



Dollar  
Academy

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FUTURES INSTITUTE AT DOLLAR ACADEMY

**ENGAGEMENT AND NAMING OPPORTUNITIES**





As the oldest co-educational day and boarding school in the world, Dollar Academy's influence and impact stretches over two hundred years. Nonetheless, there is no room for complacency. We have a strong vision for the future, which places Dollar at the forefront of educational development, charitable outreach, and sustainable architecture.

Through the FIDA initiative, we have co-created seventeen courses with industry partners - each one addressing a UN Sustainable Development Goal - as well as a range of related workshops, competitions, and challenges, to engage pupils from primary to senior years. These innovative resources have gained support across the board, and, through FIDA, Dollar Academy has found a strong voice in the current national discussion about the future of education.

FIDA content is global, forward-thinking, and freely accessible to all via an online platform and in-person workshops. Over fifty local authority schools make use of FIDA materials and thousands of pupils, from Dollar Academy and far beyond, have benefitted from them. These efforts have seen Dollar Academy redefine charitable outreach in the independent education sector.

In the 19th century, William Playfair designed our beautiful Playfair Building. In the here and now, one of the leading architects of our age, Andrew Whalley, has gifted us his blueprint for the country's first truly sustainable building and the only structure in Scotland to carry the world class Living Building Challenge certification. It is from our new Futures Institute that we will continue to develop our educational offering in a bold and contemporary way.

We have significant momentum. I hope you enjoy learning more about our ambitious plans. With your support, we will together be able to help thousands more young people emerge from school better equipped for the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Munro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the first name.

*Ian Munro – Rector of Dollar Academy*

Total number of pupils and teachers directly enrolled

550+

480 Pupils

70 Teachers



20,000+

learners supported through online videos



Shared Leadership & Accountability

6

Local Authority teachers and education leaders make up our Steering Group



17

Innovative Global Challenges designed - 9 launched so far



fida  
so far

50

Local Authority schools engaged



Workshops and Live Events



3 live workshops for 115 pupils from 12 different schools

Sustainable Fashion Week online panel discussion for 50+ participants



14 pupils studied SQA Higher Politics directly through FIDA – over 90% achieving A grade. Dozens more were supported online



Locations of participants

Our collaborators



FIDA launched in May 2021 with a vision to tackle three fundamental challenges:

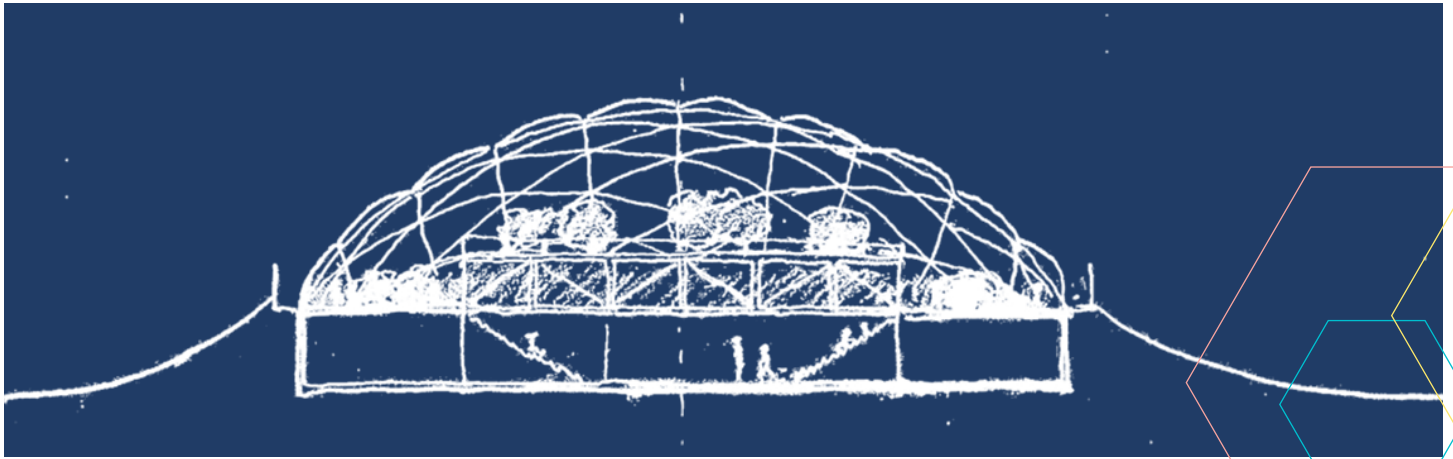
1. Sustainability
2. Equitable access to education
3. The need to find a compelling alternative to traditional classroom teaching and exams.

