



ERW

Ein Rhanbarth ar Waith
Education through Regional Working

ERW Activity Report

Autumn 2020

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Section 1: Introduction

Regional Context

This report provides an overview of the:

- a. strategies and actions undertaken by ERW officers in support of school communities and Local Authorities during autumn term linked to Business Plan priority areas.

1. *Curriculum*
2. *Professional Learning and Research*
3. *Equity and Well-being*
4. *Leadership*
5. *Digital Skills*
6. *Cymraeg*

Each of these priority areas has a Strategy Group associated with it. These groups are responsible for monitoring the progress of actions against the relevant area of the Business Plan. They will also be responsible for co-constructing content in the following year's Business Plan.

While it is accepted that the context and setting of each Local Authority in ERW is different the purpose of collaborating on a regional level is to achieve a greater scale of economy through co-operation. Whilst changes and innovations can be incorporated to take into account local priorities or differences, there must remain a degree of regional consistency.

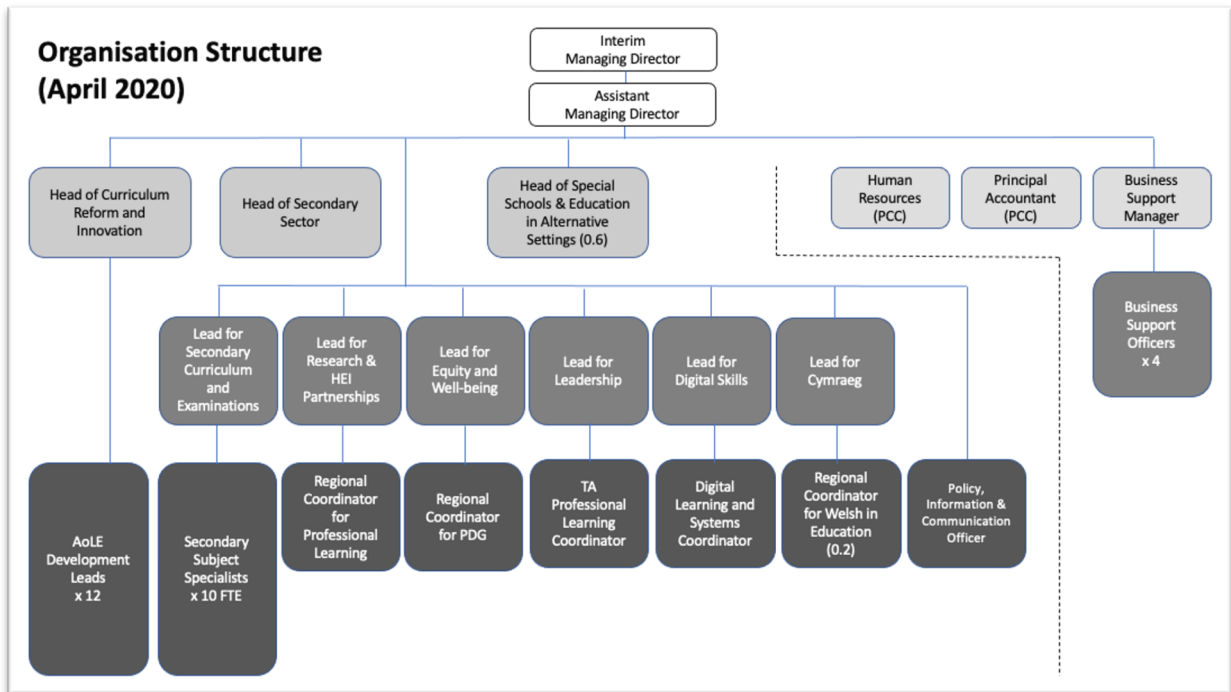
- b. levels of engagement and planned activity in autumn 2020

Overview

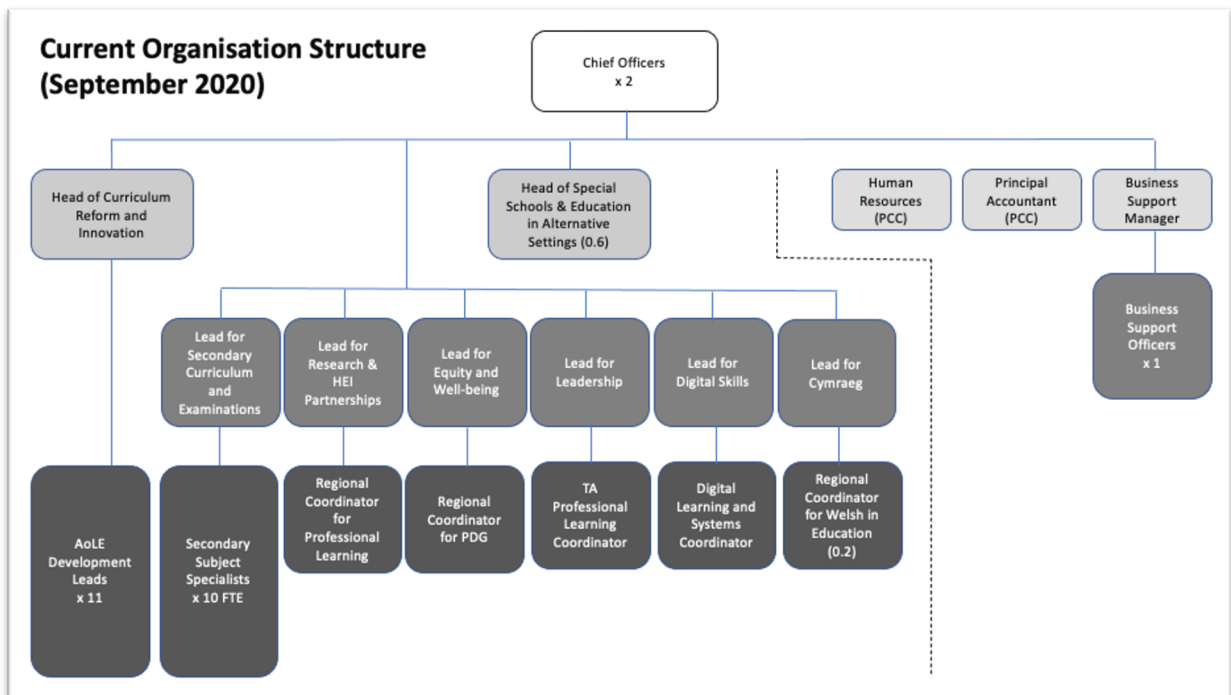
Since the onset of Covid-19 the ERW region has continued to work closely and collaboratively with its constituent local authorities (Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Powys, Pembrokeshire and Swansea), consortia partners, Welsh Government, Estyn and other stakeholders in support of the highest quality of blended learning and well-being provision for all learners.

