



**CONSTRUCTION  
CAREERS  
NORTH EAST**

# BUILD YOUR FUTURE SCHOOLS CHALLENGE 2019/20



Grampian Construction Training and Construction Industry Training Board are working in partnership with several key partners, to launch a series of construction, engineering and building services challenges, to highlight the varied and exciting careers within the sector to S2 pupils on the North-east of Scotland.

## KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE CHALLENGE ARE:

- // To position the construction industry as a buoyant, exciting and potentially lucrative sector to work in.
- // To promote and celebrate success stories within the industry.
- // To educate students, teachers and parents about the breadth of careers available within the industry.



This initiative, which is based on a project that has been running very successfully in Edinburgh and the Lothians for over 20 years, will be the first of its kind in the North-east, and is a unique opportunity for educational institutes, training providers, industry associations and businesses to work together to achieve these objectives.

As a result of these groups working together, the costs of the challenge are covered, and the initiative comes at no cost to participating schools.

Across a six month period, the competition will enable around 300 pupils (30 teams of 10) and 30 teachers to gain valuable experience and insight into these industries, through a list of group heats that have

included: Joisting, designing and building weight-bearing structures, bridge building, plumbing a radiator, and designing the roads of the future to name only a few.

The heats will take place in October and November 2019 at colleges, universities and businesses throughout Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire, giving pupils the opportunity to explore new learning environments, dispel any myths around what a career in construction looks like, and talk to staff and experts.

The challenge ends with a final one-day event in January 2020, where the ten top scoring teams are invited to take part in a series of fun but demanding challenges, with an overall winner being announced at the end.

This event provides a much needed platform for local colleges, universities and businesses to work together to help address the current skills shortage within construction.

“The activities are designed to let students discover the range of skills and opportunities the build industry has to offer. It also allows the teachers to chat with employers and establish key links between our school, local employers, further education and the world of work.”

**Nicola McKeeman, Linlithgow Academy, participants in the original event which is organised by Anne Galbraith, SECTT**



### **The Build Your Future challenge supports the STEM initiative and the Curriculum for Excellence.**

- /// Pupils can only succeed by ‘contributing effectively’ in their team – each member of the team needs to contribute and work flexibly with one and other.
- /// Each activity is tailor made by the college and university lecturers to ensure participants can prove they are ‘successful learners’ – pupils have to display basic literacy and numeracy skills to use technology and think creatively in order to complete the task.
- /// In addition pupils display enthusiasm and excitement about the learning experience. Over the course of the activities it can be seen that ‘confident individuals’ begin to emerge – the ambition to compete successfully and the satisfaction on completion of the activities is evident.
- /// Each activity uses literacy and numeracy skills and supports teachers and pupils in providing an opportunity to explore choices and to make classroom learning relevant to the working world.

### **To register your interest in participating in this new, free-to-attend challenge, please contact:**

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