

# TECHNICAL EDUCATION WORK & SKILLS

Developing an inclusive integrated technical education, skills and work system that connects residents, localities, providers, and businesses to build a strong, resilient, modern Greater Manchester economy that works for everyone

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# OUR APPROACH & PRINCIPLES

## WE ARE:

1. **Person-centred; proactively advancing equality** by taking an evidence-based approach to identifying and tackling barriers to participation in learning and work.
2. **Building on existing activity**, not approaching from a standing start.
3. **Exploring all opportunities** to make our collective resources **work smarter and harder**, using insight to shape policy and commissioning decisions.
4. **Maximising all available opportunities for devolution- Integrated settlement allows for a new approach to supporting the 150,000.**  
Current AEB, plus other skills funding and DWP employment support- **using the funding to look across the 150,000 and using the most appropriate level of deliver & commissioning**
5. **Working closely with local authorities** to best target our combined resources, based on evidence, needs and priorities.
6. **Building partnerships** and collaborating fully to achieve our goals.
7. **Embracing two-way accountability**, rather than a commissioner/provider relationship – key stakeholders more accountable.
8. **Actively innovating** and forging new ways of working, sharing our learning and scaling up what works.
9. **Focusing on outcomes, not outputs;** bringing all parts of the system together to achieve an effective, integrated solution

**There's no one-size fits all in Greater Manchester** – our people and places are different, with varying needs and priorities.

# GM: Where are we now?

Total GM working age population of 1.8m

Nearly half a million people in GM economically inactive, 137,000 long term sick

Economic Inactivity at c.400,000 including 80,000 that want to work

Two thirds of young people did not progress into higher education institutions in 2020/2021

102,600 employed people in GM have work limiting mental health / MSK needs

7.3% of GM residents have no qualifications

Ethnicity employment gap 5.4% compared to 4.4% overall

In March 2024, nearly 4,000 (5.5%) of GMs 16–17 year-olds were NEET or not known

We need to **reach more residents and ensure they get the right support** at the right time – reducing the numbers that fall through the cracks in a siloed approach.

We need to make funding in the system work harder and smarter – doing more for less and ensuring every pound invested contributes to multiple outcomes.

By pooling resources, assets and investment the GM system can support more people to move closer to sustained work

# Current activity and key achievements

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

**120,000**

young people using the GMACS careers website to plan their next steps

**200** Business volunteers strategically supporting schools/colleges

**5,300**

young people supported through NEET provision

**2,000**

Returned to education



**500,000**

qualifications gained

**200,000**

people accessed adult education courses

**25,000**

people upskilled/retrained through Skills for Growth

**3,800**

enterprises supported



**70,000**

residents supported

**25,000**

people helped into work

**28,000**

supported have a health condition or disability

**21,000**

supported are age 50+



## CURRENT ACTIVITY

### YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND OPPORTUNITIES



**Digital Tools:** GMACS, C4L & Our Pass

**Good careers provision:**

Meet Your Future & The Enterprise Adviser Network, GM Community of Careers Practice

**Help YP engage/re-engage in learning and work**

GM Baccalaureate, NEET provision

The work we do is vast and impacts on people's lives from early education choices, to supporting residents into (or back to) work. Retraining people to progress or change career, and helping older residents who want to live fuller and longer working lives. **Advancing Equality & strong employer engagement is key**

### ADULT SKILLS



**Encourage & Acquire Skills:**

Adult Education Budget, ESOL, LA grants, (learner support), community grants, UKSPF

**Develop & reskill:** Industry Intelligence, Skills for Growth Bootcamps, Strategic development with providers

### INCLUSIVE EMPLOYMENT



**Person centred support** that targets most in need and tackles inequalities in the labour market: WW, UKSPF

**Testing new models** of delivery through the Working Well programmes- IPSPC

**Integrating** all employment support through partnership and locality working

**Policy development/ influence, Engagement with central government, M10, LAs (Co-)Commissioning, social value, evaluation, performance monitoring and management, payments, audit & assurance.**

# Achievements so far- Adult Skills

- Since 2019 Devolved AEB funding has supported over 174,000 residents on 610,000+ courses to date.
- On average 54,000 residents supported per year
- 1300 residents supported to gain a Level 2 digital skills qualification
- 6700 residents accessing Level 3 Targeted Single Funding Pot
- Funding to Local Authorities to focus on key areas e.g. supporting Digital Inclusion, and access to English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Over 1100 career progressions through Skills Bootcamps
- Over 3600 SMEs engaged & over 20,000 individuals supported through ESF Skills for Growth
- 59% of individuals engaged on a Multiply course have progressed onto another Adult Skills course so far.