During the autumn term, ERW has planned and delivered a range of high quality, bespoke support and professional learning for schools. The focus has been the blended learning agenda and continued support for all schools given the challenges of Covid-19. Work has continued to prioritise vulnerable and disadvantaged learner wellbeing and key groups identified by Welsh Government for the Accelerated Learning Plan/Recruit, Recover, Raise Standards strategy (ALP/RRRS).

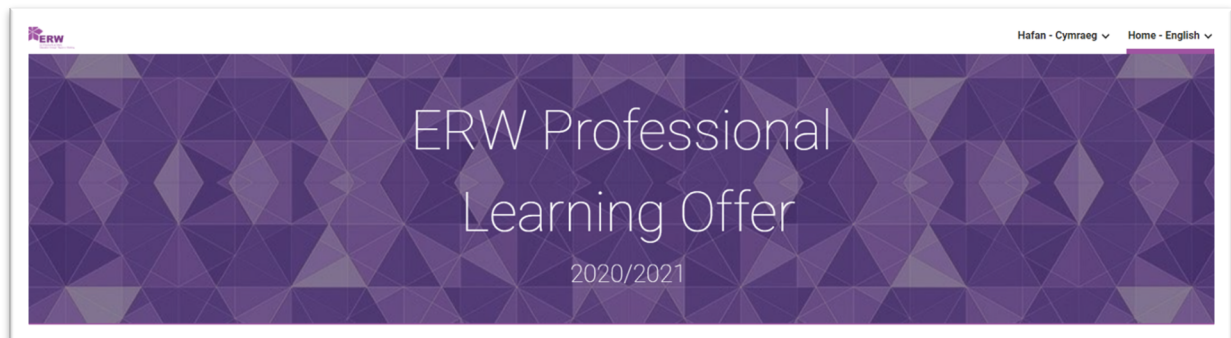
April 2020



September 2020



Professional Learning Offer



A Google Site has been developed to detail the full range of support and professional learning opportunities provided by the ERW team to practitioners and leaders across the region. The offer outlined takes into account the challenging circumstances schools are facing at present and has been structured in a flexible way to ensure a range of synchronous and asynchronous training and professional learning.

<https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/erwpl/home-english>

Section 2: Business Plan Overview and Activity

Curriculum

ERW will ensure that all schools and settings are supported to:

1. *develop whole school understanding of a purpose-led curriculum*
2. *consider how the Four Purposes drive all school priorities.*
3. *develop an agreed view of priorities for developing teaching and approaches to assessment set out in the Curriculum for Wales guidance.*
4. *remain abreast of qualification requirements and future reform.*
5. *design, plan and trial inclusive approaches to curriculum and pedagogy*
6. *collaborate within and between settings to develop and share their thinking*

The priorities above are predominantly delivered by the Secondary Support Team and Curriculum for Wales Team.

Curriculum - Secondary Support Team Activity

The secondary team has focussed on developing and delivering a range of online professional learning opportunities for middle leaders across all 52 secondary settings (via MS Teams). For example, around 40 separate dates have been made available to middle leaders across a range of subjects to access network meetings and collaborate effectively. These also include, in response to headteacher requests, an additional date and time, outside core hours to maximise attendance. All agenda items are linked to school priorities and developed in conjunction with school leaders. In the autumn term 2020, priority agenda items:

- Leadership after lockdown
- Effective teaching and learning in the 'new normal'
- Blended Learning
- Qualifications 2021

The Secondary team supports the following areas via Middle Leader Networks:

- Cymraeg
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Geography
- History
- Religious Studies
- Humanities
- Sixth Form Leaders

