DOUGLAS ACADEMY

Wider Achievement and Additional Opportunities

Welcome to the Douglas Academy opportunities directory. Below is the list of pupil clubs, leadership roles, and wider achievement opportunities available to young people across the school, ordered by year group.

ALL-YEAR & MULTI-YEAR OPPORTUNITIES (S1–S6 / S4–S6)

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
Future Leaders	S1–S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This programme allows young people involved to gather student feedback and data to identify key areas for school improvement, collaborate directly with teachers and leaders to propose solutions, and act as a bridge representing their peers' views. By doing so, participants build essential leadership, communication, and teamwork skills while making a positive impact on their school community.
Saltire Awards	S1–S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Saltire Awards are the Scottish Government's way of recognising, celebrating and rewarding the commitment, contributions and achievements of young volunteers in Scotland. They are aimed at young people aged 12–25 who support their communities and good causes. Young people who volunteer are provided with a nationally recognised certificate, signed by Scottish Government Ministers.
Duke of Edinburgh (Bronze–Gold)	S4–S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This award allows pupils to take part in a range of activities, leading to the achievement of an award that is recognised by universities and employers, as well as enabling pupils to develop new and existing skills by participating in enjoyable experiences.
Anti-Racist Education Working Group	S4–S6	*Integrity, Adapting, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading, Critical Thinking.*	This pupil and staff working group will focus on reviewing existing approaches to anti-racist education in light of Scottish Government guidance.
Eco Schools Committee	S4–S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Eco-Schools programme provides a simple, seven-step framework empowering young people to make a difference in their school, local community and beyond.
Equally Safe at School	S4–S6	*Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading, Critical Thinking.*	This pupil and staff working group is focused on reviewing the school's approaches to misogyny and gender-based violence. The group has adopted the Equally Safe at School Framework and implemented this into day-to-day practice.

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
LGBTQ+ Group	**S4–S6**	*Integrity, Communicating, Collaborating, Feeling, Leading.*	The group carries out a range of activities to raise awareness and create an inclusive environment for all members of the school community.
Subject Department Volunteers	**S4–S6**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Young people can volunteer in any department across the school, helping with resource management, updating notice boards and supporting learning in classes.

S1 OPPORTUNITIES

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
Transition Ambassadors	**S1**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Young people will be involved in helping at various transition events over the year and can gain volunteering hours for Saltire Awards.
S1 Wider Achievement – Citizenship	**S1**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This module of learning is designed to help young people understand how society works, their rights and responsibilities, and how they can actively participate in their community. Throughout this programme of work young people will explore the UNCRC, investigate the difference between rights and responsibilities and identify a local issue they care about and plan a practical campaign or response.
S1 Wider Achievement – Cyber Explorers	**S1**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Cyber Explorers programme introduces students to the fundamentals of digital safety, computer science, and cyber security. Through a gamified virtual world called Cyber City, participants complete challenges, quizzes, and missions helping them to develop practical knowledge of safe online behaviour and basic cyber habits that help to protect them in everyday digital life.
Wider Achievement – Skills in Action	**S1**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Young people use the skills developed to create a P.E.-style game in small teaching groups and deliver this to peers in their class.

S2 OPPORTUNITIES

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
S2 Youth and Philanthropy Initiative	**S2**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) is an active citizenship programme, empowering young people to make a difference in their communities while developing a range of skills. Each school is responsible for directing a grant of £3000 to a local charity championed by its students through a unique programme of teamwork, research, and competition. The programme raises awareness of social issues and local charities. All S2 pupils at Douglas Academy participate in this initiative.
S2 Skills – Citizenship	**S2**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This module of learning builds on our S1 course on how society works, their rights and responsibilities, and how they can actively participate in their programme. Throughout this programme of work young people will explore the UNCRC, investigate the difference between rights and responsibilities, explore and analyse sources for fake news. Finally, young people will identify a local issue they care about and plan a practical campaign or response.
S2 Skills – Cyber Explorers	**S2**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Cyber Explorers programme introduces students to the fundamentals of digital safety, computer science, and cyber security. Through a gamified virtual world called Cyber City, participants complete challenges, quizzes, and missions helping them to develop practical knowledge of safe online behaviour and basic cyber habits that help to protect them in everyday digital life.
S2 Skills – Skills in Action	**S2**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Using the skills passport, young people apply the skills developed to create an action plan and response to identified issues within the school community.

S3 OPPORTUNITIES

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
S3 Mental Health Ambassadors	**S3**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Douglas Academy S3 Mental Health Ambassadors is a collaborative programme that pairs professional youth mental health training with practical peer-education experience. Delivered in partnership with Lifelink—the school's counselling and wellbeing provider—the programme equips S3 volunteers with essential understanding and knowledge around how we can manage and monitor mental health. Young people are then responsible for delivering sessions as part of our Primary 6 Health and Wellbeing Transition Event.