# Focusing on the future

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1. Supporting 150,000 residents in/closer to work
2. Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

# Clear signal from the Mayor around 3 key priorities

**GM Housing First:** recognising that residents can't have a good life or good health without the foundation of a good, secure home and that overly focusing on policies to promote owner occupation have contributed to a housing crisis, seeking to bring new energy to solving Greater Manchester's housing crisis by taking action on multiple levels, including introducing new support/protections to empower renters in substandard housing, and building new net zero council homes.

**Technical Education and the Greater Manchester Baccalaureate:** an ambitious approach to help young people to navigate with an equal footing through the technical landscape and pursue a work-related route that meets their aspirations, feeds their passions, and leads them to the job roles in the GM economy.

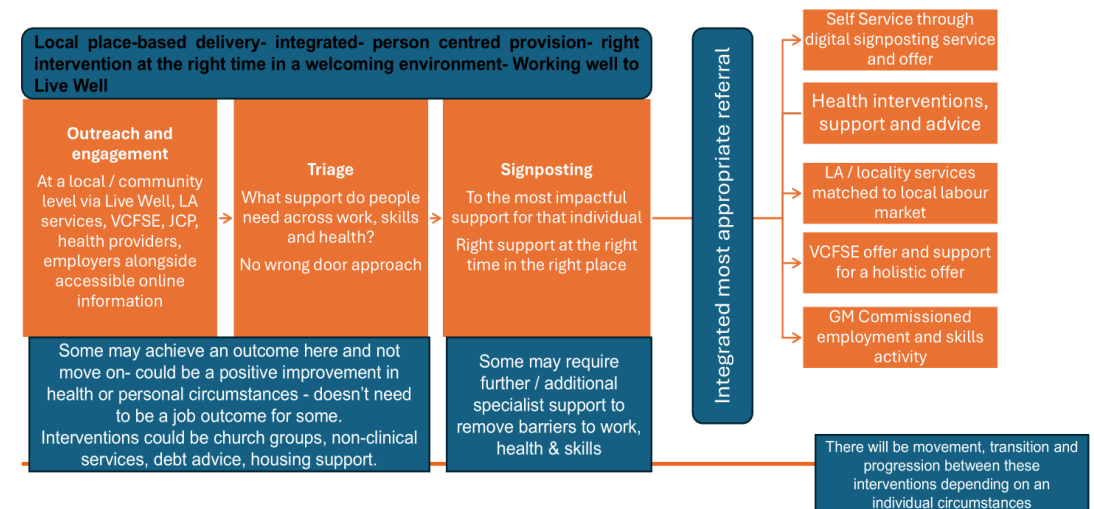
**Live Well expansion:** moving away from a distrustful deficit model for benefits by seeking to expand GM's emerging Live Well service, providing everyday support for people in our communities, by making the case for substantial devolution of DWP support, bringing that support together with existing social prescribing services in primary care to create a unified Live Well service.

# Our Vision- 150,000 residents supports into or closer to the labour market through an integrated employment, skills & health offer- enabling local delivery- co-designed provision- avoiding confusion- no wrong door- outcome focused- benefit blind

The Integrated Settlement development will focus on building on a more person-centred, outcome-driven employment support system that prioritises equality and access to learning and work- it is a 3-year journey to integration and developing a Live Well ambition

- 1. Person-Centred Approach:** Focused on removing barriers to participation based on evidence and equality, regardless of benefit status.
- 2. Streamlining Support:** Reducing the complexity of support to prevent overlap and confusion.
- 3. Leveraging Existing Efforts:** Building upon ongoing activities rather than starting from scratch.
- 4. Efficient Use of Resources:** Optimising collective resources through data-driven policy and planning.
- 5. Enhanced Collaboration:** Developing strong partnerships with shared goals and accountability, moving beyond traditional commissioner/provider roles.
- 6. Innovation and Scalability:** Fostering new methods, sharing knowledge, and scaling effective strategies.
- 7. Outcome-Oriented Approach:** Prioritising system-wide outcomes over mere outputs for cohesive solutions.
- 8. Place-Based Strategy:** Pooling resources across agendas to maximize local impact, especially reaching underserved groups through local networks.
- 9. Multi-Agency Collaboration:** Designing integrated, cross-sector services to address barriers to work in a holistic manner, benefiting from diverse agency perspectives.

