



# 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

### 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 1.

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](#)



### 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.**



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.



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.

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

## 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: 26/03/2024**

### 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

### GwE Literacy Festival - Secondary Schools

Please [click here](#) to see the document about our online Literacy Festival.

This is for all staff and recordings of the sessions will be available for you to share, for a period of time, after the event.

 **These will all be English-medium sessions.**

If you have any questions, please ask.



English and Literacy Team

### Advanced BAC Coordinators network



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



GwE Office, Bryn Eirias, Colwyn Bay



[REGISTER](#)

- Global Community Project: Sharing of T + L resources and SOL [school to school]
- Future Destinations Project: Sharing of T + L resources and SOL [school to school]
- Discussion + date for summer term meeting + update Teams

### 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.**



### Technocamps micro:bit Resources Launch Events - March 2024



06/03/2024 | 9:00-15:00



Conwy Business Centre



[SIGN UP TO RESERVE LIST](#) [EVENT IS FULL]

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

## 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](#)



## Y GYMRAEG [WELSH]

### 'Cymraeg mewn Blwyddyn' - What is the Welsh in a Year sabbatical scheme?



#### WELSH LANGUAGE SABBATICAL COURSES

Welsh in a Year course – September 2024 – July 2025 – is aimed at English-medium primary school teachers.

It develops teachers' personal language skills as well as enabling them to raise Welsh standards throughout the school.

Do you want to register? Closing Date is **22/03/2024** [limited to 14 places]. For further information, please contact your Local authority or [SgiliaulaithGymraeg@gwegogledd.cymru](mailto:SgiliaulaithGymraeg@gwegogledd.cymru)

[Link to the advert](#) | [Welsh language professional learning - Hwb \[gov.wales\]](#)



### 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

#### Health and Well-being Workshop [8-11]

For learners to be more engaged with Physical Education and Food and Nutrition

Optic, St Asaph [14/03/2024](#) 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.

### 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.



## WELSH GOVERNMENT NEWS



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

### Welsh-medium Conversion Programme [Cynllun Pontio] 2024

Applications are now open until **23/02/2024**. Whether you're teaching primary, teaching outside of Wales or have been out of teaching for 5 years or more the *Cynllun Pontio* can help you move into Welsh-medium secondary teaching.

[Further information available here.](#)



### Curriculum for Wales: Continuing the Journey

We wish to draw your attention to the update of Welsh Government's guidance for schools on planning, implementing and reviewing their curriculum which is now on Hwb:

- Link to guidance : [Curriculum for Wales: continuing the journey - Hwb \[gov.wales\]](#)
- Link to video explaining the key messages: [Repository - Hwb \[gov.wales\]](#)



### 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 further collaboration between the European Parliament and Wales, the European Parliament London Office has expressed an interest in getting Welsh schools signed up to the 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 the 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](#)

### 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](#).

### 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>



## INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FROM OTHERS

### Spring Conference: Why bullying prevention in school matters?

20/03/2024 | 9:00-15:00

In person at Bangor University and Online

[FULL DETAILS AND REGISTRATION](#)

Keynote Speakers include:



Professor  
**CHRISTINA SALMIVALLI**  
[KiVa – University of Turku, Finnish government funded developer and evaluator of KiVa]



Professor  
**LUCY BOWES**  
[University of Oxford, Professor of Psychopathology, Principle In-vestigator Oxford Risk and Resilience, Genes and Environment [oRANGE] Lab]



## S4C and BAME Ed Wales - Anti-Racist Wales 2030 Film Competition

**FOR PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS**

This is a special opportunity to discuss and learn about ethnicity in Wales.

For further information, go to [s4c.cymru/antiracistfilm](https://s4c.cymru/antiracistfilm)



**CLOSING DATE: 26/04/2024**



## Careers Wales

### [Enterprising Ideas Bank Resource](#)

Careers Wales are pleased to announce the launch of a new teaching resource, the Enterprising Ideas Bank. This resource was developed in collaboration with entrepreneurial role models from the Big Ideas Wales network and contains ideas to inspire, support and encourage entrepreneurship education with younger learners.

[Find out more.](#)

### [Enterprise Troopers Challenge: Encouraging Enterprise Online Professional Learning](#)

Please [click here](#) see the schedule for some online workshops for primary practitioners linked to the national Enterprise Troopers Challenge



Gyrfa Cymru  
Careers Wales

## National Resources Wales: Health, Education and Learning Newsletter

[Febuary's newsletter](#) is out now.



## 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.](#)



## 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](mailto:pupilpoverty@childreninwales.org.uk).