Since then, hundreds of pupils from Dollar Academy and 50 local authority schools across

the country have benefited from taking part in interdisciplinary FIDA courses and challenges, free of charge.

At the heart of FIDA is a belief in the power of education to transform young lives, bring positive change and help build a sustainable future for our planet and its people.





# OPEN-ACCESS EDUCATION TO TRANSFORM THE FUTURE

FIDA has always looked to bring young people together. Following the success of our online launch, we are building a bespoke learning hub in central Scotland that will welcome pupils from across the country to work in new ways with experts from industry, universities and NGOs. Every week, up to 50 young people from across Scotland will collaborate and design solutions to real world problems in a building that will provide:

- A range of innovative learning environments - including maker spaces, creative arts spaces, a science lab and a digital prototyping suite.
- A centre for the sharing of emerging educational practice and technology, teacher collaboration and training.
- Flexible space for public lectures, seminars and events delivered by influential speakers from the worlds of education, business, science, technology and the creative industries.



## THE DESIGN

World-renowned architect Andrew Whalley OBE, Chairman of GRIMSHAW, has designed a breathtaking new building, that not only delivers sector-leading teaching and learning environments, but also affords FIDA the opportunity to build the first Living Building Challenge accredited structure in Scotland.

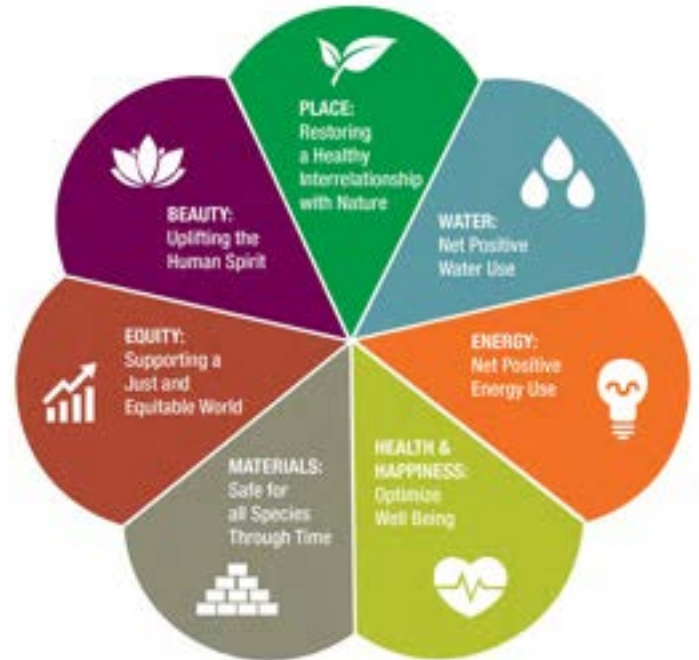


*"I am extremely proud to have been involved in FIDA from its early conceptualisation through to designing the innovative Futures Institute. The new building will help develop our successes to date and inspire young people to tackle the planetary problems we now all urgently face."*

The Living Building Challenge is the most rigorous benchmark of sustainability in the built environment. All of the energy for the FIDA building will be renewable, with heating provided by deep ground source heat pumps. All water will be harvested and stored, and the wastewater will be purified in the adjoining reed beds, providing a closed loop system.

A regenerative net zero design, the building and surrounding landscape will become part of the learning process. At the entrance to the building there will be a live dashboard providing occupants with a visual indicator on how the building is performing.

FIDA's exemplar building will have considerable civic value, being of national significance and serving as a beacon project for the UK in the fields of education, charitable outreach and architecture.





## ENDORSEMENTS

"FIDA's bold approach to education places the student experience at the centre, providing critical opportunities to engage with industry and stakeholders beyond the classroom. This aligns closely with some of the recommendations I made in my report to Scottish Government on a future vision for Scottish education and I am highly impressed with what the initiative aims to do."

