



NEON Symposium Lancaster 2019 Making Partnerships Sustainable

1995 - 2019

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Thank you to our partners



LEAPS Background



- “LEAPS is a unique partnership committed to widening access to higher education, supporting the development of aspiration and expectation of academic success in the young people with whom we work. Our aims are to raise the expectation of attainment in academic study, to encourage the view that access to higher education is realistic and achievable, and to support transitions into higher education.”

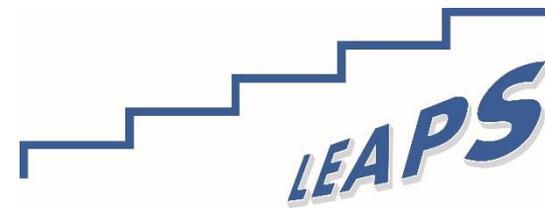
History of LEAPS



Developed at The University of Edinburgh
Financially sustained by partners and seed funding until 2010

- Summer School
- Schools Programme
- Pre-application service
- Re launch 2001 further investment
- Scottish Wider Access Forums

History (continued)



- 2010 Introduction of SHEP National schools programme
- New Substantial Partner The Scottish Funding Council
- Progression to Higher Education Stats
- 2014 First Minister Statement
- 2016 Commission on Widening Access
- 2018 School Engagement Framework
- 2018 School Engagement Toolkit
- 2019 Scottish Community of Access Practitioners Partnership SCAPP

Making 'this' Partnership sustainable some points to consider (Continued)

- Define areas of potential overlap
- Allow for experimentation and development
- Set parameters and time limits for achievement
- Be prepared to review and abandon projects if they cannot be sustained or be proven to be successful
- EG 3-4 year reviews
- Continually seek additional funding
- Do not lose touch with partners

Making 'this' Partnership sustainable

some points to consider

- Fiscally responsible business management is crucial
- Deliver results – Evaluate
- Create a solid business case
- Agreed aims and objectives
- Aligning strategy EG 'What are the common aims of schools, universities and government?' Equity, fairness, attainment,
- Professionalism, collaboration and building a positive reputation

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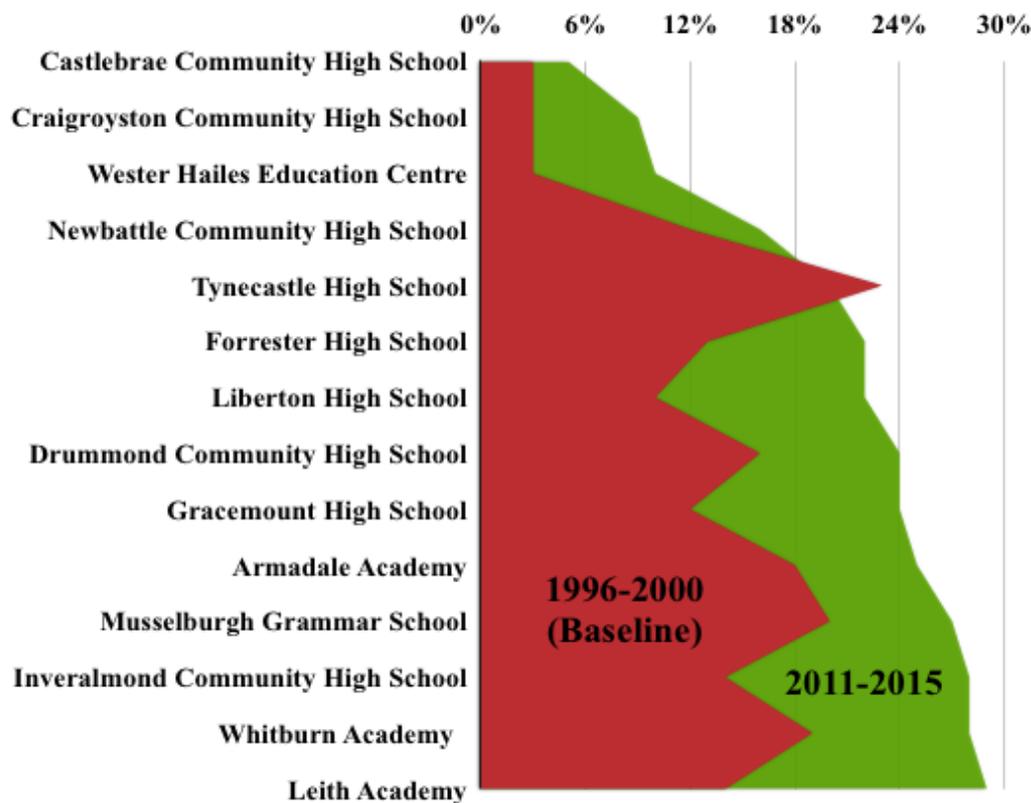
Potential pitfalls

- Strategic aims do not diverge
- Strategic direction of individual partners change
- Personality clashes
- Lack of understanding
- Priority shifts
- Failure of endeavour
- Communication breakdowns
- Exposure
- Business Case

Progression to HE



Percentage change in progression to higher education (Schools with historically low progression, national average = 38%) Example of evaluation a result



Scottish First Minister



Nicola Sturgeon November 2014:

“ I want us to determine now that a child born today in one of our most deprived communities will, by the time he or she leaves school, have the same chance of going to university as a child born in one of our least deprived communities.”

Blueprint for Fairness



Further embedding the idea of partnership A Blueprint for fairness encourages this.

Recommendation 4:

“Universities, colleges, local authorities, schools, SFC funded access programmes and early years providers should work together to deliver a coordinated approach to access which removes duplication and provides a coherent and comprehensive offer to learners.”

A Blueprint for Fairness



The Commission on Widening Access (CoWA)

Published March 2016:

34 Recommendations:

You can find them here:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/blueprint-fairness-final-report-commission-widening-access/>

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