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
S3 Pupil Enquiry	**S3**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	During this programme, young people will have the opportunity to work with Douglas Academy staff and lecturers from the University of Strathclyde to carry out a pupil practitioner enquiry, which is a research project focussed on a pupil-identified improvement priority for the school. Pupils will work in small groups, carry out research and learn from experienced professionals about data collection, ethical issues and using data to plan improvements.
S3 Stock Market Challenge	**S3**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Stock Market Challenge for S3 pupils is an interactive, fast-paced simulation event designed to introduce young people to the worlds of finance, economics, and business. Working in small teams, students are given a fictional sum of starting capital to invest. Teams must react quickly to breaking news flashes, global events, and shifting share prices or foreign exchange rates, buying and selling stocks in real-time. They track their net worth on live leaderboards, racing against other teams to see who can build the most profitable portfolio by the closing bell.
Level 5 Adventure & Challenge	**S3**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Level 5 Adventure and Challenge Award is an accredited personal development course designed to push young people outside their comfort zones through outdoor education. Young people will take part in an immersive 5-day residential experience in an outdoor setting, combining adventurous activities, team living, and reflective learning. They will gain practical experience as well as the recognised qualification.
S3 Car Valeting	**S3**	*Focusing, Integrity, Initiative, Sense-making, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading.*	During this programme, young people will have the opportunity to learn from the experienced professionals at the Car Valeting Academy and gain practical skills in car valeting techniques. This experience aims to further develop teamwork and communication skills in a relaxed and fun environment and learn valuable skills that will aid them post-school in the world of work.

S4 & S5 OPPORTUNITIES

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
L5 Leadership Award	**S3–S4**	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This qualification is designed to help young people discover and build their unique leadership potential. Students will research what makes effective leaders successful, evaluate their own personal strengths, and apply their skills by planning, running, and evaluating a project of their choice—such as a school sports event, charity initiative, or peer-coaching workshop. Through this award, young people will develop essential, real-world skills in teamwork, communication, organisation, and problem-solving.
L6 Emergency First Aid	**S4**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This course is a practical, life-saving qualification designed to equip young people with the essential skills and confidence needed to respond effectively in medical emergencies. Students will engage in hands-on training to learn how to assess critical situations, manage casualties safely, and deliver immediate care—ranging from performing CPR and using an AED to treating severe bleeding, burns, and choking. Through this course, young people will develop composure under pressure, critical thinking, and vital communication skills, earning a recognised certificate that demonstrates real-world responsibility.
Mental Health Ambassadors	**S5**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This is a peer mentoring initiative and involves senior pupils participating in training that improves their ability to support pupils in S2 with their mental health and wellbeing.

S6 SENIOR LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
Captaincy & Prefect Team	**S6**	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Following interviews, those appointed are responsible for representing the student body of the school. Working alongside staff, they will model the values of Douglas Academy.
S6 Events Committee	**S6**	*Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading, Creativity.*	This initiative offers young people an exciting leadership role within the school, giving them full ownership over planning, managing, and delivering the events that define their final year. As committee members, students will work collaboratively to shape school culture, boost spirit, and have a positive impact on the school community.

Club / Initiative	Year Group	Skills Developed	Overview
Prom Committee	S6	*Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading, Creativity.*	This initiative allows pupils to take responsibility for the organisation of the end-of-year prom. Tasks include liaising with venue/DJ providers, table planning and presenting details at assemblies and to parents/carers.
Yearbook Committee	S6	*Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading, Creativity.*	This initiative allows pupils to take responsibility for the creation and production of the S6 Yearbook. Tasks include liaising with peers, presenting at assemblies and organising layouts.
Sports Captaincy Team	S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This group is responsible for the planning, organisation and delivery of activities, events and competitions in the PE department. They work closely with our Active Schools Coordinators, volunteering their time to run clubs, motivate younger pupils and gather views of pupils to ensure their wants and needs are being met in PE.
Debating & Public Speaking Leads	S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Initiative, Creativity, Sense-making, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading.*	The debating and public speaking leads take responsibility for leading and organising the debating club and competitions. They work with younger students in S1–S5 to offer coaching related to debating and public speaking and help prepare young people for upcoming competitions.
Supporting Neurodiversity	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Young people involved in this initiative will undergo neurodiversity training from an Educational Psychologist aimed at supporting younger students. Following this, they will be responsible for running a pupil-led lunchtime club targeted towards neurodivergent young people, allowing them to develop positive relationships with others through games and activities.
DA'rista	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Communicating, Leading.*	Young people can volunteer at our school-run coffee shop undertaking a variety of roles such as Barista, Server, Till Operator, Cleaner, and Stock Taker.
The Mark Scott Award	S6	*Focusing, Integrity, Adapting, Initiative, Curiosity, Creativity, Sense-making, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Outward Bound Trust provides an innovative programme which helps young people develop skills that they can use in business or other organisations.
Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP)	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This programme involves senior pupils being trained as ‘MVP Mentors’, who deliver a series of lessons focusing on gender-based violence and bullying to S1 pupils.
Breakaway Dementia Group	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	This project involves young people working in partnership with St John's Church Milngavie to work alongside members of the community who are living with dementia. Those involved will take part in small group activities and offer a friendly face and social interaction to those involved in the programme.

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Silver Surfers	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	The Silver Surfers group was set up to support Milngavie Library's Tuesday morning IT group for older members of the community. Pupils attend the library and support the group with their IT skills and any problems they have with their devices.
Clober Primary	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Young people involved in this initiative are responsible for helping in the local primary school. Young people will work under the direction of classroom teachers to help support learning activities for children from nursery through to primary 7.
Tennis Coaching Support	S6	*Integrity, Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Feeling, Collaborating, Leading.*	Students involved are responsible for supporting young people with ASN at local primaries on a Thursday afternoon. They help plan, organise and deliver fun and engaging lessons for the participants.
Litter Pickers	S6	*Initiative, Critical Thinking, Communicating, Collaborating, Leading, Creativity.*	This initiative offers students an opportunity to take active care of our local environment, build teamwork skills, and spend productive time outdoors with their peers.