*Professor Ken Muir - Independent advisor to the Scottish Government on the replacement of the Scottish Qualifications Authority*

"To be given access to this resource has been an absolute godsend and the support FIDA has given me has been immeasurable. More importantly, the resource being made available to my students has boosted their confidence and ability immensely."

*David Thomson - Head of Modern Studies at Morgan Academy in Dundee*

"Scotland finds itself in a fast-changing, digital world. We aspire to play a leading role in that world, so it is vital that young people leave school with more than just knowledge taught in the classroom. FIDA is demonstrating the enormous potential of a new way of working that will equip young folk with the skills they need to thrive and succeed in the modern workplace. And this new way of working demands a new kind of space. I really feel that the proposed new building, with innovative spaces to think, design, create, collaborate and communicate, is exactly what FIDA needs to offer these vital educational experiences to young people from across our country. I strongly support this ambitious and important plan."

*Tim Allan CBE - Chair of the V&A Dundee and entrepreneur, investor and philanthropist*





## BE PART OF THE FUTURE...

With the majority of the required funding already in place, we hope that supporters of this project will join us in realising this world-class development. Your investment will help to deliver a truly transformative educational initiative to young people from Dollar Academy and across Scotland.

All supporters who make a donation of scale will be recognised in a prominent way in the new building. In addition, there are specific naming rights available which are detailed in the following pages.

Major donors will be invited to a VIP opening event and tour with architect Andrew Whalley OBE. They will also be able to host their own events at the Institute and be given preferential / exclusive access to FIDA lectures and workshops.

We would be delighted if significant supporters wished to collaborate with the FIDA team to create a course or workshop that tackles a challenge close to their heart.





# OVERALL INSTITUTE NAMING RIGHTS

- £2,000,000

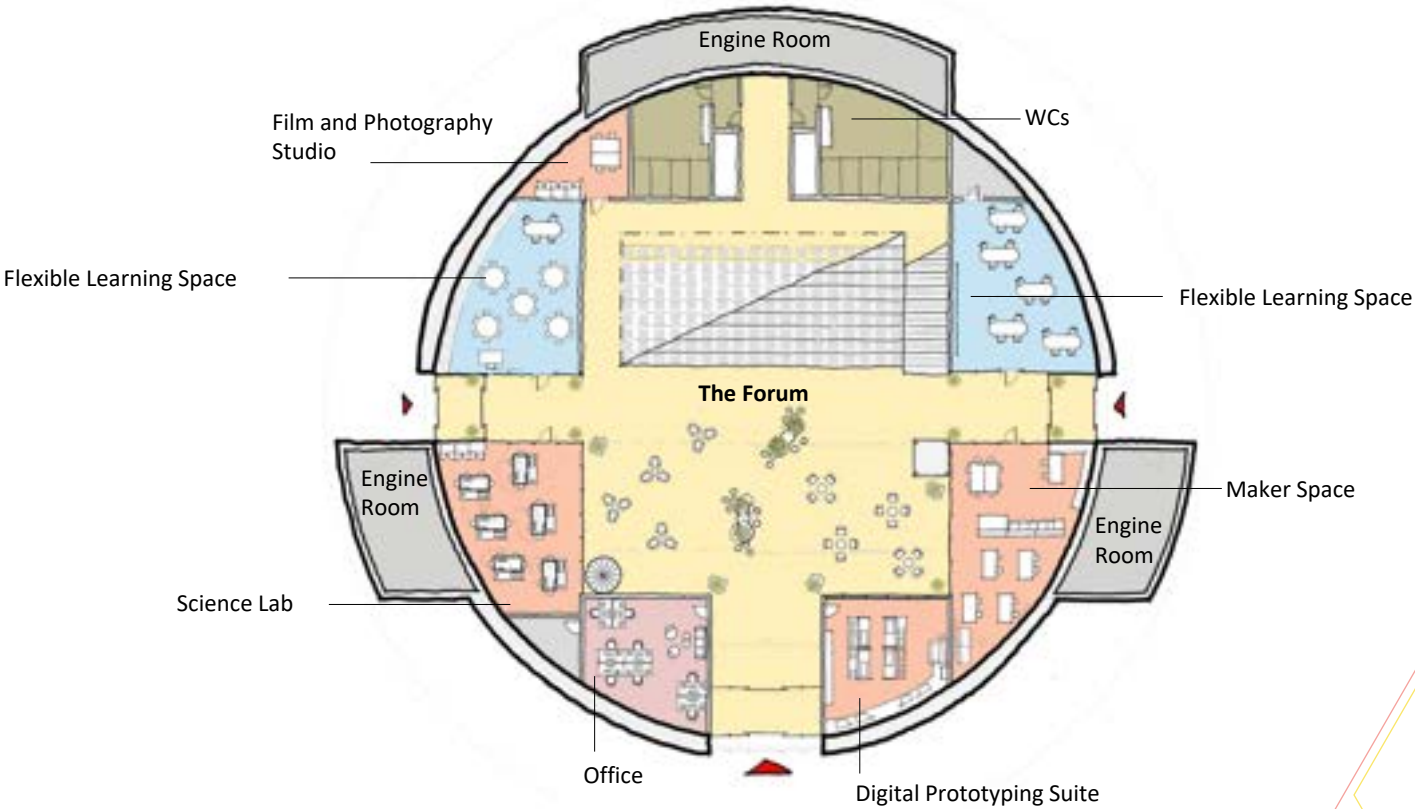
For a family or individual, the opportunity to become forever woven into the fabric of Dollar Academy and this pioneering initiative is available through overall Institute naming rights.

