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Learning Pathways 14-19 Newsletter

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In this edition

- Local Curriculum for Pupils in Key Stage 4
- Welsh Baccaulaureate Update
- Neath Port Talbot 14-19 Network
- 14-19 Learning Pathways – Skills Awards for Teenagers at Blaenau Gwent Council's Training Centre
- 14-19 learning pathways news – media award for tredegar pupils
- Learning Coaching Development Training across education establishments – Role of SMT



Learning
Pathways

14-19

Local Curriculum for Pupils in Key Stage 4 – new regulations came into force on 1st January 2010

The Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009 secures the creation of a wide range of local curricula for 14-19 learners in Wales. It also sets out the entitlement of learners to follow their elected course of study. A staged approach has been taken to the implementation of the Measure, beginning in September 2009 with Year 10 (non statutory), September 2010 with years 10,11, September 2011 with years 10,11,12 and September 2012 with years 10,11,12,13.

The specific requirements is detailed within the [Education](#)

[\(Local Curriculum for Pupils in Key Stage 4\) \(Wales\) Regulations 2009](#)

which came into force on the 1st January 2010. It makes provision as to the formation of the local curriculum, including stipulating the minimum number of courses of study to be included within a local curriculum. It also states the minimum number of vocational courses of study to ensure that the local area curricula contain a wide range of options of study both academic and vocational in nature. Further information on the [Learning and Skills \(Wales\) Measure 2009](#).



Welsh Baccaulaureate Update

“Education Minister, Leighton Andrews, announced in January that the number of centres offering the Welsh Baccaulaureate Qualification is set to rise from 167 to 217 in September 2010, meaning some 53,000 learners will be studying for the Welsh Baccaulaureate from September 2010.

80% of schools and FE colleges are now involved in delivery of the Welsh Baccaulaureate Qualification – a qualification which is designed to align

with 14-19 Learning Pathways. If you are not yet involved, but are interested in joining the roll-out, we anticipate a further round of supported roll out at Foundation level at 14-19 and Intermediate level at pre-16 and the opportunity to apply through the WJEC for Advanced and Intermediate levels in post-16.

The Welsh Baccaulaureate Qualification is available at three levels – Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced. It is a grouped award that includes a compulsory

Core, together with Options – established qualifications such as A Levels, GCSEs and NVQ. Learners are also able to incorporate the new Principal Learning qualifications into the Welsh Baccaulaureate Qualification. These are designed to give students an insight into a particular vocational area and focus on work-based learning, often in vocational settings.”

For further information about the Welsh Baccaulaureate Qualification visit www.wbq.org.uk

Neath Port Talbot 14-19 Network

Collaborative Provision – Effective Practice Seminars

Neath Port Talbot (NPT) is a local authority with nine 11-16 Secondary schools and two schools with 6th form provision (Welsh Medium and Faith Based); consequently over 75% of pupils leave KS4 and continue their post 16 learning at Neath Port Talbot College. As a result most of the KS4 collaborative provision to meet the 14-19 Learning and Skills Measure is delivered by the college or training providers which have excellent vocational provision.

As part of the self evaluation of the NPT 14-19 Network Collaborative Provision a joint review of college provision was carried out by the 14-19 Network Coordinator/Quality Champion and college SMT/Quality Team. The quality of collaborative provision was judged to be good with some outstanding features and no major shortcomings. However it was identified that an area for development is the dissemination of effective practice between pre and post 16 provision; also the way in which learners are taught and supported at KS4 is seen as a key area for sharing with college lecturers and training providers delivering to KS4 pupils.

Effective Practice Seminars

As part of the Quality Improvement Plan for the NPT 14-19 Network a series of Effective Practice Seminars has

been organised for the spring and summer terms 2010. The first seminar on Behaviour Management has taken place with training delivered by Sian Luscombe, former Operational Manager of the Behaviour Support Service in Newport, Stewart Davies, ICT Manager and Acting Assistant Head of Sandfields Secondary School, Roland Nicholas, Senior Teacher Llangatwg Secondary School and Martin Howell, Deputy Head, Dwr y Felin Secondary School.

Informative

Evaluation of the event has shown that the lecturers/training providers found the sessions very informative in particular the opportunity to share with the senior teachers from the secondary schools the myths and perceptions on both sides that surround sending KS4 pupils to collaborative provision. The delegates also heard from Stewart Davies on how Sandfields Secondary School set up, in consultation with all stakeholders, their new RESPECT policy as a philosophy for pupil behaviour, attitudes and rewards within the school.

