

SDS Education Team 2025 – 2026 professional learning offer

SDS Education Team 2025 – 2026 professional learning offer

Our professional learning offer is designed to support educators in deepening their understanding of career education and its value to both learners and practitioners. Through a suite of workshops, resources, and activities, we introduce key career education themes and offer practical approaches of how these can be embedded into everyday learning in a practical, manageable, and sustainable way.

All of our professional learning is aligned with the expectations set out in the [Career Education Standard \(3-18\)](#) and for 2025/2026 we are transitioning our offer to align with [the national model of professional learning](#). Schools, local authorities, colleges, and individual practitioners can access our offer in the following ways.



- [SDS facilitated professional learning workshops and virtual events](#)



- [Leading professional learning resources](#)



- [Self-directed professional learning activities](#)

The following themes are covered as part of our offer.

Career education



Skills



Labour Market Information



Career Management Skills



SDS facilitated professional learning workshops



Our suite of SDS facilitated professional learning workshops support education practitioners by providing practical approaches to embedding career education into day-to-day learning and in a proportionate and manageable way. They can be offered to all staff, leadership teams and working groups in a standard format or tailored to better reflect your establishment's progress and needs; either as a single event or as part of an extended programme.

Theme	Title and description	Suggested Timing	Format
Career education	Introduction to career education: an interactive workshop introducing and setting in context the Career Education Standard (CES) with questions woven through the presentation to engage the audience in reflection and discussion.	60 mins	In person or virtual
	CES introduction and self-evaluation: a structured hands-on approach workshop that allows educators to reflect on their progress and identify next steps using the CES self-evaluation resource. It provides education settings with a CES baseline for future benchmarking, aids familiarisation, helps identify and share effective practice and supports planning for improvement.	90 mins	In person
Skills	Introduction to meta-skills: an interactive workshop providing a more focussed look at the Skills 4.0 meta-skills framework and how these can be integrated into everyday classroom practice.	60 mins	In person or virtual
	Embedding skills: an interactive workshop exploring what future skills are, their importance to learners and how these can be embedded into everyday classroom practice in a pragmatic and sustainable way.	60 mins	In person or virtual
	Embedding skills audit: a structured hands-on approach for schools to reflect on how skills are being embedded and identify next steps using the skills audit toolkit. Completion of the tool will provide the education setting with a skills baseline for future benchmarking, aids familiarisation, helps identify and share effective practice and supports planning for improvement.	90 mins	In person
LMI	Introduction to labour market information (LMI): An interactive workshop that explores what LMI is, shares examples of online sources where it can be found and provides examples of how practitioners can manageably integrate it into everyday classroom practice.	60 mins	In person or virtual
CMS	Understanding career management skills (CMS): an interactive workshop that introduces CMS, considers how these competencies are already part of day-to-day learning and teaching and explores practical approaches to further develop young people's CMS as an integral part of the curriculum.	60 mins	In person or virtual



If you would like find out more about our offer, please complete this [online form](#) or contact us at education@sds.co.uk

Virtual professional learning and sharing practice events



Throughout 2025/26 we plan to run several events for education practitioners. These will all take place virtually and range from introductory presentations to sharing interesting practice events.

The current calendar for 2025/26 is shown below. Additional events may be added throughout the year so please check the SDS Education webpage for more details.

Format		September 2025	October 2025	November 2025	December 2025	January 2026	February 2026	March 2026	May 2026
Professional learning workshop	Date Time Title	23/9/25 4:00pm–4:45pm Introduction to meta-skills		12/11/25 4:00pm–4:45pm Introduction to career education		21/1/26 4:00pm–4:45pm Introduction to meta-skills		3/3/26 4:00pm–4:45pm Introduction to career education	
Sharing interesting practice session	Date Time Title		8/10/25 4:00pm–5:15pm Meta-skills in practice: sharing approaches from primary schools		4/12/25 4:00pm–5:15pm Meta-skills in practice: sharing approaches from ASN settings			24/3/26 4:00pm–5:15pm Meta-skills in practice: sharing approaches from secondary schools	12/5/26 4:00pm–5:15pm Meta-skills in practice: sharing approaches from schools across Scotland



You can find out more about our virtual professional learning events via the SDS Education team webpage:
<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/scotlands-careers-services/education-team>

Leading professional learning resources



This collection of resources are for use by those leading professional learning in their school or educational setting and have been informed by the [national model of professional learning](#).

All resources:

- are downloadable and can be tailored to suit your needs
- include suggested facilitation notes and timings
- are planned with a range of activities to increase knowledge, skills and confidence

Theme	Title and description	Timing
Career education	Career education self-evaluation: a structured hands-on approach for schools to reflect on their progress and identify next steps using the Career education self-evaluation toolkit. It provides education settings with a Career Education Standard baseline for future benchmarking, aids familiarisation, helps identify and share effective practice and supports planning for improvement.	90 mins
Skills	Embedding skills audit: a structured hands-on approach for schools to reflect on how skills are being embedded and identify next steps using the skills audit toolkit. It provides education settings with a skills baseline for future benchmarking, aids familiarisation, helps identify and share effective practice and supports planning for improvement.	60 mins
CMS	Understanding career management skills (CMS): an interactive workshop that introduces CMS, considers how these competencies are already part of day-to-day learning and teaching and explores practical approaches to further develop young people's CMS as an integral part of the curriculum.	60 mins



You can find our suite of leading professional learning resources via the SDS Education team webpage:
<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/scotlands-careers-services/education-team>

Self-directed professional learning activities



Our suite of self-directed professional learning activities build upon the [original suite of career education learning resources](#) and have been updated to included current policy, research and new activities. They can be used by individuals or as a small group to increase knowledge, share practice and support planning for improvement.



Career education

Skills Development Scotland

Professional Learning Activity

Introduction to the Career Education Standard (3-18)

Name: _____

*Please note this resource can be printed out or completed electronically and used in conjunction with 'Developing the Young Workforce Career Education Standard (3-18)' (September 2016).

August 2025



LMI

Skills Development Scotland

Self-directed learning activity

Introduction to Labour Market Information

labour supply and demand
skills and qualifications
future labour trends
Information on jobs and sectors
business growth and decline
employment rates
the local economy

Name: _____

*Please note this resource can be printed out or completed electronically.

August 2025



CMS

Skills Development Scotland

Self-directed learning activity

Introduction to Career Management Skills

SELF STRENGTHS
HORIZONS NETWORKS

Name: _____

*Please note this resource can be printed out or completed electronically.

August 2025



You can find our suite of self-directed professional learning activities on the SDS Education team webpage:
<https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/what-we-do/scotlands-careers-services/education-team>