Working Well to Live Well- for a person-centred approach to support more residents on their journey to work





# Supporting the Live Well development- through the lens of employment support



- Many areas across GM have **developed employment/skills/CVS hubs** to provide a trusted space for residents.
- This points to the **mainstream not working** and is an example of GM working round the system to support residents.
- Services are co-located to ensure a wraparound offer for residents- **this can include health, housing & debt advice.**
- **This is not consistent** across GM and JCP are only part of some- they don't have the same powers as the Youth Hub Work Coaches- **so no benefit discussions and process can take place in these sites.** They are there for advice and outreach only.
- These centres engage and do more than signpost residents in a way JCP cannot currently do with the benefit monitoring system and focus. **Right intervention, right time not a tick box exercise.**
- **Loaves and Fishes** is one example of how many of these 'Live Well' sites function in a community- the prize is that JCP becomes a trusted partner, so residents engage and feel supported to find work.
- **The missing part is employment support** as it's driven by programmes that often collide in a place and cause confusion- **by moving to an outcome framework approach** it allows GM to commission based on need not criteria and embeds the right support across contracted, JCP & local VCFSE offers.
- **By building capacity** in a place with devolved & local funding GM commits to building a model of Live well centres embedding JCP **as part of the workforce not the problem**

# What are we trying to do?

- Working to support and help prepare young people to actively **participate and thrive in the economy**. We are doing this by building on their **ambitions, qualities and skills** in order for them to have fair access to the opportunities and have hope for the future.



[Greater Manchester Baccalaureate \(MBacc\) | Voices of Young People \(youtube.com\)](#)



# The route for young people

at **14**

- Essential Qualifications
- Gateway relevant optional Qualifications

at **16**

- T-Levels, Apprenticeships, other technical Qualifications

**18**  
onwards

- Degree Apprenticeships, HE, or great jobs

## A clearer line of sight to high quality jobs

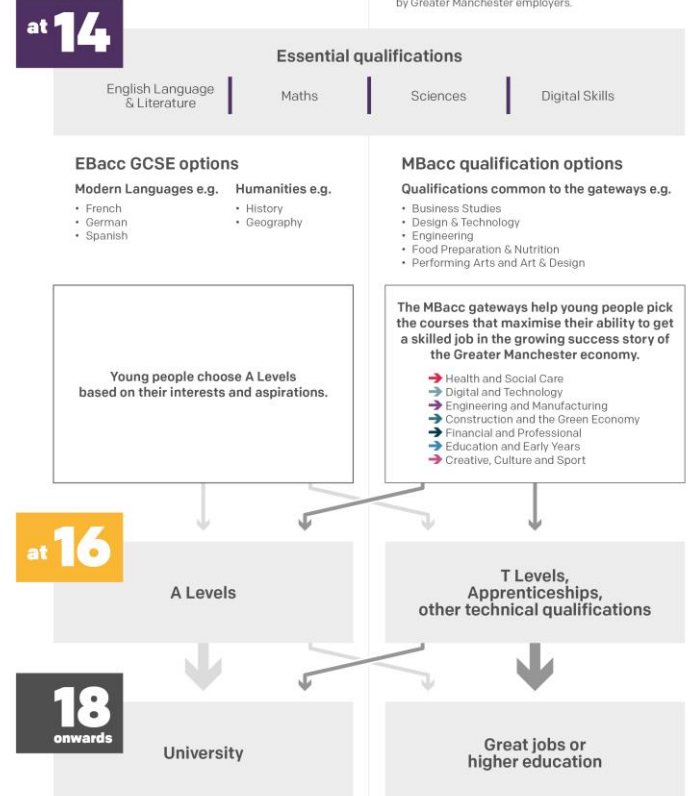


### The English Baccalaureate

The EBacc provides a strong academic route that is valued by Britain's most prestigious universities.

