



# GwE Bulletin

COLLABORATING  
LEARNING  
SUCCEEDING



Please share our **BULLETIN** with the whole staff team in your school and encourage all your colleagues to subscribe to our **MAILING LIST**.



## CONFERENCES

### ASD Resources Launch with Mike Gershon

#### SUPPORTING AUTISTIC LEARNERS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY MAINSTREAM CLASSROOMS

We have international educational consultant, Mike Gershon, joining us at three different venues across the region in January, to launch an innovative new suite of resources to help mainstream classroom teachers better understand autism and what they and their school can do to best support autistic learners within their classes. The resources have been designed to support mainstream primary and secondary classroom teachers who teach one or more autistic learners within universal provision.

[Click here for further information.](#)



16/01/2024 | 9:15-13:15



Galeri, Caernarfon



[REGISTER](#)



17/01/2024 | 9:15-13:15



Venue Cymru



[REGISTER](#)



18/01/2024 | 9:15-13:15



Wrexham University



[REGISTER](#)



### A Mathematics workshop for Primary & Secondary teachers

Craig Barton is returning to North Wales to lead this mathematics workshop on effective teaching and learning strategies for primary and secondary practitioners.

The workshop will look at:

- practical strategies for identifying, prioritising and assessing relevant prior knowledge for any new idea and how to respond to these assessments
- how we explain and model new ideas to our learners
- effective techniques of modelling and worked examples
- using principles of atomisation, variation and direct instruction to give our students the very best chance of understanding key ideas.

**Places are limited, and will be allocated to the first people who register.**



01/02/2024



8:45-15:30



Venue Cymru, Llandudno



[REGISTER](#)



Bryn Eirias, Abergelle Road,  
Colwyn Bay, LL29 8BY



0300 500 8087



[GwE Support Centre](#)



[@GwEGogleddCymru](#)



[post@gwegogledd.cymru](mailto:post@gwegogledd.cymru)



[www.gwegogledd.cymru](http://www.gwegogledd.cymru)



[GwE Professional Offer](#)



[GwE Gogledd Cymru](#)



## GwE PROFESSIONAL OFFER

We are delighted to present our [Professional Learning Offer](#) for the 2023-24 educational year. Here you will find information regarding all professional learning available to school leaders and practitioners based on these underpinning principles:

- Supporting Leaders to lead improvements in the identified area;
- Supporting practitioners to provide effective classroom provision;
- Supporting the system to share successes and learn from one another.

Moreover, the principles of our Offer are based on promoting professional learning and development on three tiers:

- Specific and bespoke support for individual schools;
- Local support through clusters, alliances and networks;
- Generic Professional Learning Offer available to all across the region.

This catalogue is a live document. It includes the pre-determined or suggested dates (where possible) for courses and training. The catalogue will be updated with subsequent current versions published on a regular basis.



Keep your eye on the [GwE Professional Offer](#) page on our website. The page is updated regularly to include all new events that GwE offer.



## NQT REGIONAL PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OFFER: TERMS 2 & 3 [2024]

Please see below the Professional Learning Offer for Newly Qualified Teachers within the GwE region.

[Full details available on our website.](#) Click on the links below to register.

	TRAINING	DATE	VENUE
1	<a href="#">Challenging Behaviour</a>	17/01/2024	St David's Hotel, Ewloe
2	<a href="#">NQT Primary Literacy</a>	23/01/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph
3	<a href="#">NQT Primary Numeracy</a>	24/01/2024	Business Centre, Conwy
4	<a href="#">Llythrennedd Cynradd ANG</a>	25/01/2024	Galeri, Caernarfon
5	<a href="#">Rhifedd Cynradd ANG</a>	26/01/2024	Venue, Llandudno
6	<a href="#">Ymddygiad Heriol</a>	22/02/2024	Plas Menai, Caernarfon
7	<a href="#">Well-being NQT</a>	23/02/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph
8	<a href="#">Cymhwyster Digidol</a>	21/03/2024	Plas Menai
9	<a href="#">Digital Competence</a>	22/03/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph
10	<a href="#">Asesu Ffurfiannol</a>	16/04/2024	Plas Menai
11	<a href="#">Formative Assessment</a>	17/04/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph



## NATIONAL PROGRAMMES



### TEACHING ASSISTANTS LEARNING PATHWAY [TALP]



#### Aspiring HLTA Development Programme

Cylch/Round 8 of the Aspiring HLTA Development Programme starts in January 2024. The **CLOSING DATE** for applications is **24/11/2023**.