Early engagement from our cornerstone donor would enable their participation in our steering

group, allowing them to contribute their views to help shape the project and collaborate in the naming of the building. We hope this would lead to an ongoing partnership as Dollar Academy and FIDA continue to grow and develop their charitable endeavours.



# GROUND FLOOR PLAN





## FORUM - 575 SQ. M | £1,000,000

The Forum – a place for coming together, respectful debate, sharing ideas and looking to the future - is at the beating heart of the FIDA building.

With a capacity for around 400, the Forum is a large, flexible open space that will be used for talks and lectures from leading experts and change-makers, as well as workshops, performances and exhibitions.

It is from here that aspects of our innovative educational offering will also be live-streamed across the globe, maximising our charitable reach.

Flooded with natural light, the Forum will capture the sense of being in a highly tempered outdoor space. It is linked to the first floor by stepped auditorium seating constructed from sustainably sourced timber.



19°C

A decorative background featuring a bar chart with five bars in dark blue, red, cyan, pink, and yellow. The chart is overlaid on a pattern of overlapping hexagons in various colors. A large red hexagon contains the text '19°C', and a large yellow hexagon contains the text '11000 kWh'. The overall design is modern and technical.

11000  
kWh

## ENGINE ROOM – £1,000,000

As befits Scotland's first Living Building Challenge certified structure, the new Institute will have at its core a vast array of cutting-edge mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) systems, which ensure that water and energy use are net positive. These innovative technologies will be interwoven throughout the building in what is collectively known as the Engine Room.

The likes of photovoltaic panels; ground and air source heat pumps; natural ventilation openings; and filtration beds for the recycling of rain and grey water, will all be controlled by an intelligent building energy management system - BEMS.

The system incorporates sensors, sub-metering, software and automatic controls in order to minimise energy consumption and carbon emissions.

Crucially, so that the Institute and its systems can act as a teaching resource and stimulus, information regarding energy use, water recycling, and carbon emissions will be shared from BEMS in real time to displays throughout the building. Many of the MEP systems will also be on show throughout the Institute so that users can come to know and understand the innovative green technology that makes up the Engine Room.





## SCIENCE LAB – 94 SQ. M | £250,000

From vaccine development to increasing food production for a growing global population, science holds many of the solutions to the grand challenges we all face. It is in the Science Lab that our students will explore emerging techniques and understand how they can be applied in a very practical way to the world around them.

For example, young people could design a solar array to power a medical clinic in rural Africa, or they might develop a rapid soil decontamination tool so that brownfield sites can be repurposed to grow crops.

Located on the ground floor, the Science Lab will provide a cutting-edge space for scientific investigation. The Lab will be equipped with a comprehensive suite of apparatus to support empirical learning and experimental science programmes.





## MAKER SPACE – 94 SQ. M | £250,000

Maker spaces foster innovation through hands-on creativity. They are places where prototypes can be built, and products and services created using both high-tech and no-tech tools.

For example, students can design and code robots that pull plastic from oceans or construct large scale intergenerational playscapes that can be enjoyed by people of different ages and abilities.

