

MENTORING MATTERS

ISSUE 10

INTRODUCTION The Summer term is a time of transition and a flurry of activity - from exams to the end of the school year. This quarter at MCR, we have celebrated some incredibly exciting news as we hosted our first national conference. From our national expansion being match funded by the Scottish Government, to our partnership with the University of Strathclyde creating a revolutionary new leadership course - this has been a season of change. But, with these celebrations we also have to say goodbye. We're celebrating and saying farewell to our wonderful Leavers who are progressing onto new and positive destinations.

With each ending comes a new start - our Leavers are starting an exciting new phase in their lives, and we at MCR are beginning our expansion into new regions of Scotland. Starting a new chapter can be scary, but for our young people - because of the impact of their mentors - with their motivation, commitment, and resilience we know they can tackle anything.

So a big **congratulations** to all our young people! To our returners and especially to 2018's Leavers!



659
ACTIVE MENTORS



1316
YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED



675
YP IN S1/S2 GROUP WORK

Thank you to everyone - our staff, our partners, organisations and especially our mentors - for taking the time to make a life changing difference. We wouldn't have been able to do this without your commitment.

"For this year, my hopes are to use my music and other creative talents in order to raise awareness for mental health. Not only that, but hopefully inspire others my age." - **Mya, Young Ambassador**

"I think young people should be celebrated for following their dreams, and continuing to follow their dreams." - **Frankie, Young Ambassador**

"It's good to have someone that can talk to me on my level. It's the first time I have trusted an adult in a long time" - **Young Person, Springburn Academy**

NEWS & UPDATES

YOUNG PEOPLE LED NATIONAL CONFERENCE

More than 400 business leaders, educators and mentors came together to participate in our first national conference, designed and run by young people. The theme was **Respectful Disruption for Inspired Decisions**, and that's what we did.

50 YGT ambassadors – representing young people from across Glasgow secondaries – directed the event from start to finish. They led delegates through a series of challenging presentations and workshops, all designed to help the adults understand the issues and barriers facing young people. Our young people were a-m-a-z-i-n-g, and we want to thank them for the unbelievable amount of hard work they put into the day, and thank all our delegates for standing up for Scotland's young people.

"Never below you. Never above you. Always beside you."

- Walter Winchell

THANK YOU TO OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WHO RAN THE DAY!



Our delegates wrote words of encouragement for our young people, here are just a handful of them.

INSPIRED

You are clever, you are talented and you can achieve what you want from school, to help you on your dream path. You are the FUTURE! 😊

Name:

INSPIRED

No matter what, please know that you are an amazing individual and you can go far. This is your time to shine!

Name:

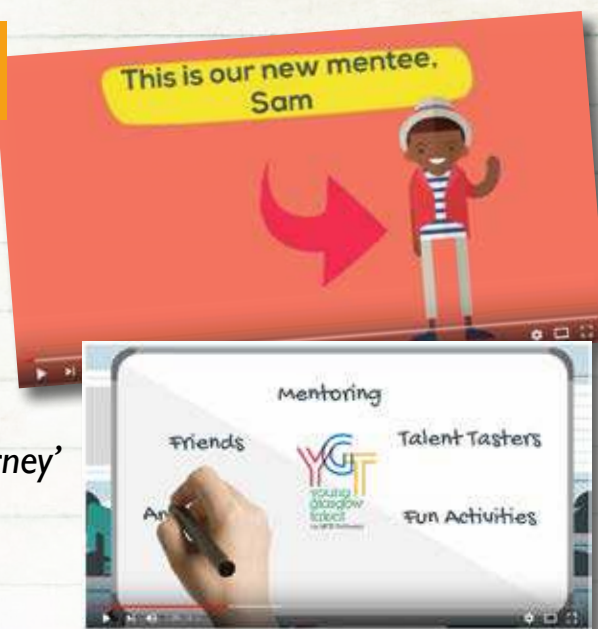
You can do it!
Deep breath and start again

Name:

VIDEOS FROM THE CONFERENCE

Sam's Mentoring Journey - is a short animation created for young people, by young people. Sam's journey is inspired by the experiences of some of our young ambassadors and shows the affects of having a mentor.

[Click here](#) or search for 'Sam's MCR Mentoring Journey' on our Youtube channel to watch and share!

