



## CAREERS AND WORK-RELATED EXPERIENCES (CWRE)

March 2025



*First Give School Final (Bryntirion Year 8 Pupils with Ceri Bevan from MS Society)*

## TOOLKIT FOR TEACHERS

Careers and work-related experiences (CWRE) is a critical component of our Curriculum for Wales. To ensure that CWRE provision meets the needs of learners and includes opportunities to develop career management skills, it should be well planned and outlined within a school or setting's policy.

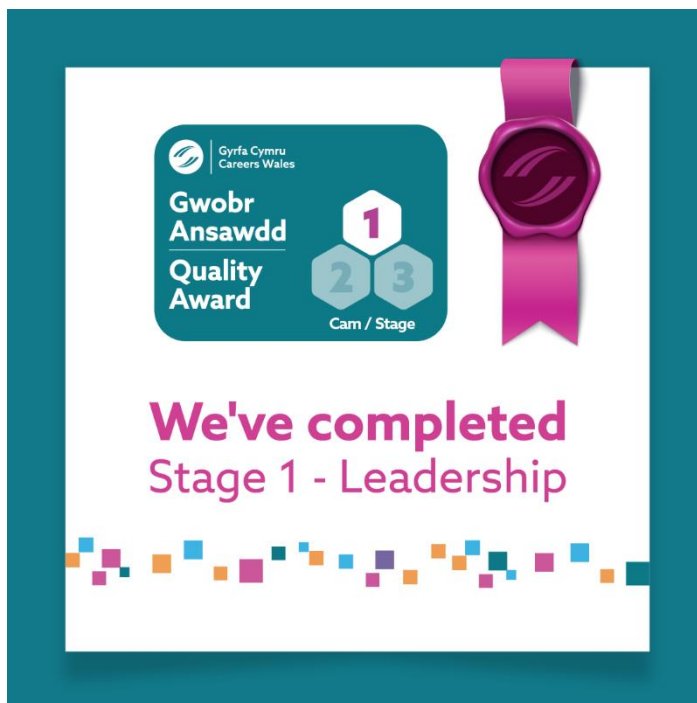
"Through effective careers education we can give learners an improved understanding of the world of work, an awareness of the skills they need to succeed and a greater awareness of the wide range of opportunities and routes available to them."

Source: Careers and Work-related experiences (CWRE) Toolkit for supporting schools and settings. Careers Wales and Welsh Government. 2021



## CWRE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Bryntirion Comprehensive School is committed to becoming one of the first schools in Wales to gain the new Careers Wales Quality Award and has been selected to take part in its pilot. Our school has a vision and strategy for CWRE set out in a specific CWRE policy and development plan. We are delighted to have passed Stage 1 of the Award 'Leadership,' and are now working through Stage 2 which involves realising CWRE in the curriculum through professional learning, stakeholder engagement and effective teaching and learning. A CWRE Development Plan has been created and led by Lloyd Rowe. Action areas have been created with a focus on piloting new CWRE projects within learning areas of the curriculum. The First Give Programme has been introduced in Year 8 Form Time where students learn about social issues within their local community and make links with the charity sector through 'real life' social action activities. Each project focuses on the development of the skills which are integral to the four purposes in Curriculum for Wales in a variety of contexts. The Award will support the development of purposeful and relevant CWRE across the curriculum. The Award is aligned with the Curriculum for Wales and has 3 stages, each with a different focus: Leadership, Development, and Impact.



*Year 8 pupils organise a staff car wash in support of Ty Hapus in the First Give Programme*





## BRYNTIRION ALUMNI



*Bryntirion Alumni members meet with Year 12 students during their Future Destinations week summer term 2024*



Bryntirion Comprehensive School has developed an Alumni Community to help us reconnect with our former students and keep in touch with leavers from the day they leave. We maintain a strong network of Alumni members to link with curriculum areas and enhance work-related experience opportunities for our learners. To join our Alumni Community, visit our school website and complete a short Form – we would be delighted to welcome you to our community.



## INTEGRATING CWRE INTO OUR CURRICULUM



### CWRE IN SCIENCE

Our Science department have developed excellent links with Sony Pencoed. An electronics project launch assembly was attended by ex-Wales International rugby player and SONY ambassador Mr Richard Parks. Science have worked with SONY's learning and development officers to develop the project which will utilise apprentices and team players, who will visit our school to support our pupils and their skills' development throughout the project.

*Year 8 Electronics in Science launch assembly with SONY Ambassador Richard Parks*



### CWRE IN TEXTILES

Our Textiles department have developed a meaningful link with University of South Wales (USW) and their Fashion department. Staff from the University have attended lessons and delivered workshops on the theme of careers in sustainable fashion, providing encounters that may form the next stage of our learners' career pathways.