Accreditation success

As a result of this one day event further action will be taken by the Network to ensure that communication between providers of collaborative provision and schools is further



improved to support learners achievement and accreditation success; and the use of the RESPECT model with their KS4 learners so that standards of behaviour and attitudes expected of pupils and rewards for pupils are similar whether in school or on collaborative provision.

Future Effective Practice Seminars planned for March include Assessment for Learning and Thinking Skills Techniques and Emotional Literacy and Emotional Intelligence.

14-19 Learning Pathways – Skills Awards for Teenagers at Blaenau Gwent Council's Training Centre

School pupils have earned certificates of merit after they swapped the classroom for the workshops at Blaenau Gwent Council's Business Resource Centre in Tredegar.

At the new 14-19 Learning Pathways Schools Automotive Workshop, the students repair and maintain cars under the supervision of the Business Resource Centre's staff.

Skills training

As part of the 14-19 Learning Pathways Programme, a total of 24 Year 10 and Year 11 students from six comprehensive schools attend half a day's training a week, which is slotted into their timetable of school lessons and examinations.

Several of the older pupils are hoping to transfer into full-time skills training, that will give them the qualifications and experience for a career in the automotive industry.

The students celebrated at a special awards day at the Business Resource Centre. They were all presented with their Open College Network (OCN) certificates for car maintenance and valeting.

Coun Des Hillman, Leader of Blaenau Gwent Council, said: "This is a terrific scheme that offers young people a great opportunity to get involved in vocational training at an early stage."

"The Blaenau Gwent Schools Automotive Workshop course is designed to provide young people with a basic understanding of the requirements of the motor trade. It includes work experience and skills learning on vehicle repairs and maintenance."

Coun Don Wilcox, Blaenau Gwent Council's Executive Member for Regeneration, said: "We want to encourage young people to take pride in their skills. This is about giving them a sense of purpose and direction, promoting their own self-respect and their willingness to work together."

Students from three training groups – construction, environment and automotive, were awarded Tools 4Ur Future certificates.

"We want to encourage young people to take pride in their skills."



Year 10 Automotive Group with John Mullen, Automotive Workshop Tutor (left of picture) – Daniel Price, Nathan Davies, Richard Newth, Ryan Kivell, Casey Jackson, Cerwyn Harris, Nathan Flanagan



Tools 4Ur Future Construction and Environment

with Tutors Cedri Jones (centre/left), Ian Jayne (left of picture) and Coun Des Hillman – Jack Humphrey, Jordan Miller, David Bull, Ellis Yendle, Kyle Griffiths, Gavin Brown, Aaron Owen, Jonathan Mellin.



14-19 Learning Pathways News – Media Award for Tredegar Pupils

In November, three local secondary schools were involved in the Media4Schools event at Cineworld in Cardiff.

The evening was a glittering celebration of school and community filmmaking.

Ebbw Vale, Tredegar and Glyncod Comprehensive Schools were nominated for an award for the Best Regional Film category within Blaenau Gwent.

Film titles included:

1. The Treasure of Tredegar
2. Construction Week
3. Owl Cool is That!

The award was won by 'The Treasure of Tredegar' by Tredegar Comprehensive pupils, involving an enlightened interview with the local legend 'Trevor the Milk'. The young people involved in this film were Bethany Daley, Derryn Jones, Emily Phillips, Gareth Price, Jamie Williams and Ryan Draper.



Richard Parsons, the Senior School Improvement Officer from Blaenau Gwent presented the award to the young people.

The films were funded through Blaenau Gwent 14-19 Learning Pathways.



Learning Coaching Development Training Across Education Establishments – Role of SMT

Gwynedd and Anglesey 14-19 Learning Network

A training session has been held for SMTs in Gwynedd and Anglesey education establishments to develop competency in providing learning coaching for all abilities and ages. Effective learning coaching provision for specific groups of learners has been well-established for many years across the various education establishments in the area, but the purpose of the training was to ensure that all learners can access the support.

During the training session there was an opportunity to share current good practices, receive guidance from Sue Halliwell from Estyn on inspectors' expectations, and hear from Careers Wales as to how learning coaching can be used as a tool to reduce the number of learners who become NEET.

To ensure consistency in coaching provision across all education establishments in

Gwynedd and Anglesey, each education establishment was given a Learning Coach Handbook. The main aim of this tool kit is to enable education establishments to upskill and train mainstream staff to deliver quality learning coaching.



Learning
Pathways

14–19