



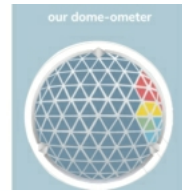
## Futures Institute at Dollar Academy - February 2024 Update

We're delighted to share our February update with you. There's lots happening, both on the educational front and with our new Futures Institute building – so as always, we hope you enjoy reading more about the highlights and please [get in touch](#) should you have any questions.



### It's an exciting time on campus!

Pre-construction activity continues on the site of the new Futures Institute building. The February break saw large diggers on campus to assess the load-bearing capacity of the ground. Archaeologists will soon be excavating various points within the site, prior to building works commencing over the Summer. Who knows what they may find... watch this space!



### Fundraising Update

With over 82% of the required funding in place for the Futures Institute building, the FIDA fundraising campaign has been Dollar Academy's most successful to date. We'd like to reiterate our sincere thanks to everyone who has donated so far – a combination of philanthropic support, corporate sponsorship and the fantastic engagement of our wider school community. But we can't rest on our laurels – we still have a gap to close! We have produced our 'dome-ometer' (image on left/above). The dark triangles show the money raised, and the coloured triangles illustrate what we still need. To read more about how you can help us 'close the roof' click below.

[Read More](#)



### James Bond - get your tickets here!

Our inaugural fundraising event for the Futures Institute is fast approaching on **Saturday 23 March 2024**. The James Bond concert will be a fantastic evening filled with some of the most iconic music in film history. We are delighted to be welcoming back the professional Scottish Pops Orchestra to perform for us and we would love to see you there. [Corporate Sponsorship opportunities are available](#).

[Book your tickets here](#)



### Further funding to support the FIDA Sustainability Diploma accreditation

We are progressing at pace with work to have the FIDA Sustainability Diploma credit-rated onto the SCQF at Level 6 (equivalent to a Higher) and have received some additional Scottish Government funding to support outreach and training. Our credit-rating body is Glasgow Clyde College, and the University of Stirling is working with us to co-design and deliver the **Entrepreneurship unit** which forms the final part of the Diploma. We will be running the Diploma programme in the 2024/25 session with a selection of schools from across Scotland.

[Read More](#)



### FIDA content reaches 75,000 views

We partnered with the Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS) to produce a series of virtual Higher Geography lessons, aimed at supporting students, parents and teachers with remote learning. Our content - which is hosted on the RSGS YouTube channel - has surpassed 75,000 views, showing the considerable reach of the free content available to all stakeholders through our FIDA website.

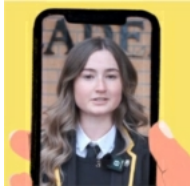
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### Clacks Wellbeing Hub Design Competition

This year we have once again partnered with Clackmannanshire Council to offer a design competition to learners across the Wee County. Young people in S3-S6 were invited to come up with a concept design for an outdoor space for Clackmannanshire's new Wellbeing Hub and Lochies School complex. There was a particularly strong response from a group of Alloa Academy students, who will now have the opportunity of a half-day workshop with the design team, including architects and landscape architects.

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### Home Transformers – pupil success

The winning pupil in our Home Transformers challenge, Evie (Lornshill Academy), has just returned from work experience with Barratt in Manchester and London. She had the opportunity to visit Barratt's experimental research facilities at the University of Salford, undertook some work-shadowing at the company's head office, and attended a sustainability workshop for the construction industry. Evie said *"It was super-interesting and amazing as I learned and saw so many new things. It was very full-on but I enjoy that! I have a contact there now for future opportunities."*

[Read More](#)



### Have you seen our FIDA explainer?

The FIDA team have produced a short film explaining the background and aspirations for the initiative, as well as providing voices from pupils who have taken part in courses so far, teachers involved in the delivery, and our industry partners. You can watch the short film by clicking below.

[Watch Here](#)



### Could you be a Corporate Sponsor?

There are various corporate sponsorship opportunities available for our [James Bond event](#) in March, from space in the concert programme to the sponsorship of the bar. For full details of the opportunities available, please click below. We are operating on a first-come-first-served basis.

[Opportunities here](#)

### Did you know?

Each of the FIDA projects is rooted in one of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. But how much do you know about the SDGs?

[Click here to find out more](#)

### What our donors say...

*"My children are currently at the school and have enjoyed the use of all the current Dollar facilities. The new Institute building looks fantastic and it's great to see the school moving forward."*

[Donate Here!](#)