Sitting adjacent to the main entrance, our Maker Space will be an exciting, practical space that enables students to design, experiment, build and invent. The space will be fitted with wood and metal working benches and equipped with associated hand and bench tools, as well as Arduinos and other electronics platforms.





# DIGITAL PROTOTYPING SUITE

**58 SQ. M | £150,000**

Sitting alongside the Maker Space will be the Digital Prototyping Suite, an innovative learning space equipped with 3D printers, a laser cutter and a 5-axis CNC router.

Pupils might design and 3D print prosthetic limbs and heart valves, or use laser cutting and routing to create pop-up buildings that could be rapidly deployed into disaster zones around the world.

Digital prototyping enables students to quickly develop iterations of a product in a cost-effective way. Testing and receiving constructive feedback allows them to evolve and optimise their product or service. This way of working will provide students with hands-on experience of using equipment with many vital real-world applications.



# FILM AND PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

**STUDIO – 22 SQ. M | £100,000**

A dedicated space with state-of-the-art equipment for students to document their learning and showcase their work through photography and film.

Here, they will have the opportunity to learn the technical aspects of photography. They will also

build skills in video editing and graphics creation, so that they can harness the power of the visual image to present their work in creative and engaging ways. This will enhance their portfolio and enable them to engage a wider audience through web and social media platforms.





## INNOVATIVE LEARNING SPACES (X2)

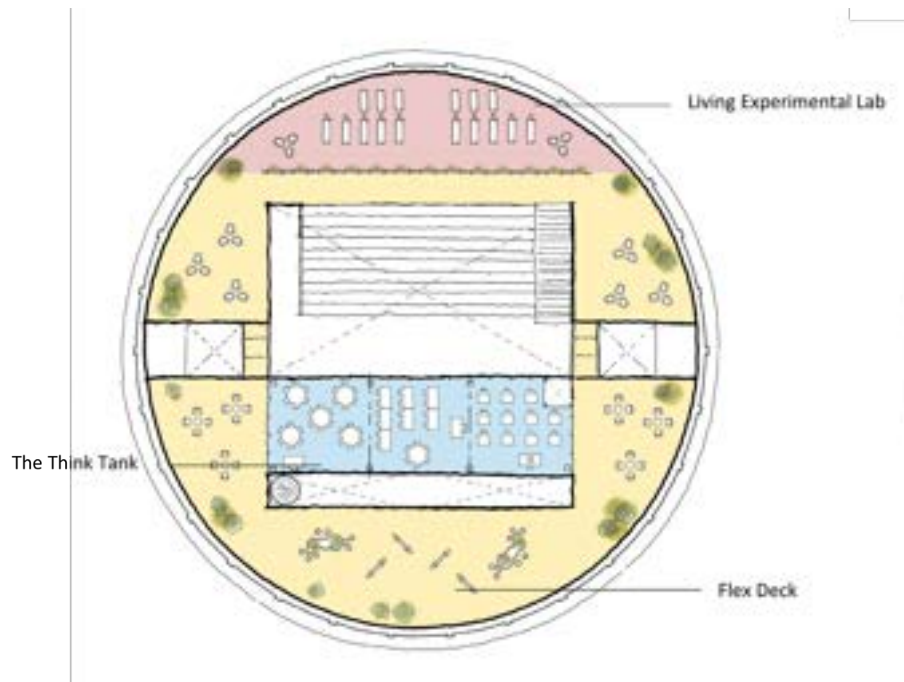
80 SQ. M | £125,000

The ground floor will feature two large learning spaces, designed for multi-modal teaching.

In these areas, a piece of physical theatre might be performed, a lively group discussion had, or a large-scale art installation made. The generous size of the spaces will allow for groups from different schools to come together, work collaboratively and learn from each other.

The rooms have been designed with wellbeing in mind. Glass walls to the centre of the building will allow in plenty of natural light, but will be fitted with electro-chromatic technology to interchange between transparency and an opaque state if more privacy is required.