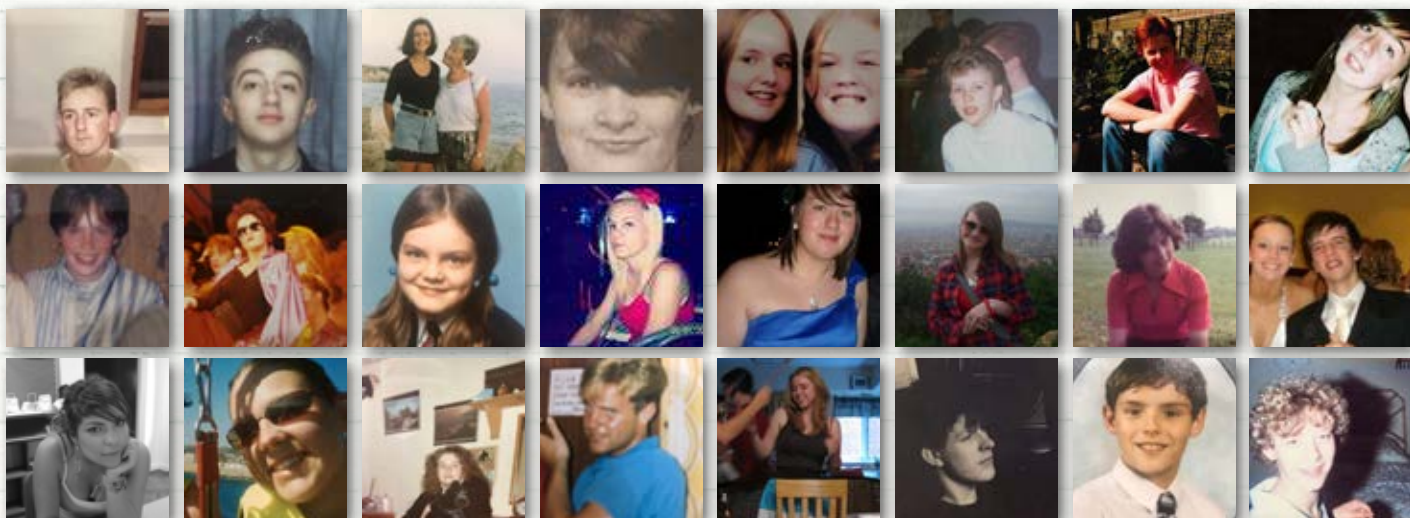


Watch our New Talent Taster film with BeesNees!

[Follow the link here](#) or search for 'MCR Pathways Talent Taster at BeesNees' to find out more about Talent Tasters.



BLAST FROM THE PAST



We asked of our conference delegates to truly try to understand young people's experiences from their perspective. We asked them to try to put themselves in their shoes - to consider how things like social media, school and life circumstances impact young people.

To do this, we asked delegates to send photos of themselves at 15. We were amazed at the honesty (and questionable fashion choices) of the submissions and wanted to share our favourites above.

LEADERSHIP THROUGH MENTORING

We're also excited to announce that we've partnered with the University of Strathclyde to create a revolutionary leadership training course based on the MCR relationship based mentoring model. The course, Leadership Through MCR Mentoring, will launch in July and will be accredited at SCQF Level 7 (Equivalent to a First year BA/BSc level) by the University of Strathclyde.

Numbers are limited for this first registration but please get in touch with elizabethanne.collier@mcrpathways.org to find out more.



"This program is designed for people of all backgrounds - no entry qualifications are required - and would benefit anyone interested in the leadership skills of mentoring."

- David Hillier, Executive Dean and Professor of Finance at the University of Strathclyde Business School with Fabio at our National Conference

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

The Scottish Government made a milestone announcement endorsing the expansion of MCR. Speaking ahead of the National Conference. John Swinney, Deputy First Minister of Scotland and the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, said:

"I welcome the improved outcomes for care-experienced children and young people that the MCR mentoring model has achieved in Glasgow and we are supportive of plans to expand the programme across Scotland."

"The Government is committed to improving educational outcomes for all our children and young people, and school-based mentoring schemes, such as the MCR Pathways programme, can clearly play a significant role in helping us to achieve that aim."

"The Scottish Attainment Challenge funding can, and already is, supporting the development of mentoring programmes in school and the Government can match fund any Challenge Authority who wishes to take forward the MCR programme as part of their Attainment Challenge plan."

"Additionally, schools are empowered to decide how they use their Pupil Equity Funding to support young people living in poverty and we know that a number of schools have chosen to use some of their PEF allocation to provide mentoring for young people in school."