[Click here](#) for more information about the Programme and the application process.

For further information, please contact [Wendy Williams, TALP Co-ordinator](#).



## RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS

#### National Professional Enquiry Project [NPEP]

##### FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOLS

Is your school interested in developing teachers as professional enquirers?

Are you interested in using research and enquiry skills as part of your evaluation of both Curriculum for Wales work and your wider provision? [Full information available here](#).

#### Improving Fluency in Oral Reading using the Repeated Reading Intervention [iFOR]

Schools are invited to take part in a Repeated Reading evaluation project in the spring term 2024. [Full details here](#).

This project is a partnership between GwE and CIEREI, Bangor University as part of our evidence-based reading provision that is summarised [here](#). To learn more and to register an expression of interest, please follow [this link](#).

#### Can you help improve the evidence base around spelling instruction?

**We're looking for literacy leads in primary schools to complete our questionnaire to help us to improve the provision for spelling in Welsh and English.**

If you are a literacy leader or the person responsible for spelling provision in a primary school, please help us to build an accurate picture of current provision by completing our questionnaire using [this link](#).



## GwE NEWS AND INFORMATION

### Workshop for Teachers and Teaching Assistants who Teach 3-8 year-old Learners DEVELOPING A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE HUMANITIES AOLE

Sharing ideas on how to:

- Plan and provide opportunities for learners to investigate and explore the world around them through the disciplines of the Humanities AoLE.
- Plan for progressive experiences to ensure skill development across the three to eight continuum.

Training for teachers will be over 2 sessions and there will be an expectation to attend both sessions [teachers will automatically be booked onto the second session].

Click on the buttons below for further information and to register:

WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS



WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS



### Advanced BAC Coordinators' Network Meeting



11/12/2023 | 13:00-15:30



GwE Office, Bryn Eirias, Colwyn Bay



[REGISTER](#)

### Optional / Drop in Meeting for Advanced BAC Coordinators



15/12/2023 | 9:30-10:00



[JOIN THE MEETING](#)

Aim: Sharing Advanced Global Community Project T+L information/ideas [no need to join this if you attended the meeting on the 11/12/2023]

### Curriculum for Wales: From Design to Reporting and back again

[SECONDARY SCHOOLS]

This workshop is designed to support secondary school senior leaders in reflecting on aspects of design, planning, teaching, professional dialogues and assessment.

The audience is senior leaders within secondary schools who have responsibility for an aspect of the new curriculum such as: design, planning for progression, enabling professional dialogues to support practitioners' understanding of progression, assessment and reporting to parents. The workshop will be interactive and informative.



17/01/2024



9:00-12:30



White House Restaurant & Rooms, Rhualt



[ENGLISH MEDIUM](#)



18/01/2023



9:00-12:30



Venue Cymru, Llandudno



[WELSH MEDIUM](#)

### Personal Assessments

[Key messages](#) for the Autumn Term 2023.



### Save the Date: DARPL Conference

The DARPL (Diversity and Anti-Racist Professional Learning) conference will be held at Venue Cymru, Llandudno – 20 June 2024.

**DARPL**  
Diversity & Anti-Racist  
Professional Learning  
Dysgu Proffesiynol  
Amrywiaeth a Gwrth-Hillol



## Are you looking to progress Reading for Pleasure within your school this year?



05/12/2023 | 9:15-12:30



Venue Cymru, Llandudno



[REGISTER](#)

Come and join colleagues for the morning, who have been working on this in previous terms, to hear about their journeys and the progress they have made in creating a culture for reading for pleasure and the strategies they have put in place to make this happen. We will hear from you and share your successes and findings, learn more about how we can promote this vital link in the reading journey for learners to bring them closer to becoming successful readers.

