



Glasgow – Learning Capital of Scotland

Glasgow has a plethora of learning establishments in the city – catering for its youngest citizens in more than 300 nurseries, primaries and, secondary schools and at the other end of the spectrum, welcoming a whole host of students from home and abroad at one of the eight higher and further education institutions that have gained national and international recognition comprising:

<u>City of Glasgow College</u>	<u>Glasgow Caledonian University</u>
<u>Glasgow Clyde College</u>	<u>Glasgow Kelvin College</u>
<u>The Glasgow School of Art</u>	<u>Royal Conservatoire of Scotland</u>
<u>University of Glasgow</u>	<u>University of Strathclyde</u>

From medicine to the arts, engineering to dance, business to healthcare, people across Glasgow are learning, innovating, experimenting, researching, teaching, collaborating and sharing ideas in an ambitious and inspirational city, which is focused on sustainability and the environment and pledged to become UK’s first Net Zero carbon city by 2030.

Glasgow’s global reputation as a place of learning has seen millions of young people arrive in the city to study for diplomas and degrees and often settle long after they graduate. People make Glasgow and once you’ve been on the receiving end of a Glaswegian welcome, it’s very hard to say goodbye to our friendly city.

In 2019 it was revealed that Glasgow had joined the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities - an international policy-oriented network providing inspiration, know-how and best practice.

This opportunity has given education experts in the city the chance to be part of a dynamic network and connect with other learning cities across the world with common interests, tackle similar issues and cultivate innovative practice together to improve the learning experience of all.

Glasgow was already a learning city by its proven track record and as outlined by the UNESCO definitions - a city that effectively mobilises its resources in every sector to promote inclusive learning from basic to higher education; revitalises learning in families and communities; facilitates learning for and in the workplace; extends the use of modern learning technologies; enhances quality and excellence in learning; and fosters a culture of learning throughout life.

In doing so, the city aims at enhancing individual empowerment, social cohesion, economic and cultural prosperity, and sustainable development.

But the endorsement in 2019 was proof that the city is nurturing learning in many formats.

Glasgow's nurseries and schools have also received high praise in the last few years.

In March 2019, a decade of success in Glasgow schools received an excellent report card from Education Scotland for improving learning, raising attainment and achievement across the city and making excellent progress in closing the national poverty related attainment gap.

And in 2021 Glasgow's young people have also recorded the best school leaver positive destination statistics – with more than ever before going on to further or higher education and surpassing the national figures for the first time.

As Nelson Mandela, granted freedom of Glasgow in 1981, famously said: **“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”**

The global pandemic has obviously had an impact on the number of students in Glasgow over the last 18 months but with the success of the vaccine and restrictions easings, it is hoped that more young people from home and abroad will get the opportunity to experience the vibrancy and diversity of this learning city.

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COP26 Media Team
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