### CWRE IN HISTORY

In collaboration with St Fagans National Museum of History, we developed a CWRE project, exploring the range of careers that contribute to the reconstruction of historical buildings. Staff from St Fagans launched the project with an assembly. We then split the project into two phases - Phase 1 covered the context to the Age of the Princes, which was the historical period of the project, and Phase 2 investigated the careers required to reconstruct Llys Llywelyn (the court of Prince Llywelyn) at St Fagans. The project was concluded with pupils creating their own models of Llys Llywelyn alongside a report of the reconstruction at the museum. The project provided an opportunity for us to deliver a Welsh History enquiry as well as specifically cover CWRE and digital competency. It also demonstrated the relevancy of studying History in an authentic context.



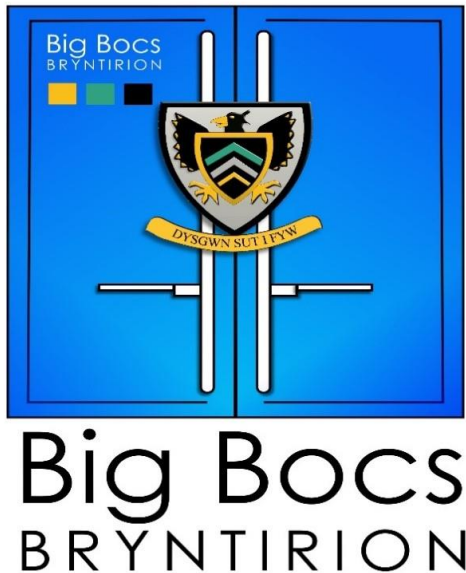
### CWRE IN TECHNOLOGY

Technology have developed a link with Invacare, Pencoed. Invacare is a world-leading manufacturer, distributor and supplier of a comprehensive range of products to support people with home healthcare and mobility. A new project has been created which utilises key members of staff from the business who support the teaching and learning process throughout key lessons during the project. The new pilot Year 8 project focuses on inclusive design and involves pupils designing and creating a series of prototypes which are judged by staff from Invacare.



*Finalists and winners of the grabber competition. After a suggestion from pupil voice, our visitors from Invacare tested the products and decided the winners with an extra prize for the sturdiest design.*

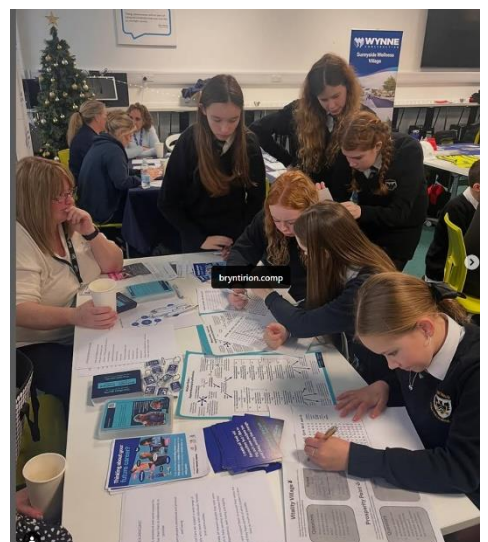
## BIG BOCS BRYNTIRION AND DYSGU BYW



### SKILLS FOR LIFE AND WORK

Big Bocs Bryntirion is developing community links with initiatives including a foodbank and uniform swap shop. The Bocs has been opened during school events such as parents' evenings and open days to support families. We are developing CRWE links into the Bocs as an integrated part of our Dysgu Byw Curriculum, developing skills for life and Work

## MY FUTURE CHALLENGE







The aim of our My Future challenge is to encourage pupils to begin thinking about their future and to support them in making informed choices when it comes to the Year 9 options process.

Throughout the challenge, pupils develop their **personal effectiveness** through discussions about their future, reflecting on their current progress in their subjects, having the confidence to interact with employers from outside agencies and independently researching possible future career areas. Pupils also had to **plan and organise** themselves effectively, managing their time, communicating well with employers and staff, and setting themselves goals for the future.





## TRANSITION TUESDAYS

Transition Tuesday has been launched where all students in Year 11 have been introduced to Careers and Destinations via a series of workshops in form time. Bryntirion Alumni members have been invited to school from a variety of industry to take part in the workshops and offer their skills, expertise, and experiences. Activities have included CV writing skills and mock interviews, supported by our Careers Wales Advisor.



## VALUED PARTNER



We are delighted to be working with Principality and Careers Wales on their Education Business Partnership programme which provides pupils, teachers and sometimes parents with opportunities to engage the business community. Staff from Principality have supported recent school events including the My Future My Choice Challenge, Bryntirion Dragons' Den and our Destinations' Week.