This network will continue throughout the year to bring us together to explore more effective strategies and resources and will include specialist insight from academics and educationalists in the field of reading. In this meeting in December, Professor Manon Jones from Bangor University will share with us how learners develop key reading skills and how we can effectively implement strategies and policy to support our learners.



## Y GYMRAEG [WELSH]

### Welsh Language Strategic Planning: Leadership Development Programme

Are you a headteacher or leader in an English-medium primary school who is keen to strengthen your understanding of the importance of the Welsh language in your school? [Full details available here.](#)

This course is offered cross-regionally, 24 January 2024.

### Are you Interested in Learning Welsh?

What level are you? [Which level am I?](#)

**What's on offer?** A wide choice! Including courses tailored for the education workforce. Different learning methods including self-study, and an opportunity to join community-based courses.

[Education Workforce](#) | [Learn Welsh](#)

Need more information? [Contact your Local Authority or GwE.](#)

### Welsh Language Sabbatical Courses

**ADVANCED COURSE FOR TEACHING ASSISTANTS [APRIL-JULY 2024]**

Are you a fairly fluent Welsh speaker [first and second language]? Need more information? [Click here.](#)

GYMRAEG



# GLOBAL FUTURES: INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

## Cerdd Iaith Training

CREATIVE APPROACH TO TEACHING LANGUAGES: PRIMARY SECTOR



16/01/2024 | 9:30-15:00



Online Event



[REGISTER](#) by 15/12/2023

The *Cerdd Iaith* is a British Council Wales project with the aim to offer a website with all the lessons and pedagogical approach for teachers to teach French, Spanish or German through music and by using Welsh and English at the same time.

## Developing Teaching and Learning pedagogy and methodology for International Languages with Jennifer Wozniak-Rush

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY - THE SESSION WILL BE IN ENGLISH



26/01/2024 | 9:00-15:30



Conwy Business Centre



[REGISTER](#) by 22/12/2023

A practical and stimulating day to help develop a shared understanding of progression in IL and what this can look like practically through meaningful tasks and contexts whilst ensuring deep learning in the primary and secondary sectors.

## Environmental Awareness through Language Learning and Creativity

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS WITH AWARD-WINNING FRENCH GRAPHIC ARTIST ANNE DEFREVILLE



30/04/2024 - 03/05/2024



Bangor University



[REGISTER](#) by 15/12/2023

Developing creative approaches to fostering environmental sustainability in conjunction with international language learning. Exciting workshops for primary and secondary schools.

## Year 10 Business Language Champions Event



06/02/2024 | 9:00-15:30



Ysgol Aberconwy



[REGISTER](#) by 15/12/2023

[The Business Language Champions](#) team will challenge and guide learners to plan, design, create and sell their business idea. The event will engage students to explore and use their international language in a practical and purposeful context. Schools can enter up to three teams of 6 (French, German and Spanish).

## British Council Wales-France International Schools Partnerships

In support of the Welsh Government's Wales in France year, British Council Wales is launching an opportunity for schools in Wales to build their international links with schools in France. These guided partnerships will enable schools to internationalise their curriculum, spark students' curiosity for international cooperation around global moments and build linguistic links, supporting the teaching of international languages.

[Further information.](#)

- Application deadline: **11/12/2023**
- Q&A drop-in session: **28/11/2023 | 16:00-17:00 | MS Teams**  
[Please email [Majja.Evans@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Majja.Evans@britishcouncil.org) to register]

Apply now with a simple form to get linked directly with a school in France: [Apply now](#)



## HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

### Trauma Informed for Senior Leaders

#### 2-DAY COURSE

Designed to support Senior Leads to implement trauma informed and mentally healthy practices into their school, this course will ensure that Leads have knowledge, skills and understanding to translate the approach into policy and practice to drive crucial change and optimise the well-being of both adults and pupils in their school.