### The Greater Manchester Baccalaureate

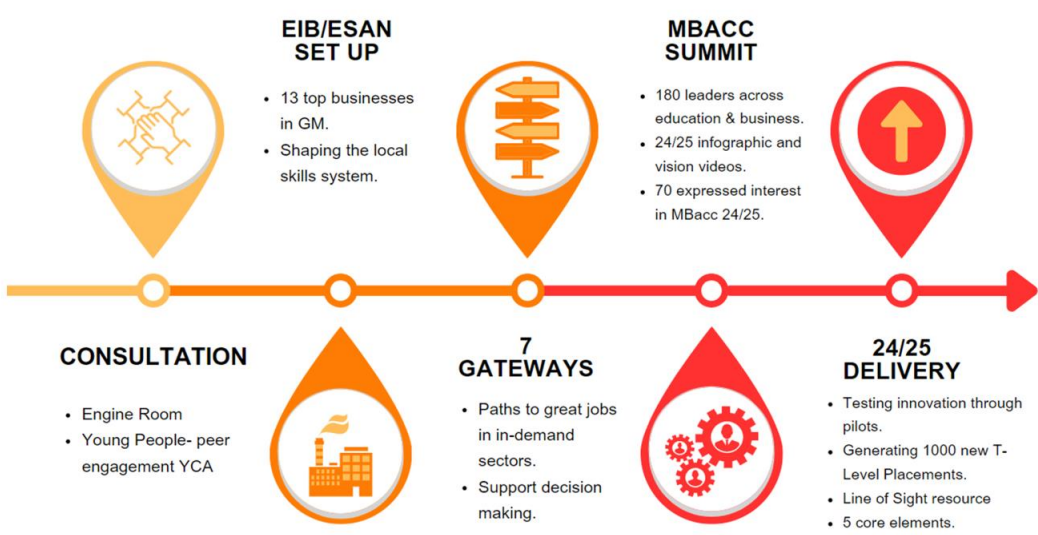
The MBacc offers a clear route into high quality skilled jobs - with qualifications valued by Greater Manchester employers.



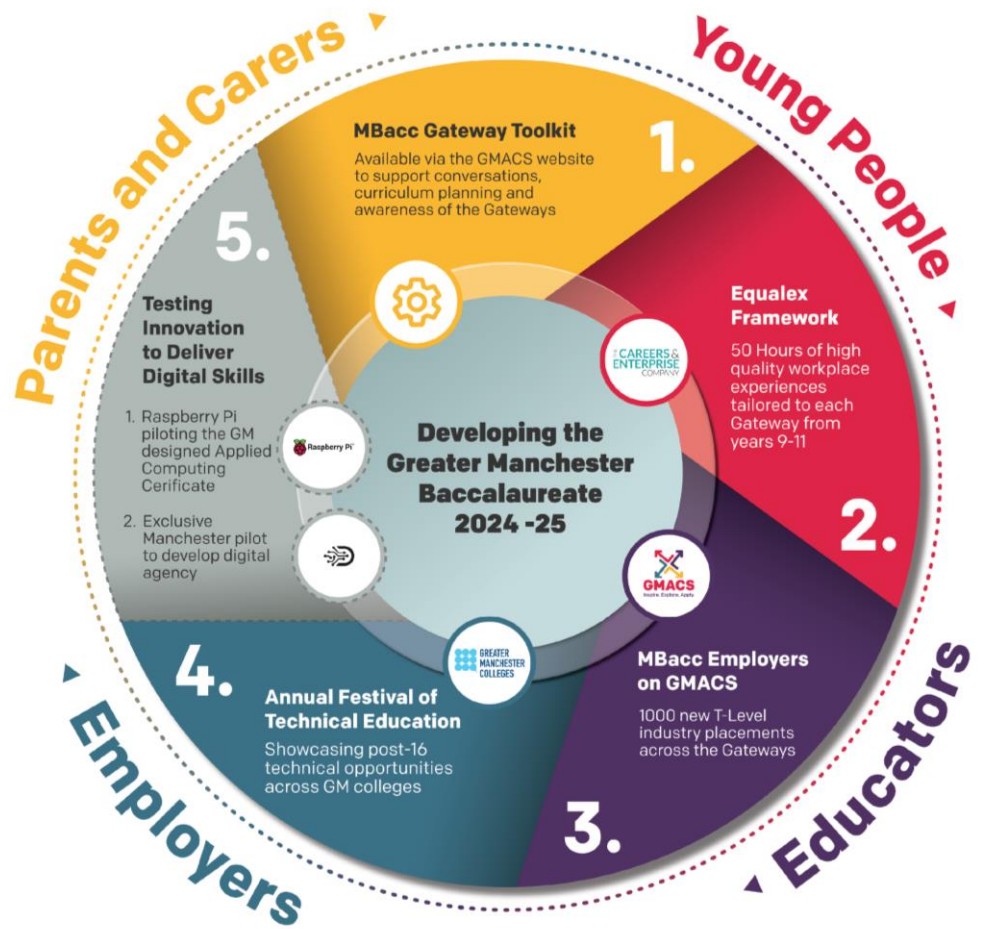
Want to know more? [gmacs.co.uk](https://gmacs.co.uk)

# Key Deliverables For 24/25:

## Journey so far



Resources are available now:  
(Click below)



The 5 projects announced at the MBacc summit.  
Beeline.(6)

# Beeline



This service is in beta. Your feedback helps us improve it.