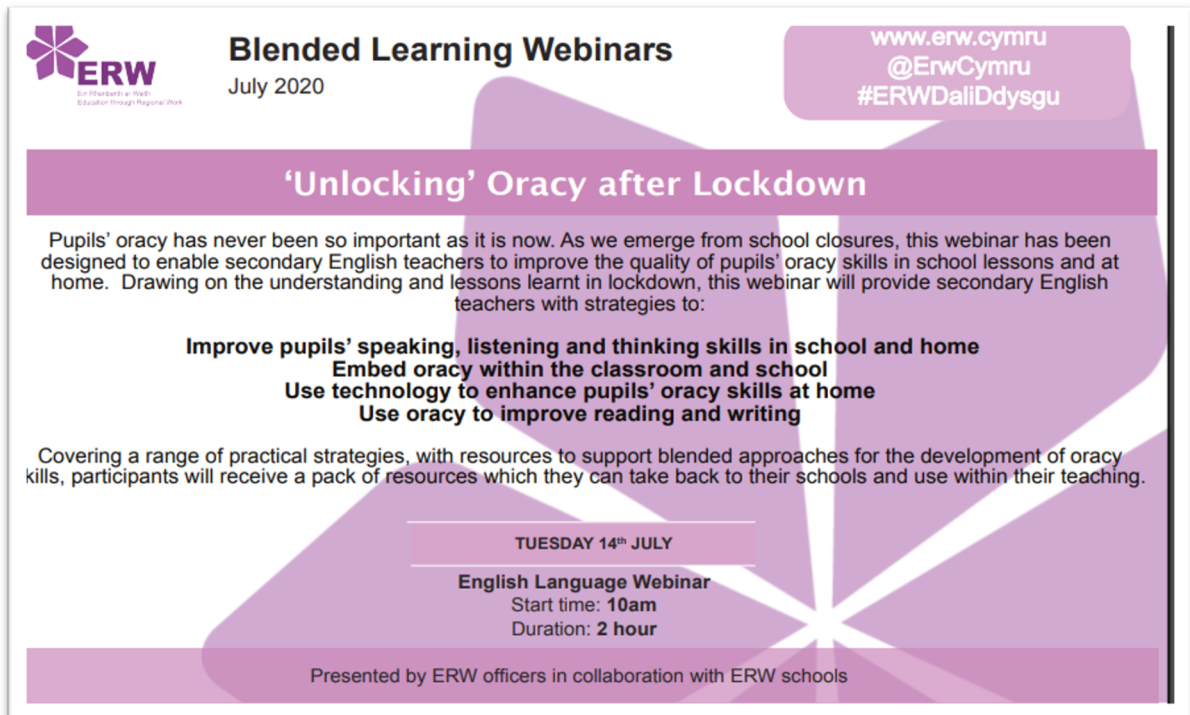
“Diolch yn fawr! That was incredibly useful, as always.”

“Thank you. Excellent as always. Some great ideas for improving the 'blend'!”

“Really enjoyed. Thanks for all your support. It was lovely to see everyone get some shared understanding.”

Heads of English, October 2020

Examples of PL already undertaken:
Unlocking Oracy



Blended Learning Webinars
July 2020

www.erw.cymru
@ErwCymru
#ERWDaliDdysgu

'Unlocking' Oracy after Lockdown

Pupils' oracy has never been so important as it is now. As we emerge from school closures, this webinar has been designed to enable secondary English teachers to improve the quality of pupils' oracy skills in school lessons and at home. Drawing on the understanding and lessons learnt in lockdown, this webinar will provide secondary English teachers with strategies to:

- Improve pupils' speaking, listening and thinking skills in school and home**
- Embed oracy within the classroom and school**
- Use technology to enhance pupils' oracy skills at home**
- Use oracy to improve reading and writing**

Covering a range of practical strategies, with resources to support blended approaches for the development of oracy skills, participants will receive a pack of resources which they can take back to their schools and use within their teaching.

TUESDAY 14th JULY

English Language Webinar
Start time: **10am**
Duration: **2 hour**

Presented by ERW officers in collaboration with ERW schools

"The ideas around mind, body and voice are great for improving how oracy is taught."

" This is a good idea for moving forward with the new curriculum."

"Thank you for sharing your knowledge with us and for creating such excellent resources for use in the classroom. You've made a real difference to my practice"

Feedback from the Unlocking Oracy session

1. How useful was this event?

● Very useful	14
● Useful	1
● Somewhat useful	0
● Not useful	0



2. Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements

■ Strongly agree
 ■ Agree
 ■ Neutral
 ■ Disagree
 ■ Strongly disagree



Adborth Siarad a Gwrando mewn gwersi Cymraeg Uwchradd



Cyfoethogi Siarad a Gwrando mewn gwersi Cymraeg - 29.09.2020

33 Responses 04:32 Average time to complete Active Status

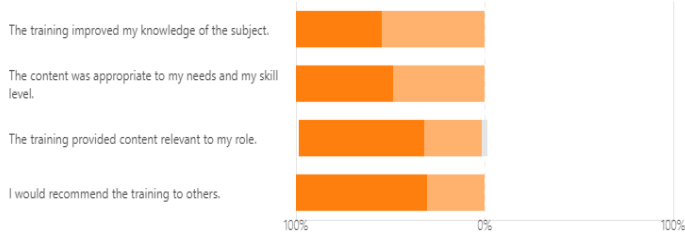
1. In which local authority do you work?

Carmarthenshire	13
Ceredigion	2
Pembrokeshire	6
Powys	5
Swansea	7



2. REACTION: Please rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree



3. REACTION: Which aspects of the training did you find most helpful to your current situation, and why?

32 Responses

Latest Responses

"The sharing of useful techniques e.g. noughts and crosses, fish bowl"
 "Syniadau newydd i mi wrth strwythuro gwersi trafod. Yn paratoi gwe..."
 "Syniadau sut i drefnu tasgau llafar a sut i gyflwyno cyfleoedd am laf..."

4. REACTION: Which aspects of the training did you find least helpful to your current situation, and why?

18 Responses

Latest Responses

"Y cyfan yn bosib i'w addasu i'r cynradd - angen symleiddio a dewis t..."
 "Mae'n rhai syniadau fydden ni ddim yn cael trio oherwydd cyfyngia..."

5. REACTION: If any, what are the areas for improvement for this training?

17 Responses

Latest Responses

"Buddiol iawn. Diolch yn fawr"

6. LEARNING: To what extent do you anticipate that the learning will have a positive impact on your practice?

33 Responses



4.64 Average Rating

7. LEARNING: Give some examples of how you will apply the learning from the training

28 Responses

Latest Responses

"Link some of the learning to the teaching I provide as a science teach..."
 "Yn ein gwersi meicro"
 "Bydda i'n defnyddio mapiau meddwl a siarad a matiau 4 barn"

8. LEARNING: To what extent do you anticipate that your learning from this training will have a positive impact on your practice over the next year?