The course will be held over 2 days in the following venues:



11/01/2024 & 12/01/2024 | 9:00-15:30



Linden House, Mold



[REGISTER](#)



15/01/2024 & 16/01/2024 | 9:00-15:30



Plas Menai, Caernarfon



[REGISTER](#)

TRAUMA  
INFORMED  
SCHOOLS



### Diploma in Trauma and Mental Health Informed Schools and Communities

#### PRACTITIONER STATUS [GwE 16 - Online]

A practical skills-based course, underpinned by evidence-based research studies.

Designed to inform and empower staff to respond effectively to vulnerable children/young people who have experienced trauma and/or have mental health issues by delivering interventions addressing mild to moderate mental health problems, with a focus on recovery. [Click here for further information.](#) [Register here.](#)



### The SHRN Student Health & Wellbeing Survey and the School Environment Questionnaire (SEQ)

There is now just **THREE weeks left** before both The SHRN Student Health & Wellbeing Survey and the School Environment Questionnaire (SEQ) close to participating schools on 22 December 2023.

Participating schools are also asked to complete their total year group numbers and submit any parental withdrawal information on their SHRN School Dashboards by the end of the week - 15th December 2023 to avoid impacting how their school receives its SHRN data.

Maria Boffey, Knowledge Exchange Manager for SHRN said: *'It's crucial that we hear directly from young people about their wellbeing. We are thrilled that we have over 98% of secondary schools in Wales committed to taking part in this 2023 survey. The survey is a unique and flexible resource for Wales. It has a crucial role to play in shaping policies that affect the lives of secondary school learners in Wales, and we look forward to hearing what young people tell us'*.

If you have any questions regarding the research, please contact the SHRN team: [shrn@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:shrn@cardiff.ac.uk)



### Citbag Platform [Sport Wales]

Sport Wales are very excited to let you know of some significant changes they have made to their [Citbag](#) platform.

[Click here for further information.](#)

sportwales  
chwaraeon cymru





## GwE's Health and Well-being Professional Offer

Click on the dates below to book your place [link to Eventbrite]

### BASED ON 'PLAY TO LEARN' PRINCIPLES [AGES 3-8]

VENUE	DATE	TIME
Eirias Events Centre	<a href="#">01/12/2023</a>	8:45-15:15
Anglesey Business Centre, Llangefni <b>[BILINGUAL]</b>	<a href="#">08/12/2023</a>	8:45-15:15
Alyn Waters Country Park	<a href="#">15/12/2023</a>	8:45-15:15
Welsh Language Centre, St Asaph	<a href="#">12/01/2024</a>	8:45-15:15
GwE Offices, Mold	<a href="#">19/01/2024</a>	8:45-15:15



## WELSH EDUCATION CONSORTIA NEWS



[Click here](#) to be directed to the Welsh Education Consortia website that provides information on a range of cross regional professional learning opportunities that are available to all staff across Wales.

## Induction Programme for Teaching Assistant

The [Induction Programme for Teaching Assistants](#) (revised) is for individuals newly appointed to their role. This national programme contains 2 modules and is delivered through play lists. Training can be completed at a time convenient to the teaching assistant and their setting. [Click here to register.](#)

## Cross-regional Curriculum for Wales Professional Learning Offer

To support all schools and settings across Wales in realising the Curriculum for Wales, a comprehensive professional learning programme has been developed by the cross-regional Professional Learning team.

The [Programme for 2023/24](#) has now been published, please see the brochure for key dates and links to the virtual sessions.

### AoLE SESSIONS

Specific sessions have been designed to support you in developing teaching and learning in each of the Areas of Learning and Experience. Here is this term's offer:

SESSION	SESSION OBJECTIVES	DATE
Mathematics and Numeracy	<p>Leaders and teachers will gain knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progression and assessment within the Mathematics and Numeracy AoLE, including school examples</li> <li>Opportunities to share and discuss approaches from schools and settings across Wales</li> </ul>	06/12/2023

## Avoiding Digital Burnout and Digital Stress

The digital revolution has changed the way we live and work, but at a cost. The Education Consortia team has developed this guidance to support ALL Education Employees' well-being and reduce the stress caused by the use of technology and digital devices. [Click here.](#)



## Mark Burns: 'Teaching to maximise learning'

Mark Burns: 'Teaching to maximise learning', the first in a series of podcasts from the Consortia's Realising Potential Team. For more details and to access the podcast, please follow [this link](#).



