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People, place and nature

Education & Careers Strategy 2025

24 Sept 2025

Starter: *Stay Standing If….*

1. **DfE**
   - Department for Education
2. **Ofsted**
   - Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills
3. **Estyn**
   - The education and training inspectorate for Wales
4. **Education Scotland**
   - National body for supporting quality and improvement of teaching & learning in Scotland
5. **QAA**
   - Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education
6. **HE**
   - Higher Education
7. **FE**
   - Further Education

8. **Gatsby Benchmarks**
   - Evidence-based framework of standards that define what world-class careers guidance looks like for young people
9. **CEC**
   - Careers and Enterprise Company
10. **LSIP**
    - Local Skills Improvement Plan
11. **T-Levels**
    - Two-year Level 3 Qual for 16-19 with 315 hours industry placement
12. **Vocational Quals**
    - Level 1 to Level 3, e.g. BTEC, UAL, C&G. Level 3 equivalent to 3 x A-levels
13. **SQA**
    - Scottish Qualifications Authority
14. **Essential Skills**
    - e.g. communication, problem-solving, teamwork, adaptability, critical thinking, self-awareness and resilience

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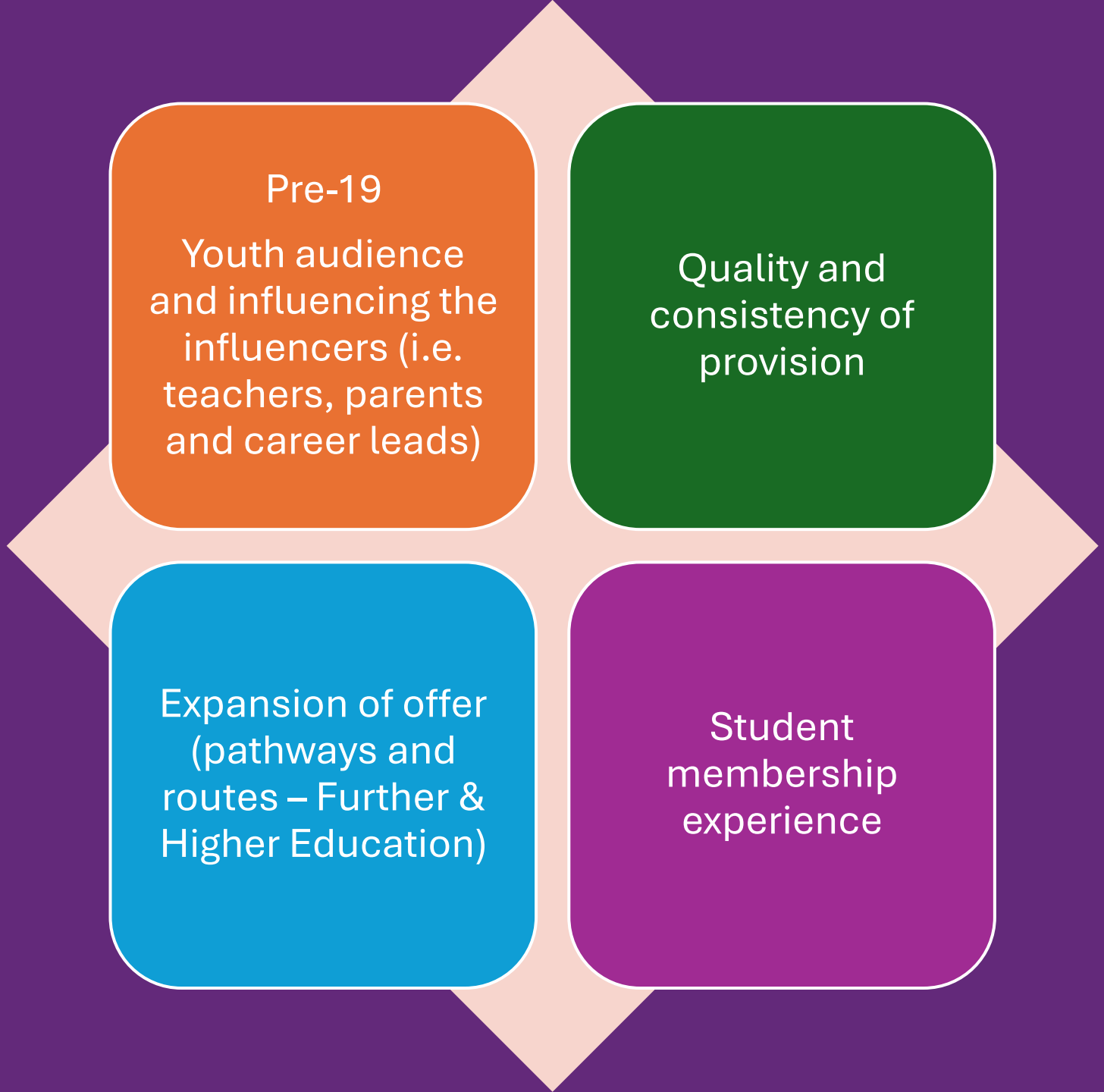
EDUCATION TEAM FOCUS



Working with our four pillars and in alignment with the corporate strategy we have:

- Developed **six core strands** for the education strategy.

- Proposed that the strategy is written for a **two-year period**, with reviews at key milestones, to shape and develop accordingly moving forward.