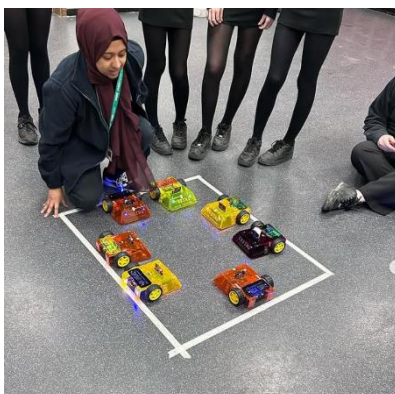
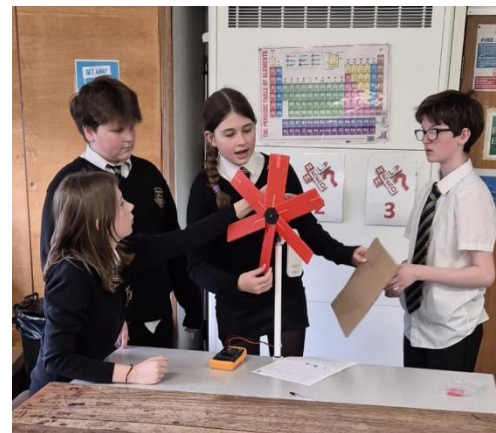
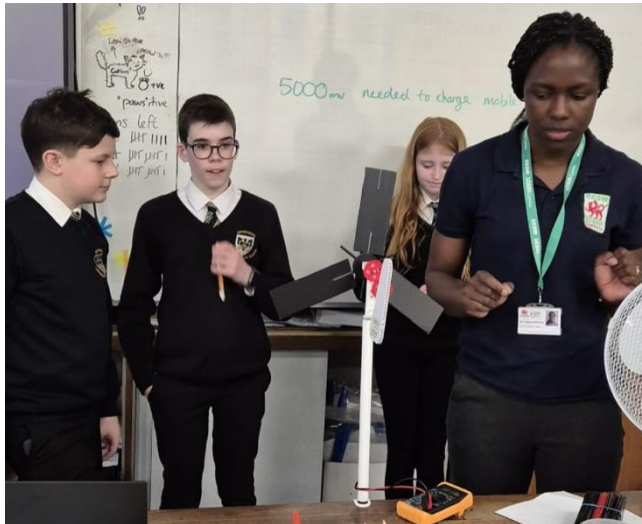






## BRYNTIRION CAREERS IN SCIENCE EVENT AND SCIENCE WEEK

This event focused on how science is applied across various industries. The week involved **interactive talks, demonstrations, and hands-on activities** that link science to a variety of employment sectors. The week engaged all our Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, helping them to understand how science plays a role in real-world careers.



*Martin who works for NASA leads a workshop with Year 7 pupils*



## ENTERPRISE & EMPLOYABILITY CHALLENGE



The Victory for Velindre Challenge has been developed at Bryntirion with support from WJEC and staff from Velindre Cancer Centre, Cardiff. The Brief Challenges pupils in Year 9 to work in a small team to develop a new product or service which can be used to support Velindre Cancer Charity. Pupils develop many skills in the challenge and are assessed on their Personal Effectiveness and Creativity and Innovation Skills in the National/Foundation Skills Challenge Certificate. Pupils collaborate to develop a business concept and produce a visual display and prototype which they pitch to employers in Bryntirion Dragons' Den. The Dragons' Den is run as a competition with teams being selected from the heat stages to go through to our school final. We were delighted this year to welcome British and Irish Lions and Wales Captain Sam Warburton onto our school final judging panel. Sam is a patron of Velindre.







## FIRST GIVE PROGRAMME



First Give has been introduced in Year 8 during form time. The First Give programme inspires and empowers young people to take action to make a positive change in society. The main purpose of the Programme is to support our learners with the development of skills integral to the four purposes in Curriculum for Wales. Each form class selects a social issue and then works alongside a locally based charity to plan and organise social action. The programme culminates in each form class presenting to a judging panel at the First Give School Final, which takes place in the summer term. At the school final, the winning form class is presented with a £1,000 grant for their class charity, this year this was Bridgend Food Bank.



*Judging panel consisting of the Senedd Member for Bridgend and Porthcawl and the Mayor of Bridgend County*



*Bryntirion Year 8 pupils present a £1,000 cheque to Bridgend Food Bank at our First Give School Final*





## SIXTH FORM DESTINATIONS WEEK



*Year 12 students attend a lecture at university of South Wales*

Our Year 12 students took part in our Future Destinations Week, exploring a wide range of options for progression into higher education, apprenticeship programmes and employment. Students attended a series of workshops, mock interviews and talks provided by external speakers and members of Bryntirion Alumni. Our Careers Wales Business Engagement Advisor provided many employers who supported the activities. All our Year 12 students visited the University of South Wales Treforest Campus, taking part in a series of lectures linking to the Advanced Skills Baccalaureate Wales Global Community Project.





