



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](#).



Professional Teaching Awards Cymru

The [Professional Teaching Awards Cymru 2024](#) are now open!  [Click here to read the press release.](#)

Nominations are now open until 2 February 2024. The Professional Teaching Awards Cymru celebrates the inspirational education professionals across Wales. There are 10 categories including a new award 'Learners' Engagement in School/College'. Do you know someone who deserves recognition?

 **Nominate today at:** www.gov.wales/teachingawardscymru

Gwobrau Addysgu Proffesiynol
Professional Teaching Awards

Cymru

ADDYSG CYMRU
EDUCATION WALES
cenhadaeth ein cenedl | our national mission



CLOSING DATE:
02/02/2024



CONFERENCES

Workshops: Developing a deep understanding of the 5 mathematical proficiencies with Gareth Metcalfe – I See Maths

FOR PRACTITIONERS WHO TEACH 3 – 8 YEAR OLD PUPILS

THE WORKSHOP WILL FOCUS ON:

- Developing conceptual understanding of number through a range of pedagogic approaches.
- Creating meaningful mathematical challenges within provision.
- Developing routines to develop mathematical reasoning and problem-solving.
- Teachers will be required to return to a half-day workshop - June 2024. Dates and venues will be shared in Workshop 11.

11/04/2024 Conwy Business Centre

12/04/2024 Holiday Inn, A55 [Chester West]

18/04/2024 Porthmadog Football Club

19/04/2024 Bethesda Rugby Club

**FULL DETAILS AND
REGISTRATION**



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



0300 500 8087



[GwE Support Centre](#)



[@GwEGogleddCymru](#)



post@gwegogledd.cymru



www.gwegogledd.cymru



[GwE Professional Offer](#)



[GwE Gogledd Cymru](#)

Purpose of Feedback Conference



23/02/2024



Kinmel Manor, Abergele


Michael Chiles, Author of *The Feedback Pendulum*


We have invited Michael Chiles to North Wales - deputy headteacher, educator [ages 3-16] and author of *The Feedback Pendulum*.

Michael will address a Conference on the Purpose of Feedback for school Pedagogy leaders [all sectors].

This is a great opportunity for you to gain inspiration from a day immersed in a keynote speech, opportunities to explore the purposes of feedback, planning for feedback alongside pedagogy and progress and using the best tools for the planned outcome.

[Full details available here.](#)

ANGLESEY AND
GWYNEDD SCHOOLS

DENBIGHSHIRE AND
CONWY SCHOOLS

FLINTSHIRE AND
WREXHAM SCHOOLS

Effective use of manipulatives and representations [Primary 8-11]



08/03/2024 | 9:00-16:00



Venue Cymru, Llandudno



Jonathan Hall


[REGISTER](#)


Manipulatives and representations, when used effectively, can be a powerful tool to develop mathematical thinking and the five mathematical proficiencies.

This workshop, led by Jonathan Hall will define mathematical thinking and demonstrate its power through the use of concrete, pictorial and abstract representations - alongside carefully crafted prompts designed to hook learners in and engage. Practitioners will develop learners' curiosity and build and extend upon the prompts, leading to generalisations and a deeper conceptual understanding of the underlying structure of the mathematics.

This workshop is being held in English.



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.



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



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.

6	Ymddygiad Heriol	22/02/2024	Plas Menai, Caernarfon
7	Well-being NQT	23/02/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph
8	Cymhwyster Digidol	21/03/2024	Plas Menai
9	Digital Competence	22/03/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph
10	Asesu Ffurfiannol	16/04/2024	Plas Menai
11	Formative Assessment	17/04/2024	Oriel Hotel, St Asaph



TEACHING ASSISTANTS LEARNING PATHWAY [TALP]



Recruiting Assessors for HLTA Status

[HIGHER LEVEL TEACHING ASSISTANT]

Do you have HLTA status and work in a school in the GwE region?

GwE is seeking practitioners with HLTA status, to join the team involved in the Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) Assessment Programme.

As an assessor, you will be responsible for undertaking assessments of candidates who have completed the Aspiring HLTA Programme, and who are being assessed for HLTA status.

[For more information and application details, please click here.](#) **CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 16/02/2024**



HLTA Development Day

The HLTA Development Day will be held on 11/3/2024 for teaching assistants who have gained HLTA status.