33 Responses



4.61 Average Rating

9. LEARNING: What positive steps are you going to take to ensure you achieve this?

26 Responses


Latest Responses

"Communicate with other departments to try and incorporate some o..."
 "Parhau i greu adnoddau pwrpasol ar gyfer ysgolion a modelu gwersi..."
 "Rhannu syniadau gyda'r adran a strwythuro tasgau siarad yn well"

Autumn Term 2020

In addition to the common offer for all schools, the secondary team continue to offer bespoke departmental support to develop improvement in leadership and teaching. As part of this process, the secondary team are conducting virtual visits and face-to-face support will be considered through dialogue between ERW SLT and LA Directors where appropriate.

Secondary subject specialists complete a support form and key actions are agreed between ERW officers and the school. The recommendations include key actions to be completed by both ERW officers and school staff though the 'ERW will.../The School will...' sections.



Ffurflen Gefnogi
Support Form

Ein Rhanbarth ar Waith
Education through Regional Working

Area of focus:

- Develop the quality of blended learning resources in English to prepare for any future lockdowns/class isolation.
- Improve the quality and consistency of assessment.
- Implement robust standardisation and moderation processes to improve accuracy of departmental assessment.

Argymhellion/Recommendations		
<p>Bydd ERW yn/ERW will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide teachers with examples of effective blended learning resources and collaborate with department in amending SOL for blended learning. Support middle leader in quality assuring blended learning resources and supporting learning loss. Support middle leader with standardisation and moderation meetings to ensure assessment is accurate and consistent across the department. 	<p>Bydd yr ysgol yn/The School will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate on new SOL with a focus on challenge and blended learning. Continue to develop new quality assurance processes in reviewing pupil work and response. Provide appropriate time for department to standardise and moderate all key assessments. 	

Ysgol: School:	Ysgol Uwchradd ERW	
Dyddiad Date	Cychwyn (Meysydd i'w Gwella) Start (Expected Impact) September 2019	Diwedd (Mesur Cynnydd) End (Measuring Progress) August 2020
Swyddog: Officer:		
Cyfarfu â: Met with:	Headteacher/Head of Department	
Pwrpas yr ymweliad: Purpose of visit:	Support visit: English	

A range of PL opportunities for middle leaders and practitioners is being offered to schools during the autumn term to develop their practice. These include improving blended learning and classroom teaching, leadership and support for NQTs across the region, including those who will be recruited following WG's £29 million commitment to the RRRS/ALP programme.


Example of Professional Learning Offer for teachers and leaders:


SECONDARY HUMANITIES
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING 20-21

Further details and sign up links will be made available closer to the dates on our twitter page, Dolen and website.

For more information, contact:

julian.nicholds@erw.cymru

 All events held via Microsoft Teams



Ein Rhanbarth ar Waith
Education through Regional Working

PL Title	Focus	Audience	Date
Talking Humanities	Developing the use of oracy in the humanities classroom.	All secondary humanities teachers	19th November 2020
Improving questioning in Humanities	Exploring questioning techniques in context with humanities subjects and blended learning approaches.	All secondary humanities teachers	5th November 2020 11th February 2021
Blended Learning in Humanities	Focusing on blended learning models which allow for learners to make progress	All secondary humanities teachers	13th November 2020
Preparing for Curriculum 2022 (Part 1)	Developing departmental Purpose and Vision.	All regional Heads of Humanities	3rd November 2020
ALN Reform	Preparing for ALN Reform (Supporting ALN learners in Humanities) - updates on reform, one page pupil profiles and person centred planning	All regional Heads of Humanities	10th November 2020
Supporting new subject leaders and heads of department	Providing support for new heads of Humanities in how to improve outcomes for learners and leadership	New heads of department or subject leads	17th November 2020 10th February 2021
Supporting Vulnerable Learners in Humanities	Supporting Vulnerable and eFSM learners in your classroom	All secondary humanities teachers	26th November 2020
Supporting new and non-specialist teachers of religious studies Part 1	Developing confidence teaching, assessment and marking for the RS GCSE	All teachers of Religious Studies	21st January 2021
Supporting new and non-specialist teachers of religious studies Part 2	Developing confidence teaching, assessment and marking for RS at Key Stage 3	All teachers of Religious Studies	27th January 2021
Preparing for Curriculum 2022 (Part 2)	Planning for 2022	All regional Heads of Humanities	4th February 2021

The secondary team continues to support schools by producing a range of high quality resources to exemplify what effective distance, blended and classroom learning looks like. These resources focus on subject content and skills progression for KS3, KS4 and KS5. As well as altering these resources to fit their learners, these resources exemplify how leaders and practitioners can adapt their own schemes of learning. All resources are appropriate for supporting examination units for each subject. Across all subjects, most heads of department have indicated that these resources are useful in supporting their departments and pupils and download numbers have increased significantly since March.

In addition to these resources, the secondary team have created 'response packs' for each individual subject area. These packs provide a week's worth of work for KS3 and KS4 when a temporary or individual lockdown occurs in schools. The aim of these 'response packs' is to ensure that leaders and practitioners are prepared and planning for any eventuality with partial school closures and are able to continue and support pupils' learning quickly. Once the response packs have been sent out it provides classroom teachers an opportunity to tailor and alter their current schemes of learning to a distance or blended approach.

ALN

Readiness training, including Person Centred Practice has been provided to Humanities teachers during the Autumn Term.