# FIRST FLOOR PLAN

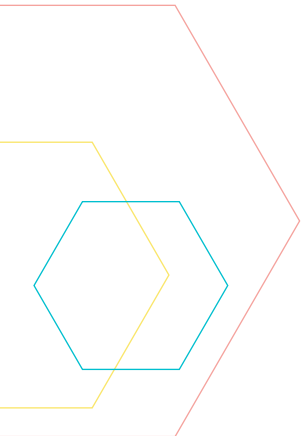


# LIVING EXPERIMENTAL LAB

160 SQ. M | £250,000

Through hands-on planting and experimentation, students will explore fundamental challenges in protecting fragile ecosystems, ensuring global food security, and enhancing biodiversity. Linked to the ground floor by the stepped auditorium bleacher seating and primary staircase, the Living Experimental Lab will provide an open, light and flexible experimental space.

The building's water recapture system will underpin all experimental work that takes place here and allow for a deep exploration of sustainable practices in plant science.







# FLEX DECK

780 SQ. M | £1,000,000

This versatile space is designed to stimulate ideas and discussion, facilitate interdisciplinary working and link the building physically and conceptually to the wider world.

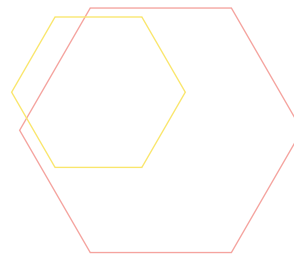
We plan to use state-of-the-art technology to display real-time data from a wide variety of sources, from the building itself to deep space. This will inspire and connect students to the wider local and global context of every project they undertake.

Displays linked to live projects will promote thinking and learning – for example, a pair of jeans might be displayed alongside a closed-loop water feature to highlight the fact that 10,000 litres of water are required to make a single denim



garment. We aim to create a modern, interactive museum feel, where permanent and temporary displays encourage contemplation and discussion. The Flex Deck will be used for brainstorming, creative conversation and collaboration, breakout sessions, student-led discussion and small group teaching. It will also provide room for individual study and personal reflection.

The space will feature moveable planters, acoustic screens and 'street furniture' to allow students and staff to configure it as needed.





# THINK TANK – 55 SQ. M | £50,000 (X3)

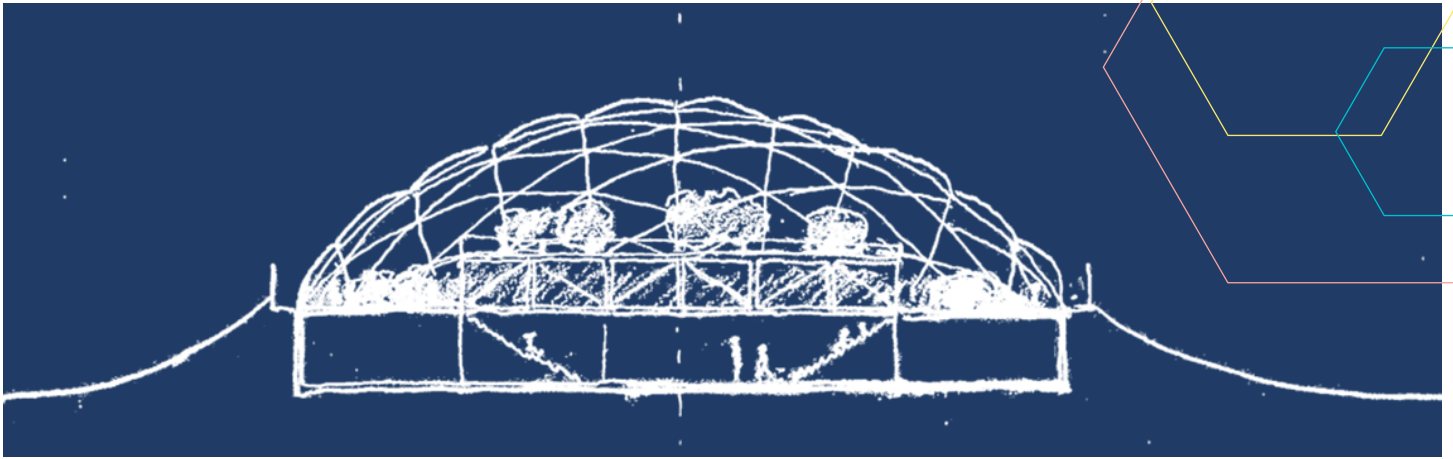


The Think Tank is comprised of three rooms, all designed for multi-modal teaching. The walls between them can be reconfigured to create one large space, if required.