This is an excellent opportunity to see examples of effective practice in schools across the GwE region.

Guest speaker: **Lee Parkinson - Mr P ICT** | Further details: <https://bit.ly/3vL3S0c>



An exciting opportunity for new Teaching Assistants!

The **Induction Programme for New Teaching Assistants** is for individuals newly appointed to their role. This national programme will be delivered on a digital platform. Training can be completed at a time convenient to the teaching assistants and their setting. For more information and details of how to register, [click here](#).

Network for Teaching Assistants



23/02/2024 | 14:00-14:45



[JOIN](#)

Informal session over TEAMS to share information and effective practice with digital resources.

[Additional information.](#) For further information, contact [Elin Hutchinson](#).



RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS

Improving our understanding of practical work in primary science

Researchers at Bath Spa University and the University of Manchester are looking for teachers in Wales to help improve our understanding of practical work in primary science in schools. The research team is surveying schools across the UK in order to make recommendations that can be applied across each nation. We welcome all primary science stakeholders to respond to the survey, including current teachers, senior leaders, professional development leads, STEM organisations and initial teacher educators in each of the UK nations. The survey will ask for your thoughts and experiences regarding practical work in primary science and the questionnaire link is available here: [Practical work in primary science](#)



New research with GwE schools published

Mainstream & special schools' use of well-being programmes: A regional survey

GwE is delighted to see the outputs of one of our collaborative research projects recently published in the *British Educational Research Journal [BERJ]*. This work was carried out with researchers from the University of Warwick as part of GwE's collaborative work with our university partners to help us use research findings to inform policy and practice. [Further information](#).

GwE NEWS AND INFORMATION

A Network for all Expressive Arts practitioners

 14/03/2024 | 15:30-16:30  [JOIN](#)

An informal session over [MS Teams](#) to share knowledge and good practice. **English-medium.**






Primary PGCE Additional Learning Needs at Bangor University

 06/02/2024 | 15:30-16:30  Online Event  [Full details](#)  [REGISTER](#)

Bangor University are about to open applications for a pilot PGCE which is bespoke to teacher training for ALN – specialising in neurodiversity. This has been planned to meet the growing needs within our mainstream and special schools, and planned alongside special and mainstream head teachers, senior leaders and LA partners from across the region as well as specialists from Bangor. The course will commence in September 2024 (subject to accreditation by the EWC) and will include an option of a placement within their own school for suitably qualified and experienced staff. It will be Wales' first bespoke ALN ITE pathway. Applications are available via UCAS, please ask if you or your staff would like further information. There is a further online information session on 6 February after school for prospective candidates, [further information is here](#).

Technocamps micro:bit Resources Launch Events - March 2024

 06/03/2024 | 9:00-15:00  Conwy Business Centre  [REGISTER](#)

To support the BBC and micro:bit Foundation's new micro:bit - the next gen campaign, Technocamps are hosting professional learning events for primary school teachers across Wales during February and March. These events are supported by the BBC, micro:bit Foundation and Hwb with the ambition to support practitioners across Wales to further enhance their delivery of Curriculum for Wales utilising micro:bits.

[Click here](#) for more information and to reserve your place.

techno
camps



Secondary Teaching and Learning Leads Network

 21/02/2024 | 9:15-12:00  Canolfan Fusnes Conwy  [AGENDA](#)  [REGISTER](#)

Science and Technology: Primary 8-11 *NEW COHORT*

The intention of the [programme](#) is to share practical ideas on how to develop rich and valuable learning within Science and Technology through the integration of cross-curricular skills.

This professional development program runs over 3 days. **You must attend all days.**

 **DAY 1:** 28/02/2024 **DAY 2:** 18/04/2024 **DAY 3:** 23/05/2024  [REGISTER](#)

Drawing and Talking Advanced Course

The Advanced Drawing and Talking training is specifically for participants who have already completed our one-day Foundation training. This second course provides participants with a deeper understanding of the therapeutic process involved in the practice of Drawing and Talking, and the theory which underpins the technique. You will delve deeper into Jungian Theory to explore the use of archetypes and patterns that arise in children's drawings, and learn about development and movement along the Ego-Self Axis.