Curriculum and Innovation Team

Professional Learning Resources

Due to the current situation and in light of restrictions to delivery, the team have created a menu of significant online support as outlined in the support menu available through the Google site. As schools concentrated on operations, the team focused on creating Professional Learning support for schools to engage with Curriculum for Wales (CfW) as and when they felt ready and now, in alignment with the national expectations, ERW is in a much stronger position to support schools with their CfW reform.

A comprehensive website is available to support schools with the national expectations to engage with whole-school vision, consideration of pedagogy, collaboration and assessment and progression. These are followed by six AoLE engagement workshops and additional resources provide schools with clarity around the conceptual model of the curriculum. This has been the most significant piece of work in supporting schools to develop the CfW at this uncertain time and is the backbone of professional learning for schools as they develop their vision for the curriculum: <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/journey-to-cfw/home>

“A heartfelt thanks for the INSET on the new curriculum which was remotely delivered by ERW in the school today. The professionalism of the delivery was excellent and the whole thing was a slick operation which really was a superb reflection of ERW's standards. We look forward in maintaining this worthwhile professional collaboration between the school and ERW as we walk the path towards the 2022 Curriculum for Wales.”
Secondary School colleague

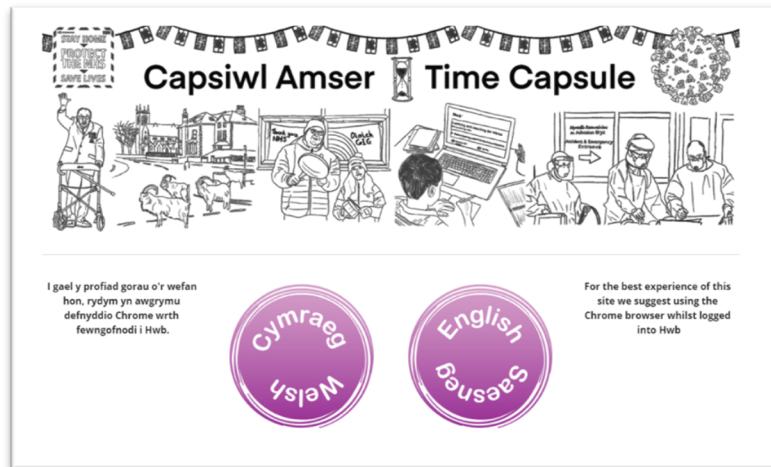
This site complements the bite-sized development site ‘Transforming Your Curriculum’ which is updated regularly to build a full picture of the CfW purposes and principles and is strengthened by two programmes which enable schools to take a deeper look at the pedagogical principles and high-quality pedagogical practice. This resource was shared with all schools during the spring term 2020 and has been utilised extensively since and has received positive feedback each time it has been updated.



“The TYC provides a clear way forward for school leaders to work towards designing the curriculum in their schools and this will have a positive impact on learner outcomes within the school. It has given us an understanding where we are now and what the journey may be like over the years to come. I was enthused by what I saw, I know the learners will love it!” ERW Headteacher

Time Capsule

Time Capsule, a site which supports schools with their approach to recovery, is also available online. In order to support learners, parents and practitioners for the return to school in the summer term and first weeks of the autumn term, Time Capsule provided practitioners in both primary and secondary



schools with support for wellbeing and re-connecting initially. In addition, the site provides learning experiences for wellbeing. Learners contributed to a living archive of their views on how life has changed, good and bad. The site is still available as an ongoing resource, which could be especially used with groups of learners needing more support in re-connecting during the recovery period. Feedback has already been extremely positive on these resources and there has been interest from Welsh Government and other regions in sharing and developing similarly high-quality resources linked to supporting schools in supporting their learners.

Work is underway on further online support packages to support development with CfW throughout the autumn term, including two further sites to support schools to improve learning and teaching, a site which exemplifies the implementation journey and a practical look at design and methodology, and a site to support outdoor experiences as schools build their local curriculum. The PfE is also being used in other regions and supports the Talk for Pedagogy programme and the professional learning support led by Welsh Government.

“We’ve been really impressed with your site and wanted to ask if you would mind us sharing it with schools in our region and encouraging them to engage with it? It’s such a good piece of work it we’d love to use it!”
Regional Consortium Officer



Journey to Curriculum for Wales
ERW: Part 1

The Journey to Curriculum for Wales website provides a structured insight into how a local school curriculum can be developed. It provides a clear interpretation of the Curriculum for Wales model and a bitesize step-by-step approach to guiding whole school engagement via the development of vision, collaboration, pedagogy and assessment. These pivotal building blocks are further articulated in an introduction to the areas of learning and experience.

 Website



Principles for Excellence

Principles for Excellence is an online professional learning programme designed to provide teachers with the skills to demonstrate a higher level understanding of the 12 Pedagogical Principles included in the Curriculum for Wales Guidance. Enabling professional collaboration and nurturing a deeper understanding of the underlying values and principles of pedagogy to inform classroom practice and influence teaching approaches for learners.

 Website



Learning for Excellence

The Learning for Excellence professional learning programme is designed to give good and excellent teachers a high level of understanding as to what teaching and learning can achieve in the classroom. It explores strategies that enable them to become consistently and sustainably excellent.

Available autumn term as an online / blended professional learning programme.

School Support

Early on in the school closure period, the team created a supporting wellbeing video for schools to use with their parents and a bilingual set of guidance for parents to help with home learning in relation to literacy in Welsh and English, numeracy and digital competence. Having finalised work on the resources outlined above, the main thrust of the work this term has been directly supporting schools with their professional learning. Despite a halt to a wide programme booked to deliver the Learning for Excellence programme, the team has supported 75 teachers with another 240 waiting to access the online version. A range of twilight sessions, group learning sessions and meetings have supported schools across the region. The content of these PL opportunities has spanned a range of topics from whole-school consideration of the purposes of CfW to engagement with areas of learning and experience. In total over 2000 teachers have engaged with and benefitted from input and training from the team in the autumn term.