## WELSH GOVERNMENT NEWS



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

### Consultation: School Year Structure

#### HOW CAN WE MAKE THE SCHOOL YEAR MORE BALANCED FOR THE EDUCATION WORKFORCE, LEARNERS AND THEIR FAMILIES?

The Welsh Government is consulting on a proposal to change the structure of the school year to improve well-being, better support learning and make sure the school year is more closely aligned with how we live, learn and work today.

Proposals include the introduction of a two-week autumn break to improve staff well-being, a five-week summer break to allow for the longer autumn break and reduce potential 'learning loss' during the summer, and a break in the middle of the spring term not tied to Easter so that the workforce and learners have a more balanced term.

Any changes will not affect overall time spent in school, which will remain at 190 days with 13 weeks of school holidays.

Any changes would be from September 2025 at the earliest, meaning that the first two-week autumn break could be in 2025 and the first five-week summer break could be in 2026.

Share your views by visiting [gov.wales/schoolyear](https://gov.wales/schoolyear)

You can also email [ExploringUseOfSchoolTime@gov.wales](mailto:ExploringUseOfSchoolTime@gov.wales)



**This consultation closes on 12/02/2024.**

### Curriculum for Wales: Equity and Inclusion event series

You are invited to the Curriculum for Wales Equity and Inclusion event series that will be taking place.

The day will provide an opportunity to hear from early years, primary, secondary, pupil referral unit (PRU) and special education practitioners. [Full details and registration information available here](#).

### United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Professional Learning

[This resource](#) is designed to help you to develop an understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, how they are linked to Curriculum for Wales and how to incorporate children's human rights in your work with children and young people.

### Enterprise Troopers: Encouraging Enterprise

#### CURRICULUM LINKED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WORKSHOP

[Read more here](#)





## INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FROM OTHERS

### NAEL: Think Leadership: A Critical Conversation

We are excited to announce the launch of the Strategic Leadership of Pedagogy resource. This resource has been developed by leaders for leaders and is designed to support leadership decisions and conversations on how our understanding of pedagogy practice changes in relation to Curriculum for Wales.



**POSTPONED UNTIL  
AFTER CHRISTMAS**

2024 | 10:00-12:30



Face to Face at Regional locations

Register [here](#)



### Agile Leadership Essentials Wales with Dr Simon Breakspear

[Live Digital Workshop Programme](#) for high-performing school leadership teams who want to level up and lead meaningful change.

[Further details available here.](#)

Cost: £350

Register here: [Agile School Leadership Program \(Wales\)](#) | [Humanitix](#)

Or Contact: [team@simonbreakspear.com](mailto:team@simonbreakspear.com)

### News from the Education Workforce Council

[Click here](#) for the latest news from the Education Workforce Council.

### Natural Resources Wales' Newsletter

Natural Resources Wales' Education, Learning and Health November newsletter has been published.

[Click here to read.](#)

### Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative 2022-2023

[THE COMPETITION](#) | [WHSI](#)

The Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative organises an annual competition for heritage projects in schools in Wales with numerous and generous monetary prizes. This is a wonderful opportunity for your pupils to share their enquires about their cynefin with a wider audience, and use their cross-curricular and integral skills!

Please get in touch if you'd like to discuss your ideas further. ([bethanjames@gwegogledd.cymru](mailto:bethanjames@gwegogledd.cymru) or [jamesb143@hwbcymru.net](mailto:jamesb143@hwbcymru.net))



### Opportunities for schools to participate in the Creative Learning Wales programme

The Arts Council of Wales in partnership with Welsh Government are delighted to be able to launch further opportunities for GwE schools to take part in their Creative Learning and Expressive Arts programmes. See below details of all available grants and how to apply:

- Lead Creative Schools (Closing date: 11 January 2024): <https://arts.wales/funding/creative-learning/lead-creative-schools-scheme>
- Go and See (Ongoing grant): <https://arts.wales/funding/creative-learning/go-and-see>