



GwE Bulletin



Please share our Bulletin with your whole staff team in your school and encourage all your colleagues to subscribe to our [mailing list](#).

Well-being / Resilience sessions for school and Local Authority staff



We are all currently working in unprecedented and challenging circumstances and this can be tough and difficult for everybody. It is important that we look after ourselves and keep our own well-being healthy. Following the autumn term's well-being workshop 'Looking after myself', Claire Chidley has put together four bite sized workshops.

In the sessions, Claire, an expert in well-being, change and resilience, explores the meaning of well-being and how we can create a balanced perspective about work and life.

These workshops can be used in a group situation or by individuals at any time. As well as providing information and tips on well-being and resilience, they are designed to give you time and space to consider how prepared you are to face the challenges of a rapidly changing external environment.

The four workshops focus on a different aspect of well-being.

Session 1: Understanding my Resilience and Reaction to Change - <https://youtu.be/c9sMxzKM9Ls>

Session 2: The Keys to Resilience-Developing Vision and Purpose - <https://youtu.be/pToUBEnxow4>

Session 3: The Keys to Resilience-Developing Emotional Intelligence - <https://youtu.be/5GFvdx5KWK>

Session 4: Healthy Living - <https://youtu.be/EOmJOT09MeI>

Each workshop lasts 45-60 minutes including time built in for personal / group reflection and they can be used as a series of workshops or you can use them discretely as single sessions.

There is something for everybody in these sessions. Enjoy and remember to look after yourselves.

Contacting GwE

We're here to help! We're online and available to support schools and governors.
Contact us at post@gwegogledd.cymru and we'll get back to you ASAP.



GwE Professional Offer

Please follow this [link](#) to the GwE Professional Offer for 2020-2021.

The GwE Offer, which includes all the details of the professional development training that GwE offers over the next year, is now live on G6 [<https://g6.gwegogledd.cymru>].

To register to attend the training listed, all school staff will need to create a personal account on G6. This can be done by following [this link](#) and clicking on the 'Register Now' button. Please see the manuals [here](#).

Please ensure that any bookings are made on G6 at least 48 hours prior to the start date.

11/02/2021 - 26/03/2021

DATE

MEDIUM

Literacy Leader Networks (Secondary)

11/02/2021

English

HALF TERM

Developing digital language and creative thinking through blended learning and teaching (Secondary)

23/02/2021

Bilingual

360 Digi Cymru (Welsh medium)

09/03/2021

Welsh

360 Digi Cymru (English medium)

10/03/2021

English

Embedding the 12 pedagogical principles into everyday practices (English-medium)

10/03/2021

English

Embedding the 12 pedagogical principles into everyday practices (Welsh-medium)

11/03/2021

Welsh

Biophilia: The Science of Nature & Animals: Why being outside makes us happier, healthier and better able to learn

12/03/2021

English

Heads of English Network Meetings

15/03/2021

English

NQT Workshop Day 2: Welsh Curriculum Update for NQTs (Welsh-medium)

15/03/2021

Welsh

NQT Workshop Day 2: Welsh Curriculum Update for NQTs (Welsh-medium)

16/03/2021

Welsh

NQT Workshop Day 2: Welsh Curriculum Update for NQTs (English-medium)

16/03/2021

English

Literacy and Numeracy: Designing your Curriculum in KS2 (English-medium)

16/03/2021

English

Literacy and Numeracy: Designing your Curriculum in KS2 (Welsh-medium)

17/03/2021

Welsh

Heads of English Network Meetings

17/03/2021

English

NQT Workshop Day 2b: Well-being across the Curriculum (Welsh-medium)

17/03/2021

Welsh

NQT Workshop Day 2b: Well-being across the Curriculum (English-medium)

18/03/2021

English

NQT Workshop Day 2: Welsh Curriculum Update for NQTs (English-medium)

19/03/2021

English

The Observational Checklist

19/03/2021

English

Developing Shared Vision Workshops



Following the Minister for Education's announcement last week confirming that children aged three to seven will return to school after half term, and along with the ongoing discussions in the secondary regarding arrangements for awarding grades in the summer of 2021, we have decided to postpone the 'Developing a Shared Vision' sessions arranged for your clusters. This decision is also based on feedback we have received from headteachers across the sectors.