In addition, cluster contacts have been allocated from within the curriculum team and to meet with clusters and with LA cluster representatives to support their local developments.

All members of the curriculum team are involved in leading AoLE Professional Learning networks across the region and most support AoLE networks for leaders in partnership with secondary colleagues.

“It has inspired me to continue to always deliver excellent lessons and has also given me fresh ideas that I can implement in my teaching in the future.”

LfE Delegate

“The value of the PfE programme is immense – unlike many other PL programmes, it is designed specifically for the needs of teachers in Wales and affords invaluable opportunities to examine the pedagogical principles and implications for our new professional practice.”

Senior Challenge Adviser

“ERW’s training session was very relevant to our training needs. The visual representation of the entire curriculum was extremely helpful and the training really widened my knowledge of the planning process for this year.”

Primary practitioner

During the initial school closure period and throughout the summer term, members of the team had significant involvement in drafting national guidance to schools, including guidance on wellbeing, blended learning, curriculum and assessment, contributing to the overarching guidance and the sub-set domains.

This specifically included creating the initial national guidance document as the Curriculum team officers provided the draft ‘5 Ways to Wellbeing’ which became the overarching guidance. The full range of guidance documents are available through Hwb and continue to be utilised by schools.

At present, the Curriculum team are able to work once again within the original remit, albeit with different operational organisation and delivery methods. As such, a set of programmes has been developed to suit schools individual situations. The workshops can be used virtually, facilitated, blended and when the situation allows, face-to-face.

Schools, clusters and networks of schools are supported with bespoke advice; planning and professional learning aligned to national expectations and engage them in collaborative dialogue and supporting other schools wherever possible.

“Thank you for your presentation today. I thought it was pitched perfectly in getting the heads of department to understand what the curriculum is all about and also getting them to really consider their role in the whole reform process.” Secondary Network Lead

Local Authority Support

The team continues to work in partnership with local authorities to develop programmes of professional learning, to contribute to these programmes, to advise and to communicate national and regional updates and messages.

Our support has included advising on resources, leading digital leads’ meetings and working with curriculum strategy groups and leads. For example all challenge advisers across the region have benefitted from regular updates on CfW and the range of resources developed by the team.

“The work you and your team and undertaking is fantastic and very much appreciated. Our schools really value the excellent support that the ERW curriculum team are giving for PL” LA Challenge Adviser

“Many thanks for your time and for your positive response to our proposals for the continued development of practice in our LA’s schools. Your support is invaluable.”

Cross-Regional Support

The team works with, and contributes to, cross-regional groups to support the national programme of professional learning, including supporting programmes and platforms designed to strengthen collaboration amongst the profession across Wales. These programmes have been developed and amended to recognise the challenge of the current circumstances.

Welsh Government Support

Members of the curriculum team are actively involved in creating additional guidance for schools on specific aspects of the new curriculum and attend and lead regular workshops. These aspects include assessment, careers and work related experiences, Relationships and Sexuality Education and Black, Asian and Ethnic Minority.

External Partners

The team support, advise and work alongside a number of external agencies and networks which bring support to schools through their work. Recent initiatives have developed effective working with a number of ventures across a wide range of topics linked to the four purposes including working with the National Library and Lead Creative Schools as well as supporting the Global Futures agenda for international languages.

The team created a PowerPoint resource for schools and parents called 'Going out by Staying in' exemplifying learning experiences for children readily available online. The WJEC asked for permission to use this on their website, as did the Health Board.

“Fabulous support for schools – I’m not at all surprised you’ve had such positive feedback!” LA Officer

Support for ERW Officers

The curriculum team devotes considerable time to supporting the work of other ERW officers and teams. In September the team have prepared, supported and delivered training to:

- Schools involved in the wellbeing HAPPEN project (Equity and Well-being)
- Schools who are part of the Empathy Lab network (Equity and Well-being)
- Schools who are additionally involved in the work presented by Robin Banarjee (Equity and Well-being)
- Participants in ACES training (Equity and Well-being)
- Primary and secondary NQTs across the region – this has meant re-writing and developing suitable programmes and materials which not only exemplify Curriculum for Wales but work for participants in an online capacity
- Participants in the Middle Leaders Development Programme – again this has required developing materials to be used in a blended and online capacity of delivery and participation
- Secondary colleagues to develop joint messages to all sectors

The team has also supported the work of other officers creating professional learning on:

- Literacy for vulnerable learners
- Wellbeing
- ALN

ALN

Support for schools

Regular Network meetings have been held with Special schools and continue throughout the term. The focus of these meetings has been supporting the continuity of learning for these schools, Blended learning session, and ensuring high quality collaboration across the region and sharing of best practice.

“The meeting was very beneficial and its good to hear we are all facing the same challenges, there is lots I will take back to SLT” School Colleague

Regular Network meetings have been held with PRUs and will continue throughout the term. The focus of these meetings has been the supporting the continuity of learning for these schools and ensuring high quality collaboration across the region and sharing of best practice. A recent session focused on sharing the training resources developed by the ERW curriculum team.