## BEELINE

### Putting you on the path to great jobs in Greater Manchester

Aged 14-18? Not sure what jobs are out there or what qualifications you need?

Beeline puts you on the path to all the great job opportunities right here in Greater Manchester.

This tool is an important part of the **Greater Manchester Baccalaureate**, the Mayor of Greater Manchester's vision to give you a clear line of sight through technical education routes into high quality jobs within our city region.

#### Explore the gateways:

Construction and the Green Economy Creative, Culture and Sport

Digital and Technology

Engineering and Manufacturing

Health and Social Care

Explore your options in the world of work



Back to all gateways

## Beeline to careers in Digital and Technology

Explore the Digital and Technology gateway.



### Find your dream career and how you can get there.

Explore jobs within the Digital and Technology sector and see what qualifications could help you get there.

14 years old 16 years old 18+ years Explore Jobs

#### Step into a great job...

You could start your career with these jobs - click through to see what's available in Greater Manchester.



#### IT Support Technician

IT support technicians identify and solve software and hardware problems on computers.

Explore jobs



#### Device Repair Support

Device repair support is the process of repairs to digital devices and replace device parts from end to end.

Explore jobs



#### Database Administrator

Database administrators create, organise and look after computer systems that store data for a company.

Explore jobs



#### Cable Installer

Cable installers install, terminate, test and certify network cable infrastructure components.

Explore jobs



#### Software Developer

Software developers design and test computer programs.

Explore jobs



What? Software Developer Where? Greater Manchester, North W Search Advanced

616 Software Developer Jobs in Greater Manchester

Average Salary £55,454

See More Stats >

Receive the newest jobs for this search by email:

your.email@domain.com

Create alert

#### Filter results

Sort by

Date posted

Salary

Remote

#### Software Developer

SENITOR ASSOCIATES

SALFORD, UK

JOBSWORTH: £44,876 per year TOP MATCH

Full-Stack **Software Developer** - Bolton - £45K DOE A world leading client of mine is looking to appoint a full stack **software developer** to sit within their **software** and firmware ... charging and parking Requirements 3 years' experience in Full Stack **Software Development** Strong understanding of C#, .Net, SOLID and



- 1000 views in first month
- We will build on this with support and feedback from employers and young people

# The Future Roadmap

## Year 1:

1. Introduce the MBacc Years 9 &11
2. Agree the Core MBacc subjects
3. Develop mechanism for 1,000 additional T Level Industry Placements on GMACS
4. Introduce Bee Network and Blue Light as part of Public Services Gateways
5. Explore the apprenticeship accelerator initiative

2025  
/26

## Year 2:

1. MBacc expansion Years 9 &11 and introduced to Year 8 &10
2. Personalised and supported MBacc pathways plan for young people with barriers and at greatest risk
3. Parent & carer campaign
4. Integrated App for Our Pass launched
5. MBacc teacher/tutor Learning Collaborative
6. MBacc curriculum expert Learning Collaborative

2024  
/25

## Year 3-4:

1. MBacc work readiness skills framework pilot
2. MVP for central work placement application system linked to technical courses
3. MBacc introduced to Years 7 &12

2026  
/27

## The Roadmap to MBacc 2030

## Year 5 and Beyond:

1. MBacc pathways available to all young people from Year 7 through to Years 12/13
2. Full roll out of the central work placement system to deliver
3. MBacc Skills Framework full roll out
4. Half price travel for 18–21-Year-olds\*

2027-  
30

# Key questions

- **Employment Support:**
  - **From your experience locally: How can we reach and engage more people? What do you do now that you could build on? What could you do differently?**
- **Greater Manchester Bacculaureate**
  - **How would you like to be kept updated about your areas?**
  - **Are there priorities in your locality that the Greater Manchester Bacculaureate can help with?**
  - **What are the opportunities that the Greater Manchester Bacculaureate presents?**