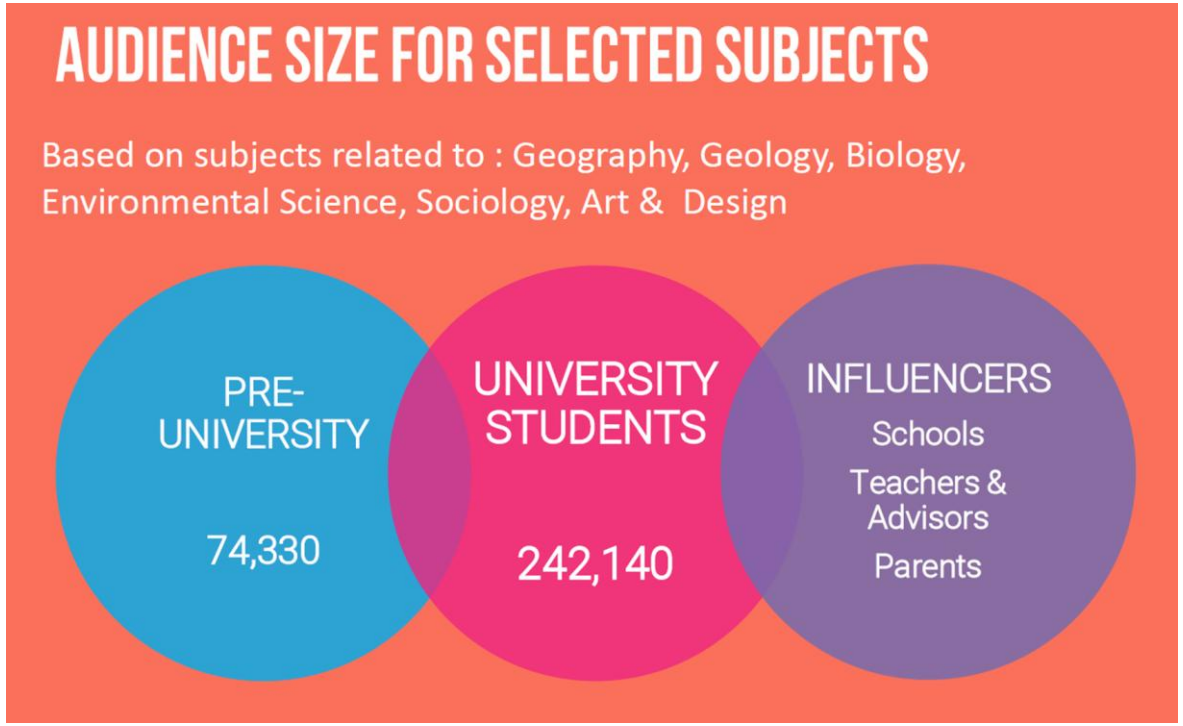
SIX CORE STRANDS

1. Shaping the future of the profession
2. Empowering and supporting our members
3. Diversifying and expanding entry pathways and pipeline
4. Advancing education and skills development
5. Collaborating to share knowledge and resources
6. Quality assurance and managing risk

1. Shaping the future of the profession

Raise the profile of the profession, celebrating our students and diversifying future pipeline

- **IMPLEMENTATION:**
  - 1.1 UCAS Marketing and Promotion
  - 1.2 Relaunch and Evolve Student Member Engagement (MVP)
  - 1.3 Student Bursaries (MVP)
  - 1.4 Student Placements in FE & HE (MVP)



UCAS.com has **25M+ visitors** annually

2. Empowering and supporting our members

All outreach work to align with national careers education policy, to drive impactful change

- **IMPLEMENTATION:**
  - 2.1 Education Partnerships and Employer-led projects
  - 2.2 Youth Voice / Youth Network

6-week pilot Employer-led projects Oct 2025		
ONE Environments	Newcastle College	44 + Architecture Students
Gillespies	Leeds City College	106 + Art & Design Students
AECOM	North Herts College, Hitchin	40+ Spatial Design Students
BDP	City of Bristol College	20+ Graphic Design Students
Levitt Bernstein	Capital City College, London	20+ Architecture Students
Wynne-Williams Associates	Morley College, London	20+ Architecture Students

3. Diversifying and expanding entry pathways and pipeline

Ensuring an equitable and sustainable workforce

- **IMPLEMENTATION:**
  - 3.1 Education & Careers Partnerships
  - 3.2 Alternative Pathways
  - 3.3 Undergraduate Cognate Disciplines
  - 3.4 Grant Programme for School & College Activity
  - 3.5 B.E. Inclusive Collaborative Opportunities
  - 3.6 UKREiiF – EduFest (working title)

4. Advancing education and skills development

A model that is responsive to sector and societal needs

- **IMPLEMENTATION:**
  - 4.1 Expand L3 Apprenticeship Provision
  - 4.2 Advance Accreditation Development & Expansion
  - 4.3 Research and Plan for Regional Apprenticeship Models (Scotland, Wales and NI)
  - 4.4 Research to Guide Strategy (e.g. Metro Dynamics)

5. Collaborating to share knowledge and resources

Influence the influencers, educate the educators, and develop a scalable model

- **IMPLEMENTATION:**
  - 5.1 Awareness campaigns and resources
  - 5.2 Educational outreach support, guidance and resources for registered practices, branches and individual members
  - 5.3 Alignment with National Careers Educations Strategies and Mechanisms
  - 5.4 Through external networks, partnerships and initiatives, influence national curriculum, including work with awarding bodies and subject association.

Department for Education

The Gatsby Benchmarks

From September 2025, DfE expects all institutions to use the updated Gatsby Benchmarks.

6. Quality assurance and managing risk

Ensuring integrity, high and consistent standards, and strong partnerships

IMPLEMENTATION:

- 6.1 HE & FE Partner Relationships & Support
- 6.2 Accreditation Management
- 6.3 Formal Procedures & Guidelines Management
- 6.4 L3 Apprenticeships - Quality Control
- 6.5 QAA Benchmarking Aligning education provision with national frameworks
- 6.6 End Point Assessment Organisation (EPAO) Exploration and Analysis

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Thank you

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