 21/02/2024 | 9:00-15:30  [Online Event over Zoom](#)  [FURTHER INFORMATION](#)

Please contact CatherineMcNamara@gwegogledd.cymru for further 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 skills development across the 3-8 continuum.

Training for teachers will be over two 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: [TAs WORKSHOPS](#) | [TEACHERS WORKSHOPS](#)

Y GYMRAEG [WELSH]

Dydd Miwsig Cymru / Welsh Language Music Day

09/02/2024 is Welsh Language Music Day

 [Welsh Language Music Day | GOV.WALES](#) 

Welsh Language Music Day celebrates all forms of Welsh music. But you don't have to wait until Welsh Language Music Day to share your love for Welsh music or to find your favourite new tune, just follow [@Miwsig](#) or search #Miwsig.

Find out more about all *Dydd Miwsig Cymru* events on the [AM website](#)



Cewri Cymru [Giants of Wales]: e-sgol

Cewri Cymru [Giants of Wales] – free national digital resources and tasks to celebrate our nation's giants provided by e-sgol. This is a series of educational sessions that shed light on notable individuals who have taken advantage of their ability to speak Welsh.

E-sgol will be launching their new project which coincides with the Siarter Iaith [Language Charter] and Cymraeg Campus programmes on 05/02/2024 in preparation for Dydd Miwsig Cymru [Welsh language Music Day] on 09/02/2024. Further information available by clicking on the video.

These videos will be broadcast as 'premieres' on 5 February at 9:15a.m. and will be available afterwards for schools to use at times to suit them.



'Cewri Cymru' Advert

[CEWRI CYMRU - Cymraeg Campus](#)

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.](#)

CYMRAG

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.](#)

Carlam Cymru: Power Up

GCSE

New GCSE Revision Sessions were added to the bank of resources in Autumn 2023 – [go to New Recordings!](#)

AS and A level

New AS and A level Revision Sessions will be available in January 2024

Go to: [Carlam Cymru - Home](#) | [e-sgol](#)



GLOBAL FUTURES: INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGES

GwE International Languages Newsletter:

[PRIMARY](#) | [SECONDARY](#)



Routes Cymru: Secondary sector

Pupil Language Ambassadors training Year 7-9: 01/03/2024

Choice of face-to-face at Bangor University or online.

Registration is still open: [Pupil Language Ambassadors \[PLA\] – Routes into Languages Cymru](#)



HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



GwE's Health and Well-being Professional Offer

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

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING WORKSHOP [8-11]

Y Galeri, Caernarfon	20/02/2024	8:45-15:15
Holiday Inn, A55 Chester West	29/02/2024	8:45-15:15
Optic	14/03/2024	8:45-15:15

Biophilia: The Science of Nature and Animals

 06/02/2024 | 9:30-12:30  Online event over Zoom

 [FURTHER INFORMATION](#)



The session is aimed at all school and community organisations staff and will offer both underpinning theory and practical application to enable staff to understand the why and the how of the outdoors and animals. The scientific justification for those who know it works and an understanding of how Nature will help us maintain good mental health. [REGISTER](#)



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.

Equity in Education - Professional Learning

TEACHING AND LEARNING TO SUPPORT VULNERABLE AND DISADVANTAGED LEARNERS

[Click this link](#) to find out more about the resources and how you can use them in your classroom.



Coaching and Mentoring Opportunity

The regional education consortia have been developing a Coaching & Mentoring culture via a national training Programme for several years now.

This virtual professional learning programme consists of 6 x 3½-hour sessions, held over a period of 6 weeks. A new cohort is being organised for the spring term 2024.

Please see the link to additional information and a registration form: [Welsh Education Consortia - National Coaching and Mentoring Programme Overview \(google.com\)](#)

Reflective Space Offer to all Education Professionals

We all need a little well-being support from time to time, an opportunity to stop, unload, reflect and review.

[Please click this link](#) to find out more and sign up to the Consortia reflective coaching support offer.

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

European Parliament Ambassador Schools

Phil Lof a former student at Ysgol Eirias in Colwyn Bay and now working for the Welsh Government in their Brussels' Office wanted to share an opportunity that he thought might be of interest to schools in North Wales.