We would like to thank you for your positive, constructive and honest commitment to the training sessions to date, and we hope you will welcome the little extra space this will give you. We are fully aware it is a challenging and busy time for everyone, and we will continue to hold discussions with you as headteachers as regards when it will be timely to rearrange these sessions.

Should you require further discussion, you are welcome to contact either the relevant LA officer, your LA Core Lead or your Link SIA.

Welsh Language Digital Workshops (Secondary)

This is an invitation to a series of Welsh language digital workshops that provide training and advice on the use of specific applications for live online teaching within Google for Education and beyond. These workshops will target one app at a time beginning with Google Jamboard, but we will also be looking into the use of other similar interactive apps which could be used with Microsoft Teams. We hope you can join us to see what's possible!

22/02/21 - Google Slides – more than presenting!

01/03/21 - Google Docs – more than words!

All workshops will be 45 minutes with 15 minutes for discussion and questions.

Register: <https://bit.ly/2KqRo6K>



SAFMEDS update

New resources to support the use of SAFMEDS numeracy strategy in school and at home are available on the [GwE Support Centre](#).

Implementation support is available via video link to **all schools** in the GwE region.

Kaydee Owen (research support officer) will be hosting drop-in sessions (9am-5pm) on the following dates:

Book a one to one slot online: <https://calendly.com/safmeds/drop-in>.

- 11 March
- 15 April
- 10 May
- 8 June

If you require any additional support outside of these designated dates please email kaydee.owen@bangor.ac.uk.

For any teachers or support staff wanting to access full online SAFMEDS training, please watch the [video introduction to precision teaching and the SAFMEDS strategy](#).

Blended Learning Resources

Click here for further information:

English - [School Guide](#) | **Cymraeg** – [Gwybodaeth i ysgolion](#)

There is also an information page for your Governors, click here for further information:

English – [Governors Guidance](#) | **Cymraeg** – [Canllawiau Llywodraethwyr](#)

ALN Interactive E-Learning Course

The North Wales Regional ALN Transformation Team is pleased to announce that the interactive e-learning course giving an introduction to the new ALN system is now available on the Welsh Government's Hwb platform.

[Here](#) is a Hwb news article introducing the course, which is currently on the Hwb homepage.

[And here is the link to the course itself.](#)

There will be a news item on it in the next Dysg newsletter and WG are hoping to get something posted on WG Education's social media channels.

The course should take between approximately 40 to 60 minutes to complete and is aimed at staff in all sectors who work with children and young people, including school support staff, and gives a broad overview of the new statutory roles, key principles of the Act, identifying ALN, and where to find further information.



Accelerated Learning Programme

Don't forget that all the information you will need to access the resources in the Accelerated Skills section of the GwE Support Centre is available on the webinars page. Follow this link to see recordings about **SAFMEDS**, **Headsprout**, **Accelerating Literacy and Numeracy skills**, and the **reviews of online literacy and numeracy support packages**.

Any queries, please email us at literacyandnumeracy@gwegogledd.cymru [Click here](#).

Re-Advert: Can you spare 10 minutes to complete a short survey about well-being provision in GwE schools?

GwE is currently collaborating with the University of Warwick to investigate whole-school mental well-being provision in North Wales schools. We would very much appreciate the support of all schools to help us gain a comprehensive picture of whole school well-being provision across the region. Our aim is to use these findings to enhance GwE's support for improving pupils' well-being as part of our evidence-based approach. This important initiative has gained additional significance as schools and pupils adjust to the challenges presented by the coronavirus pandemic.

For more information please click [here](#). To access the survey please click [here](#).

Regional School Improvement Consortia News and Information

National PDG Focus Week *SAVE THE DATE

22 - 26 MARCH - 9:30 - 11:30

A combination of keynote speakers and workshops shared throughout the week highlighting the importance and value of PDG in supporting disadvantaged and vulnerable learners.

Please await further details



Information and Guidance from Others

Host a Teacher from Germany - virtually! (*)

You can still bring authentic German language and culture to your classroom this year, even if travel isn't possible at the moment.

Registration is now open to 'Host a teacher from Germany' virtually in spring or summer 2021. We'll put you in touch with a teacher from Germany and help you to plan your virtual hosting experience, with ideas for presentations, interactive lessons, group language practice sessions and other bilateral activities between your classes.

(*) Please note that in registering to host virtually, there will also be the possibility to transfer your hosting experience to a face-to-face visit if you wish, as and when travel is possible again.

