

21<sup>st</sup> June 2013

## **Inspired pupil from Banff Academy wins a Gold Award at London 2012 education awards.**



Some of the country's brightest young people visited Glasgow City Chambers to receive medals for their work on the Inspire-Aspire programme from Olympic Gold Medallist rower, Katherine Grainger CBE, IOC member Sir Craig Reedie CBE and the Lord Provost of Glasgow Cllr Sadie Docherty.

The Inspire-Aspire Awards programme reached 25,000 young people this year by using the Olympic and Paralympic Games and the character qualities of Olympians to inspire young people to set personal goals and to develop future aspirations.

From Banff Academy, winning Gold awards at the event was Iona Robertson and Travis Beattie with Gabriela Kubarek receiving a Silver award.

Iona chose Tom Daley as her inspirational figure as part of her work on the programme to strike her a Gold.

Expressing her reasons for her chosen inspirational figure, Iona said:

*"His performance, his skills, his commitment, and his brilliance made me realise there is more to life and that you should never turn your back on your dreams".*

Before presenting the awards, Olympian Grainger told an enthralled audience that it takes commitment and courage to reach the top. She spoke about how it was sheer determination that had helped her finish the race at the London Olympics in 2012. Grainger expressed how important using the Olympic and Paralympic values in everyday life can be, not just in sport.

Inspire-Aspire aims to help young people gain a better understanding of their own character qualities and values and inspire them to create a personal development plan. Iona explained how much of an impact participating in Inspire-Aspire has had on her:

*"The questions it asked me made me put my goals and targets into perspective."*

### **Notes to Editors**

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