Following meetings with the European Parliament Liaison Office in London to discuss furthering collaboration between the European Parliament and Wales, the European Parliament London Office have expressed an interest in getting Welsh schools signed up to their European Parliament Ambassador School programme. As it stands, they don't have any schools in Wales signed up which is something they are keen to change.

As part of the programme both staff and students will receive a certificate upon completion. There is also the opportunity to get speakers from the European Parliament Liaison Office to visit the school as well as the chance to take students down to London to visit their office in Europe House. It is also worth noting that this is completely free for both the school and the students.

[Here is a link where you will find more information](#)



Collaborative Evidence Network [CEN] Seminar



07/02/2024 | 16:00-17:30



Seminar: Online Event



<https://www.liveeventstream.online/cen-seminars>



The Collaborative Evidence Network (CEN) research projects, which involved Higher Education Institutions and other organisations, looked at impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on various aspects of the education system and on particular groups of learners.

The 18 projects also considered ways to mitigate those impacts, as well as ways practitioners and learners could be better supported moving forward.

The 6th seminar focuses on professional learning and initial teacher education. This includes an investigation of the impact of the pandemic on the professional learning needs of teachers in Wales as part of the Schools as Learning Organisations framework. It also includes an evaluation of the nature of online provision in Initial Teacher Education courses.

Child Poverty Strategy for Wales 2024

The Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip launched the Child Poverty Strategy for Wales 2024 on Tuesday 23 January. The Welsh Government are committed to tackling child poverty as an absolute priority. The link for the updated strategy is below. I would be grateful if you could bring this to the attention of your schools. The full strategy along with an easy read and a child friendly version can be [found here](#).



In-person National Network Conversations



06/02/2024 | 9:30-15:45



Venue Cymru, Llandudno



[REGISTER](#)



Come along to these in-person National Conversations on the Curriculum for Wales:

- To receive the latest update on the Curriculum for Wales: Continuing the Journey guidance and see what this means for your school or setting;
- Contribute to the national conversation about Curriculum Design and Progression;
- Share your thoughts on opportunities and challenges in the six areas of learning and experience, to help shape policy and practice to benefit all learners in Wales; and
- Network with fellow practitioners from across Wales, and get your voice heard

Help with School Costs: promotional toolkits for schools and local authorities

Promotional materials that can be used to inform parents and guardians of the financial help available for school essentials, including free school meals: <https://bit.ly/3S6Y5df>

Welsh Government Training: Understanding, preventing and responding to incidents of online sexual harassment among children and young people



08/02/2024 | 9:30-11:30



Online event



[REGISTER](#)

A free 2-hour online training session designed for education practitioners in secondary schools or colleges in Wales to help with understanding, preventing and responding to incidents of online sexual harassment among children and young people.

Curriculum for Wales: Equity and inclusion workshops

SHARING AND CARING!

[A series of workshops is underway](#), giving practitioners valuable insights into the approaches others are taking to ensure their curriculum supports equity and inclusion for all their learners, as well as sharing their experiences. Dates are available now for events in January and February, and practitioners can register [using this link](#).

Consultation: School Year Structure



This consultation closes on 12/02/2024.

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.

Share your views by visiting gov.wales/schoolyear You can also email ExploringUseOfSchoolTime@gov.wales

Webinar: Stay aware, stay safe, stay together

TOM'S CAMPAIGN



20/02/2024 | 15:30-17:00



Webinar: Online event through Microsoft Teams

You may remember the case of [Tom Channon](#), a college student who tragically died after falling about 70ft over a knee-high wall in 2018 whilst on holiday with a group of friends celebrating the end of their A-Levels. Tom was a student at St David's Catholic College in Cardiff.

The college, in conjunction with Tom's parents, John and Ceri Channon, produced some resources aimed at learners aged 16-18 years to help increase young peoples' awareness of the need to prepare before going on holiday abroad [especially the first one without their families] and to better understand how to keep safe and avoid dangerous situations.

We agreed to bring these resources together, host them on Hwb and promote them to schools and colleges for use in pastoral studies programmes. The "Stay Aware, Stay Safe, Stay Together" campaign resources have been made into a Hwb [playlist](#) and can be used by schools and colleges in pastoral studies and tutorial programmes in the run-up to summer holidays. We would also encourage schools to share this with students via social media channels so they can take note before they go away.