“Thank you for a really useful and interesting session today on curriculum design. We will use the toolkit to support our own work in our planned Curriculum Design INSET day later this month. The links re outdoor learning were also really helpful We will pass them on to our newly appointed Outdoor Learning Leader”

Professional Learning and Research

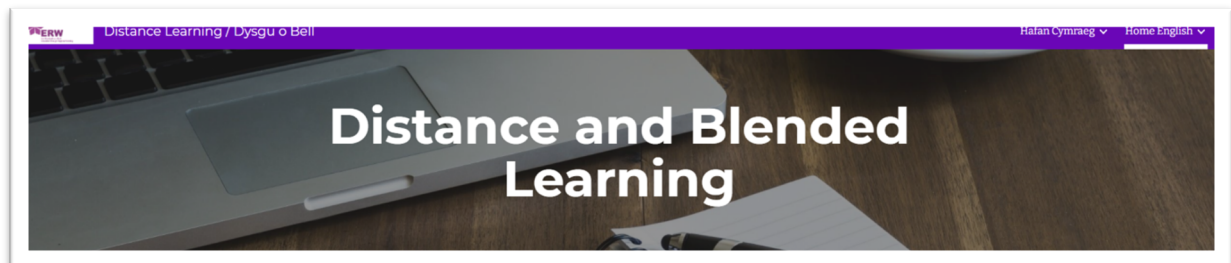
ERW will ensure that all schools and settings are supported to:

1. *engage with a national professional learning offer, appropriate to the individual's role, to enhance their skills, improve their teaching, knowledge and career progression*
2. *collaborate with higher education institutions to make effective use of high-quality research to inform their practice and contribute to research where appropriate*
3. *use the professional standards to identify areas for professional learning to improve practice and develop themselves as learning organisations*
4. *engage with professional learning that promotes inclusivity and equity*
5. *engage with national development programmes for Teaching Assistants across the region, covering all stages of the Teaching Assistant Learning Pathway.*

Blended Learning

The Blended Learning Google Site has been developed and has been widely accessed by schools across the region since March. As we have gained a clear understanding of the blended learning agenda, we have added to the site some key research documents as well as a range of blended learning models for our schools to access walkthrough sessions and follow up support for planning. We have also ensured that key messages are shared with LA partners and also include some LA initiatives on this site.

Schools continue to access the site to ensure appropriate synchronous and asynchronous opportunities for learners. This has been ever more appropriate as learners and, in some cases, whole year group have self-isolated.



Distance and Blended Learning resource

Direct link: <https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/erw-distance-learning-sal/homeenglish/blended-learning>

Dolen card:

<https://porth.erwrhwyd.cymru/repository/browse?sort=&language=en&category=Distance%20Learning&tags=Distance%20Learning>

Professional Learning Networks

In order to support schools with their thinking and research around pedagogy and CfW, ERW has launched Professional Learning Networks (PLNs). The launch event for 113 schools included update sessions from Welsh Government on National Professional Enquiry Project, Schools as Learning Organisations, National Pedagogy Project and Professional Learning Journey. Lead Enquiry Schools will support new Partner Enquiry Schools with professional enquiry related to the National Enquiry Menu's key themes of: Inclusion; Pedagogy and Learning; Re-Imagining Schooling and Assessment.



Central Team staff, LA colleagues and HEI partners will work in collaboration with the schools to ensure effective research and consistent sharing of lessons learned. 124 schools are being supported with training and bespoke support in approaches to carrying out effective professional enquiry by UWTSD, Swansea and Aberystwyth Universities. These valuable sessions have been coupled with an opportunity for school staff involved in PLNs to participate in Introduction to Coaching and Mentoring sessions and 90 members of staff have completed the first phase of this training with two more sessions planned for January and March of 2021.

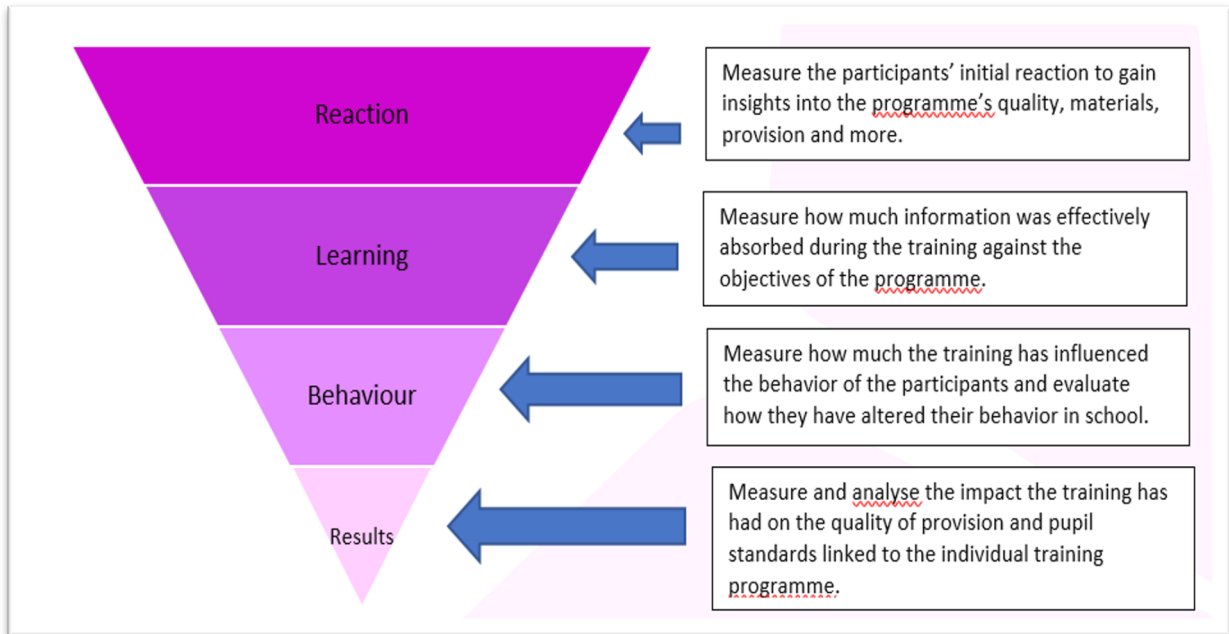
“The whole approach of the training session was relevant and I will definitely be feeding back to staff and adopting aspects of the coaching technique.”