To find out more and to register please visit: <https://ukgermanconnection.org/pp/programmes/host-a-teacher-from-germany/>

Registration deadline: 23 February 2021

If you have any questions about the programme, please send us an email: hostateacher@ukgermanconnection.org



Help your Child with Reading



FREE ONLINE COURSE FOR PARENTS

This online course will help parents become confident in some basic techniques to support their child in learning to read. We will look at a range of literacy strategies and how to use them at home, demonstrate some fun activities and games and discuss homemade and commercial resources to support a child's reading.

- **Courses running in February and March.**

For full details click [here](#).

- **Headteachers - Bespoke courses can be arranged for a group of parents from your school or a cluster.**

Email Jane Watkins for more information: jane.watkins@adultlearning.wales

Any questions? Email jane.watkins@adultlearning.wales



Routes into Teaching - Open University

The Open University offer two part time routes into teaching. These replace all other employment based routes into teaching. If you have someone in your school community who you know would make an excellent teacher, now is the time to apply to start training in September 2021 <http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/choose/wales/pgce>

Courses available:

- **Salaried Route** – Primary, Secondary Maths, Science, Welsh and English. (Primary applications closing soon)
- **Part-time Route** – Primary, Secondary Maths, Science, Welsh, English, English with Drama, English with Media Studies.

50% Salary contribution from Welsh Government for secondary salaried routes (55% Welsh-medium)

For more information please contact ceriwilliams3@GwEggledd.cymru or Wales-PGCE@open.ac.uk



Journeys and Adventures book packs for children in Year 6

BookTrust Cymru is pleased to announce a special new project that we will be delivering in February as part of our 2020-21 Welsh Government funded programme.

The Journeys and Adventures project is part of our work to support children who have been affected by the Covid pandemic. It will support children in Year 6 who have not had access to high quality books and are likely to have missed out on the educational, social and creative benefits of reading.

Journeys and Adventures aims to support children in their learning and development through engaging in enjoyable reading experiences and developing reading for pleasure habits.

How do I take part?

- Complete the registration form **as soon as possible**: <https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=160683340905>

For more information, please contact: booktrustcymru@booktrust.org.uk



A day full of Welsh

Professor Enlli Mon [talks about the bilingual journey](#) and how the language skills children acquire, will stay with them for life. Here are some top tips on how to make your day a [day full of Welsh](#)



Welsh4parents

A new website, www.welsh4parents.cymru and email service has launched this week to provide resources and general support for parents.

As always, we're encouraging learners, parents and carers to keep in touch with their teachers and their school should be their first port of call.



Chinese New Year Resources

It's Chinese New Year on 12 February 2021 and it's the Year of the Ox.

These free resources from the British Council can be used by children, parents or carers and teachers. Read a version of the traditional story of the New Year Race, create shadow puppets of the main characters and make a traditional Chinese lantern.

Available in Welsh and English.

Download [here](#).



AmaSing Free Online Thousand Bubbles Sing

AmaSing is collaborating with many schools and music hubs to host a **FREE** one off online Big Sing session where they would love to bring together a thousand bubbles from schools in the UK and abroad.

The participants will come together to sing AmaSing's songs from its new project "Connect" called

1. Let's Build a World
2. Our Chester Zoo new campaign song - Sustainability

They would love your whole school to take part with your school bubbles from EYFS up to Y6 and learn these 2 songs and dances to perform on 23 April at 9.15am – 9.30am online with thousands of other children led by our musical director Andy Smith and dance specialist Kelly Stevens from House of Dance.

All resources / songs / dance videos / lyrics can be found on www.amasing.org.uk

Go to Music Resource Tab - register for free, then go to Connect 21 and click on "Let's Build a World" or "Sustainability" - everything you need will be there.

Please email rach@amasing.org.uk to reserve your place and let her know how many bubbles in your school will attend.



Project Vote

Project Vote is a parallel Senedd election aimed at young people aged 11-15, run by the Children's Commissioner. Secondary schools and other settings can sign up now by visiting www.projectvote.wales. They will have access to online resources, including home learning packs. Online voting will take place at the end of April and a full map of results will be published. [Here is a video animation](#) explaining more.

On 8 February, we're hosting a teachers' webinar, so staff can hear more about the parallel election, and ask questions. [Go to our events page](#) for more information.



post@gwegogledd.cymru

