

22 January 2019



Stand Alone Pledge
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Principal
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To Whom It May Concern

South Lanarkshire College's commitment to the Stand Alone Pledge

In keeping with our vision of becoming 'Scotland's leading provider of college education and training', we are fully committed to supporting students who face additional barriers to learning. That is why I am delighted to publicly commit South Lanarkshire College to the Stand Alone Pledge.

At South Lanarkshire College we ensure that students are supported at every step of the learner experience. We acknowledge that estranged students particularly face a multitude of challenges, without the support of a family network. This can have a severe impact on their physical and mental wellbeing, often resulting in students living in financial hardship or experiencing homelessness.

As a recognised 'Leader in Diversity' we fully believe in equality, diversity and inclusion and are constantly striving to find ways in which we can continue to support all our students. To enable estranged students to succeed in education and transition smoothly to their chosen career, we deliver a well-established, in-house support network. This includes a named staff contact, based within the Student Services team, who provides guidance and information for students before, during and after college. Our Student Services team delivers advice on funding, childcare, discretionary support and travel. We offer various popular support initiatives such as our Counselling service, Mindfulness classes and Pastoral Support. Our Student Services team works very closely with the Student Association to create and promote interactive events throughout the College calendar, to create an inclusive college environment. We will also work in partnership with other support services and agencies, internally and externally, in order to help student's access specific support, tailored to their individual needs. Through working with Stand Alone we aim to enhance our current provision in areas such as Finance, Mental Health and Wellbeing, Accommodation and Outreach and Transition.

By signing the Pledge, South Lanarkshire College is committed to working with estranged students to understand the barriers they face and ensure support is in place to facilitate a smooth transition into and beyond college life. We look forward to working with Stand Alone to provide our estranged students with a high quality learning experience and to work with them to realise their full potential.

Yours sincerely

Stewart McKillop
Principal