



Futures Institute at Dollar Academy | May 2026 Round-Up

May has been another busy and productive month as we head towards the end of the academic year. Below is a short round-up of what we've been working on. As always, we welcome any questions or feedback. Please feel free to [contact us](#) at any time.

The Futures Institute progress



Work has continued to progress well this month, with a major milestone reached through the installation of the 82 ETFE pillows that form the dome. Spanning approximately 1,299 sq m, the dome is a striking feature of the development. Construction remains on schedule, and the pillows will soon be inflated, bringing the structure fully to life.

[Watch the timelapse here](#)

Pupils give their feedback

"The diploma has helped improve my confidence, problem solving, communication and teamwork skills which I think are all very useful skills for my next steps at university."

"I really enjoyed learning more about sustainability and it was great to experience other types of learning rather than just classes with exams."

Diploma Pupils
Grove Academy

This month, we have begun gathering feedback from the pupils involved in the Diploma this year. Early responses have been overwhelmingly positive, with pupils highlighting both the wide range of skills they have developed and their enjoyment of the course content. At the same time, their feedback has provided valuable insights and constructive suggestions that will help us strengthen and improve the programme for the future. Thank you to all the pupils who have taken the time to complete the survey so far.

[Read more about the ISD here](#)

Teacher feedback



We have also been gathering feedback from teachers involved in delivering the Diploma. It has been particularly encouraging to hear how much they value working with Dollar Academy and collaborating with colleagues from other schools. Several teachers have also highlighted the potential benefits of developing stronger regional networks to support those delivering the course, helping to share practice and strengthen delivery across schools. We are very grateful to all staff who have contributed their thoughts and continue to shape the programme.

[Read more about the ISD here](#)



SCQF International Event

On 26th May, FIDA Director Jacqueline Smith was invited to speak at a major international event marking 25 years of SCQF. Delegates from around the world attended to learn about the important work of SCQF in providing a national lifelong learning and qualifications framework that encompasses school, colleges, universities, apprenticeships and professional qualifications.

FIDA was presented as a leader in curriculum innovation, and our International Sustainability Diploma generated much interest among the visiting delegates.



Support Our Vision

Whether you're an individual or a potential corporate partner, there are meaningful ways to support and get involved in delivering the FIDA vision.

Any level of support helps us create transformational learning opportunities for young people. To explore how you can be part of the future, please [get in touch](#).

What our donors say...

"I'm a Former Pupil and on a recent visit to Dollar to visit my parents I saw the Futures Institute being built so looked into it. It seemed a very worthwhile cause as well as an iconic building, hence my decision to donate."

[Donate Here!](#)

UNSDG Goal of the Month

SDG16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

The UN Sustainable Development Goals 'Goal of the Month' for May 2026 focuses on Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, highlighting the importance of inclusive societies, access to justice for all, and strong, accountable institutions. It emphasises global cooperation to reduce violence and build lasting peace.

[Find out more](#)

To view previous newsletters and other FIDA updates click here:

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