide advice and information to assist with career decision making:

My World of Work— <https://www.myworldofwork.co.uk/>

Apprenticeships.scot— www.apprenticeships.scot/

UCAS— <https://www.ucas.com/>

To find out more about Developing the Young Workforce:

<https://www.dyw.scot/west.html>

Please feel free to get in touch.

Ciaran