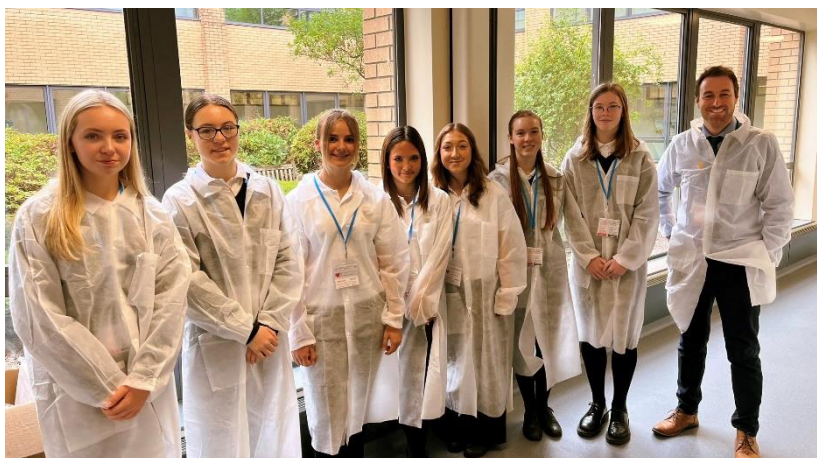
## WELSH BLOOD SERVICE



Bryntirion has formed an excellent link with the Welsh Blood Service. For several years the blood donation truck has visited our school site with Sixth Form students and staff donating. This year we look forward to the truck coming back to Bryntirion again. We have strengthened our link further thorough the Victory for Velindre Challenge, with our winning Dragons' Den team visiting the organisation's headquarters on an experience day to witness at first hand the running of the service.



*Welsh Blood Service deliver an assembly to Year 12*



*Year 9 students visit Welsh Blood Service HQ on a career's day*





## YEAR 10 ARMY DAY



Representatives from the army joined us to deliver an assembly to Years 10 -12 about careers pathways available to them. One hundred Year 10 pupils were then involved in group activities aimed at improving individual confidence, problem solving and team working skills.







## KING'S TRUST VISIT SONY



Year 10 King's Trust pupils visited the Sony Factory in Pencoed. Pupils were given a tour of the factory by Z. He explained the functions of each department and told the pupils about the apprenticeship opportunities that they could apply for. Three of the current apprentices spoke to the pupils about the opportunities they had at Sony, one was a former Bryntirion pupil! Pupils finished off the session by having an origami workshop with one of their Japanese colleagues who was on secondment from Japan.



*Year 10 pupils at SONY technology park in Pencoed*



## BRYNTIRION BOOK WEEK



Reading has been identified as the “single biggest indicator of a child’s future success” (World Book Day, 2024): it sparks our creative voices, transports us to far-off lands and teaches us to emphasise with others.

This year, we decided to focus particular attention on how reading, writing and speaking can lead to a range of career opportunities, as well as how stories can be brought to life through poetry and performance.



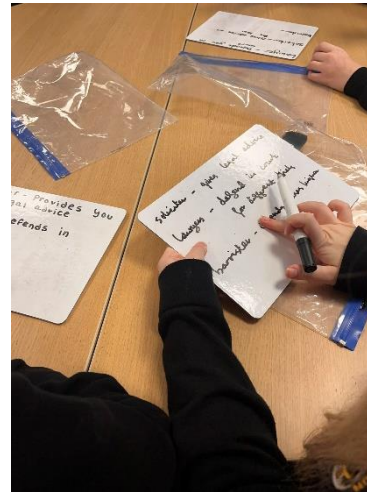


## TALKS WITH INDUSTRY

A series of in person talks have been arranged with targeted industry to support our Year 11 pupils with the future destinations choices. Careers have included Law, Construction, Fashion, Health and Social Care and the Armed Forces supported by our Careers Wales Business Engagement Advisor.



*Staff from RLE Law facilitated careers talk focussing on the Legal sector*



*Bryntirion Alumna Mrs Rees hosts a CV writing workshop with our Year 11 students*



## WOMEN IN ENGINEERING – WEAP

Year 8 girls recently went to WEAP industries to meet women in engineering and laboratory work. The pupils got to tour the site, ask questions about the machinery, experiment and make paper in the labs. They also got to ask questions to women in the industry about their roles.



*Year 8 pupils visit WEAP industries for a tour of the site*

## THE HIVE CAREERS EVENT

Pupils from the Hive visited Ysgol Bae Baglan for a careers event. Well done to Freya in year 11 who took part in a quiz, she won a £10 gift voucher!