It is here that teachers from across the country will work collaboratively, with greater emphasis placed on solving real-world problems through interdisciplinary working. Peer-to-peer learning will be commonplace, both for students and teachers. Great importance will be placed on research-informed practice, with teachers making use of the best high-impact pedagogical strategies and techniques from across the globe.

As with the larger Innovative Learning Spaces, the rooms have been designed with wellbeing in mind. Glass walls to the centre of the building will allow in plenty of natural light, but will be fitted with electro-chromatic technology to interchange between transparency and an opaque state if more privacy is required.





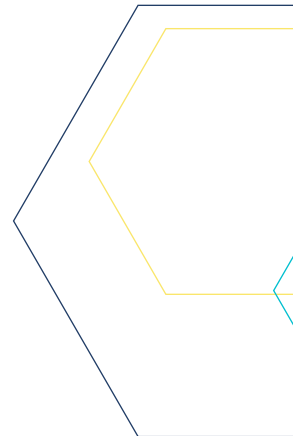
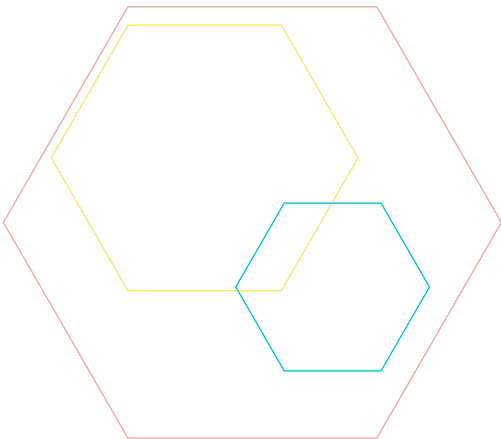
# NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Whilst we are always delighted to receive unspecified donations, we endeavour to connect donors with concepts that match their own interests and philanthropic preferences.

We have, therefore, a variety of Futures Institute naming options available.

The success of this ambitious project to date has been found in genuine collaboration, and we now look forward to working with a number of key donors to shape the delivery phase.

We would be delighted to discuss the listed naming opportunities, or any other options, with you in more detail.





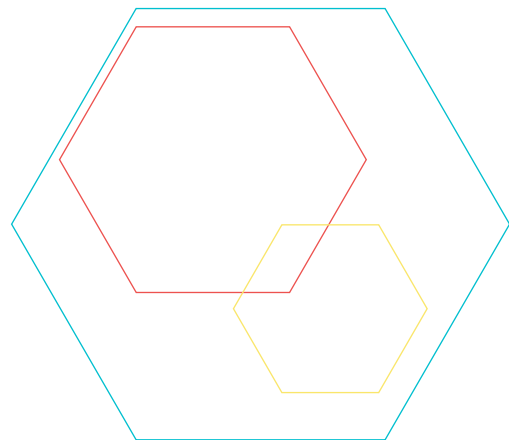
<b>Overall Institute Naming Rights</b>	<b>£2,000,000</b>
<b>Engine Room</b>	<b>£1,000,000</b>
<b>Forum</b>	<b>£1,000,000</b>
<b>Flex Deck</b>	<b>£1,000,000</b>
<b>Science Lab</b>	<b>£250,000</b>
<b>Maker Space</b>	<b>£250,000</b>
<b>Living Experimental Lab</b>	<b>£250,000</b>
<b>Digital Prototyping Suite</b>	<b>£150,000</b>
<b>Innovative Learning Space x 2</b>	<b>£125,000 each</b>
<b>Film &amp; Photography Studio</b>	<b>£100,000</b>
<b>Think Tank x 3</b>	<b>£50,000 each</b>



# TAX EFFICIENT GIVING

As Dollar Academy is a registered charity there are many ways for you to support this project in a tax-efficient way, including cash gifts using Gift Aid, gifts of shares, giving via CAF and company matching gift schemes.

We can also accept tax-efficient giving from USA via the British Schools and Universities Foundation (BSUF).





I am delighted that the Board has given the green light to take forward this beacon project, which places Dollar at the centre of educational development, nationally. The Futures Institute will provide enormously enhanced educational opportunities for all pupils at Dollar Academy and build upon the established FIDA programme for those beyond the campus.

Redefining the focus of our educational charity in this way is fundamental to what we have set out to achieve, and the fact that FIDA has already given new educational opportunities to hundreds of pupils throughout Scotland and beyond feels meaningful and progressive.