You are invited to a webinar that will take place via Microsoft Teams on 20/02/2024 at 15:30 – 17:00. The session will feature an introduction from Tom's parents, a brief overview of the resources themselves and a session from a school and FE college that have actually used the resources in sessions with learners.

If you are interested in attending, please send an email to post16quality@llyw.cymru and we will send a calendar invite with the Teams link.



INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FROM OTHERS

National Resources Wales: Health, Education and Learning Newsletter
[January's newsletter](#) is out now.



Creative Leadership Programme

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP WALES AND THE ARTS COUNCIL OF WALES

The Arts Council of Wales in partnership with Welsh Government are delighted to be able to launch an exciting opportunity created for middle/senior school leaders, endorsed by the National Academy for Educational Leadership to support school leaders to develop creative leadership within their own school settings.

Applications close at 12:00pm on 20/02/2024. [Full details available here.](#)



Children in Wales: Tackling the Impact of Poverty on Education

We know that 7 out of 25 children and young people in Wales are currently living in poverty, which affects their daily lives, education and future life opportunities.

[The Price of Pupil Poverty Guides](#) are a freely available set of guides for schools which consider how making SMALL changes in 5 key areas across school life (Understanding Poverty; School Uniform and Clothing; Food and Hunger; Participation in the Life of the School; Home-School Relationship) can make a BIG difference to the lives of learners and families affected by lower incomes and the rising costs of living. These guides are also available as a set of [Governor's Guides](#), and school governors can find a pre-recorded webinar about the guides [here](#).

Schools may also [sign up for FREE](#) to the Tackling the Impact of Poverty on Education Programme to receive additional FREE resources including a comprehensive toolkit and training support.

For any further information on any of the above please contact pupilpoverty@childreninwales.org.uk.

National Academy for Educational Leadership Wales' Events



Academi Genedlaethol ar gyfer
Arweinyddiaeth Addysgol Cymru
National Academy for
Educational Leadership Wales

TALK PEDAGOGY: THINK LEADERSHIP: A CRITICAL CONVERSATION

*New dates and venues added – Face to Face at Regional locations

📅 08/02/2024 | 13:30-15:30 📍 GwE Office, Linden House, Mold [CH7 1XP] 🌐 English-medium 📄 [REGISTER](#)

📅 09/02/2024 | 10:00-12:30 📍 GwE Office, Penrallt, Caernarfon [LL55 1BN] 🌐 Welsh-medium 📄 [REGISTER](#)

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 is changing in relation to the Curriculum for Wales.

The event is designed for Senior Leaders of Learning and Teaching seeking to maintain momentum and work together to develop pedagogy and progression that supports the four core purposes, the integral skills and learner effectiveness, through the strategic leadership of pedagogy.

These events are a collaboration between the National Academy for Educational Leadership and the Regional Consortia Pedagogy Leads.

EXPLORING THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF SENIOR SCHOOL LEADERS IN WALES

📅 21/02/2024 | 9:30-11:00 📺 Online event 📄 [REGISTER](#)

The role of a school leader is fundamental to shaping the educational environment and influencing the overall success of a school. Effective school leaders inspire and motivate both teachers and students, creating a vision for the school and fostering a positive and inclusive school culture. However, maintaining the supply of school leaders in Wales is challenging.

Join the National Academy for Educational Leadership Wales for the launch event of a new Insight Series paper, Recruitment and Retention of Senior School Leaders in Wales. The discussion event will include contributions from Headteachers, Welsh Government and colleagues from the National Institute of Economic & Social Research (NIESR).

Show Racism the Red Card

[Click here](#) to read the latest information by Show Racism the Red Card.

Carlam Cymru 2023-2024: E-sgol

The Carlam Cymru Revision Videos are a great resource for schools. Go to their [website](#) to discover the new Revision Videos for AS and A level courses that are coming out this week.

Also, new GCSE videos were created last term – perfect for students who are sitting exams during January as well as for those looking ahead to the summer.

In addition, live Well-being Sessions will be held during February-March, and videos on Revision Skills will be available on our website by the start of the Easter holiday. [Further information available here.](#)