The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

GOOD NEWS STORIES

Lochend

Declan from Lochend Community High School left school this year and he joined a construction employability course at Tigers. After discussing with his mentor Ross Hammil, who works for McTaggart Construction, in partnership with Tigers, Ross was able to secure Declan a work placement. The director

of McTaggart's agreed to offer him an apprenticeship if the placement went well as part of his programme in March with their Groundwork division or Scaffolding. Declan's placement went fabulously and he was offered a position in the Civils division team! Congrats to Declan on all your hard work!



HELP SHARE OUR NEWS AND GROW OUR COMMUNITY

We've been so busy this quarter - why not catch up with our blogs to find out everything that's been going on with our lovely mentors and inspiring young people? **Click on each one to read more...**



PRESS COVERAGE

March



and Iain, Programme Founder, in our Mitchell Library office. The story wonderfully captured the life-changing difference of MCR mentoring and the personal impact on it has made on both Billy and Mary...



In March, The Herald ran a double page feature titled 'How MCR Pathways helped change Billy McMillan's life' following an interview with Billy, his Mentor Mary...

April



The Herald, The Times and Glasgow Live all followed up the next day with pieces on the key conference announcements and the success of the young people who led the event throughout.



The MCR National Conference on 19th April received extensive coverage, picked up first by the Evening Times which announced the day's programme.



MCR was also featured in this month's TES Magazine - the Times Educational Supplement Scotland - which covers national education news. Emma Seith interviewed Founder Iain for their feature 'Mentoring is Giving Voice To Drowned out Dreams'. The article outlines our latest successes across Glasgow and national expansion.

MENTOR TRAINING EVENTS & FORUMS

We've increased the number of optional mentor training events this year to equip mentors with the right tools and gather your feedback. Turnout has been fantastic at our events, including Talent Taster training, Access to University, Post School Destinations and the coffee mornings. We are delighted to work with external partners to continue offering these sessions. Over the summer we'll start planning for another exciting year of mentor events.

Following your feedback, we have launched our Mentor Forums as an opportunity for mentors from all 30 schools to come together, share experiences and catch up. **Our next forum will be scheduled for over the summer.**

MENTOR RECRUITMENT

754. That's the number of young people still hoping for a mentor in Glasgow now we are in all 30 schools. While we're so excited to expand into new regions in Scotland, Glasgow remains an enormous focus. If you believe you can support a young person by becoming a mentor follow the link here to [get involved](#).

Follow us on social media for updates!

We really appreciate your help sharing the message. Talk to friends, colleagues, family, spread our Facebook posts, our tweets, our info session dates.

754 young people within Glasgow would like your help, [use the links](#) below to get in touch if you haven't signed up yet or if you'd like us to visit your workplace.

Every [share](#) helps us reach a potential mentor!



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VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please check out and share our volunteer vacancies:
<http://mcrpathways.org/get-involved/#others>

If you'd like to discuss the skills you have and our volunteering opportunities, please contact:
mandy.choi@mcrpathways.org

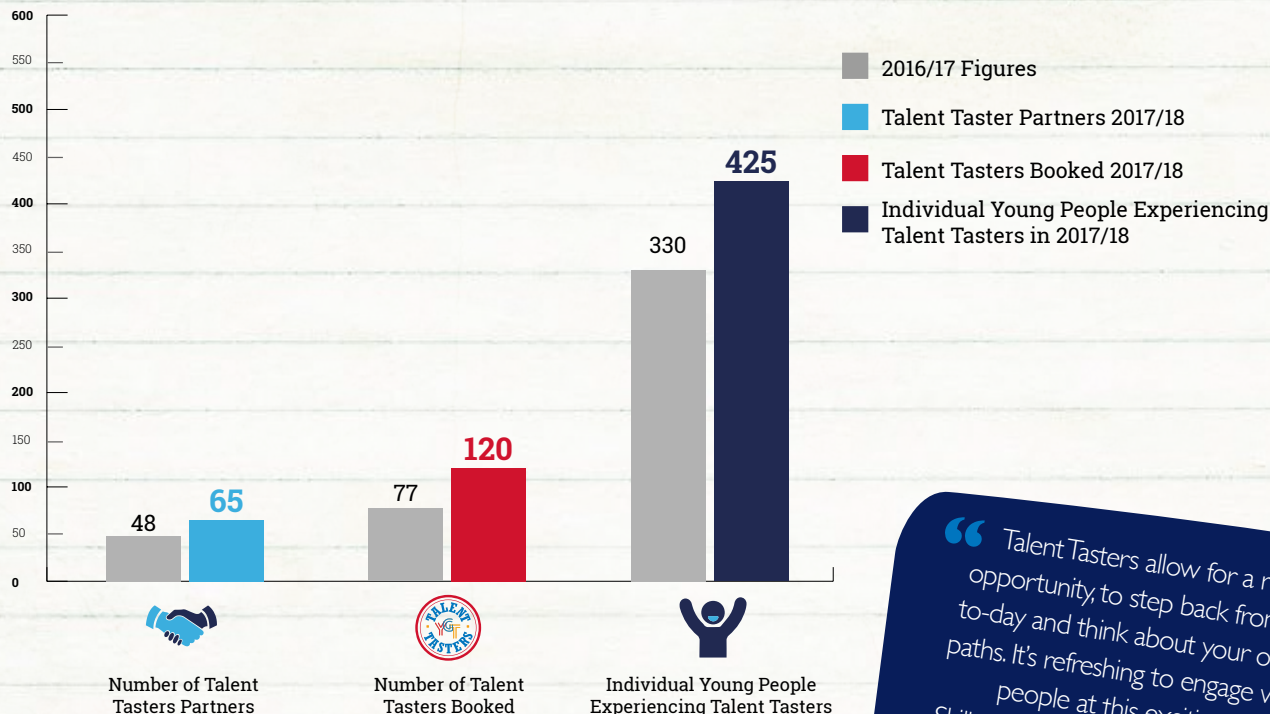
If you know of someone who would like to get involved, please feel free to pass this on!