For the Board, it's not about the building per se, but about the transformational opportunities it will provide for so many. We believe that sustainability begins with education.

For Scotland to have a thriving, successful future, we need to educate our young people to think, solve, and innovate in new ways, to face the challenges of their rapidly changing world. This is at the very heart of what we intend to achieve. We aim to create a new, fit for purpose educational dynamic for as many pupils as we can reach. We want FIDA to be a meaningful public benefit, accessible to all pupils, and delivered free of charge.

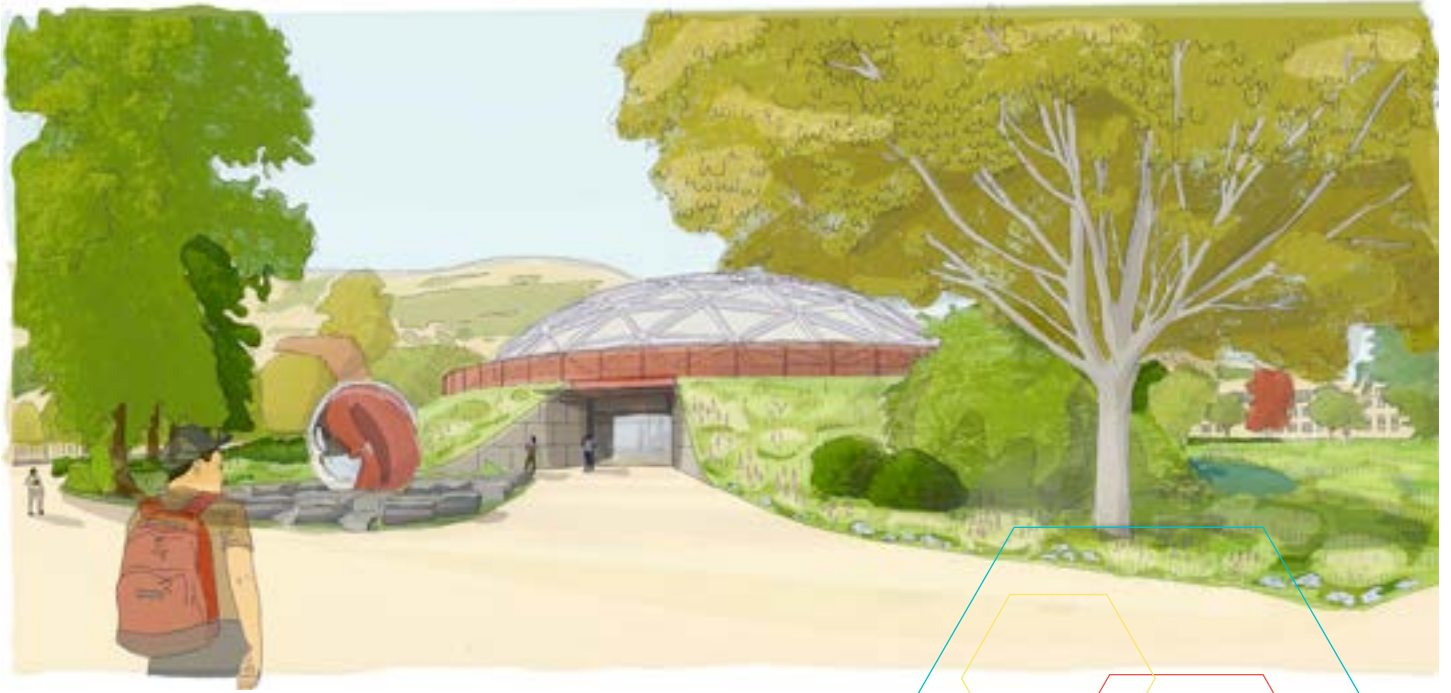
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James J. McEwen". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a long horizontal flourish underneath the name.

*Professor J McEwen - Chair of Governors*



# LEARN MORE

Dollar Academy is committed to the principles of ethical, professional and transparent fundraising. We look forward to working in partnership with our donors to enable the successful transition of their wishes in a manner in keeping with their desired outcome.



If you would like to support us, or discuss the project further, please contact Ian Munro directly on:  
[rector@dollaracademy.org.uk](mailto:rector@dollaracademy.org.uk)  
+44 1259 742511







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