TALENT TASTERS

During the Spring term we hosted our largest tranche of Talent Tasters ever! All across the city, businesses large and small opened their doors to our young people and showed the variety of possibilities out there waiting for them. Can you organisation host our young people for a half day session and introduce them to the world of work?

Please contact the Talent Taster Team at ttteam@mcrpathways.org



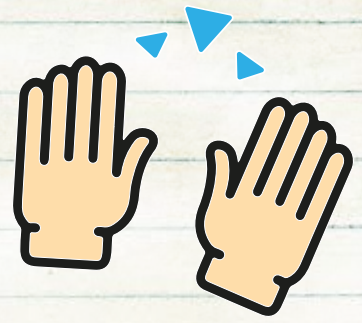
We're so grateful to our Taster partners for their phenomenal support and we're looking forward to the next tranche this Autumn!

“Talent Tasters allow for a reflective opportunity, to step back from the day-to-day and think about your own career paths. It's refreshing to engage with young people at this exciting junction. Skills wise - engaging with 14 years old on a topic unfamiliar to them builds your communication skills.”

- Jane Williamson,
DRS Glasgow City Council

GOOD LUCK!

We want to say a **big good luck and farewell** to our 2018 Leavers! You've worked so hard and overcome so many challenges to reach this milestone. We want you to know that even though you're leaving school **you're not and will never be alone**. So congratulations class of 2018!



“ My mentor helped me build my confidence and I could speak to her about anything. She has given me the confidence to apply for college. ”
Young Person, Leaver from Eastbank Academy.

“ I feel included as MCR always include me in all events that they have and I feel that I am part of the bigger family. ”
Shannon, Leaver from Lochend

“ I feel that I was involved in a programme that was full opportunities and made me a part of it. ”
Samran, Leaver from Whitehill Secondary

“ I felt more confident in achieving my goals after talking to the mentor more and more. ”
Young Person, Leaver from Whitehill Secondary

“ My mentor gave me confidence to speak to the teachers about subjects I was struggling with like Biology. Rather than dropping it, it was agreed I could do this over 2 years. ”
Joli, Leaver from All Saints Secondary

“ My mentor is funny and knows how to have a laugh but is really helpful and helped me a lot on deciding on what would be best for me when I leave school. I can ask anything and she tries to help as much as she can. ”
Megan, Leaver Knightswood Secondary

“ She always motivated me and reminded me that if I got through this stage I would be unstoppable. ”
Sylvia, Leaver from St Mungo's Academy

“ Having a mentor has opened a wide variety of opportunities and helped me try find purpose and get to further education. ”
Peter, Leaver from All Saints Secondary

“ She helped me to decide what career I wanted to do as I had no idea when I first met her. We have explored different things and I am settled on dental nursing now. I have a conditional offer for college. ”
Robyn, Leaver from All Saints Secondary

“ Thank you for the fantastic support and the sense of achievement. You guys were there when I needed to open up about stuff and remember how to achieve and believe in myself and I'm grateful and thankful for that. ”
Chloe, Leaver from All Saints Secondary