“Very informative and will not only help me support parents and staff within my team but will be very useful in work for the LLC PLN which may involve coaching parents.”

The work of the PLNs has been set out in a clear action plan and the work is evaluated using the Kirkpatrick model.

[Kirkpatrick Evaluation Form 1 Responses to PLN Launch Event](#)

The Kirkpatrick Evaluation model



PLN Action Plan

What to do?
1. Create 'PLN Version 1' by allocating 111 schools who expressed interest to 1 of 7 networks based in stated preferences. Ensure spread of LAs, Primary/Secondary/3-18, WM and Special schools/settings in each network. Allocate LES/PES cluster collaborations.
2. Share 'PLN Version 1' with ERW SLT for consultation. Adjustments to be made to PLNs following consultation creating 'PLN Version 2' including allocation of ERW central team to PLNs. ERW co-ordinator required for each PLN.
3. Share 'PLN Version 2' with senior challenge advisers prior to SCA meeting for consultation. Adjustments to be made to PLNs following consultation creating 'PLN Version 3' including allocation of challenge advisers to PLNs.
4. Share 'PLN Version 3' with HEI Partners. Allocate LES/PES schools to specific HEIs and inform WG.
5. Share 'PLN Version 3', draft Core Brief and PLN Action Plan with ERW Central Team to begin planning for launch. ERW team members involved in PLNs to arrange meetings to appoint responsibilities to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise meetings, record meetings and identify actions • Chair meetings • Liaise with local authority colleagues • Quality assure school outputs and meeting deadlines • Feedback progress of PLN to SAL/CM • Evaluate impact of PLN using Kirkpatrick Model
6. Prepare to launch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create MS Team for PLNs with General overview and 7 channels. Files to be added to Teams general channel to include: PLN Core brief (Cym and Eng versions), PLN allocations, Cluster partnerships, HEI support • Email all schools to notify them of PLN allocation and HEI Partner, include launch event details with invitations to join Session 1 at 2-3pm (General Meeting) and Session 2 at 3-4pm (PLN specific meeting). Inform schools that all meetings will be recorded. • WG Secondees to provide 5-10 minute videos on National Professional Enquiry Project (NPEP), Professional Learning Journey Phase 2 (PLJ), Schools as Learning Organisations (SLO), National Pedagogy Project. • Lead Enquiry Schools to provide 5-10 minute presentations on NPEP Phase 1 work to be delivered in session 2. • Kirkpatrick evaluation forms to be prepared in readiness for launch
7. Launch PLNs via MS Teams 2pm-4pm Session 1 for all schools to include: 2.00-2.10 Welcome schools, ERW/LA staff, HEIs, WG Officers (GM/IA) 2.10-2.20 NPEP Phase 2 overview (Dave Egan) 2.20-2.30 PLN Core brief – purpose, expectations, outcomes, reporting, grant funding arrangements, sharing practice. (SAL/CM) 2.30-2.40 SLO Update (Ann Bradshaw) 2.40-2.50 PLJ Phase 2 Update (Mark Jones) 2.50-3.00 National Pedagogy Project Update (Mark Ford) Session 2 PLNs to meet as AoLEs 3.00-3.10 Welcome to PLN members, introduce ERW/LA Colleagues and cluster schools information (ERW Chair) 3.10-3.40 LES schools to share NPEP Phase 1 reports outcomes 3.40-3.50 National Enquiry Menu for discussion/poll for interest? 3.50-4.00 Next steps – future meetings, key dates and deadlines and evaluation Form 1 to be completed.

Building Research Capacity Schools

During the autumn term, the 45 schools who began work on this project in 2019-2020 will complete the remaining days of research enquiry training delivered by Aberystwyth, Swansea and UWTSD interrupted by Covid.

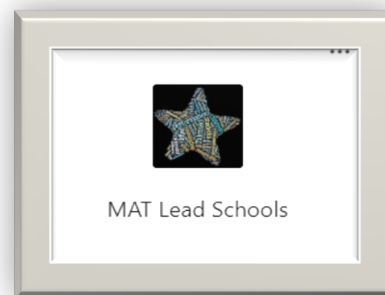
Leading Collaborative Learning Project

Eight schools from the region will receive check in and catch-up sessions online with Dr Lyn Sharratt during the autumn term to build on work undertaken to date as part of the Welsh Government funded Leading Collaborative Learning Project. There are plans to resume face to face support from Dr Sharratt in the summer of 2021.

Lead MAT Schools Professional Enquiry Project – 32 Schools

Eight Lead MAT schools will conclude the professional enquiry projects started in 2019-2020 that were interrupted by Covid 19 and share their professional learning relating to their MAT enquiries with 24 Partner MAT Schools across the region. Areas of focus include:

- Effective identification and tracking
- Coaching and mentoring for MAT learners
- Developing expert language in the classroom.



This work has been developed in conjunction with the national messages emerging from the cross-regional MAT group and the production of the national guidance for MAT learners.

Post-16 Professional Enquiry Project

Ten secondary schools working in collaboration with 3 FE colleges from within the region will carry out post-16 research enquiries with additional support for enquiry methodologies and practice from the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David.

UWTSD Co-Plan, Co-Teach Initial Teacher Education Project

Eleven ITE Lead Partnership Schools will work with UWTSD to co-construct a research question, pilot framework and evaluate the results of a co-plan, co-teach project with expert input from Colette Murphy to develop a co-teach framework.

Swansea Research into Practice Project

Twenty-seven ITE Lead Partnership Schools will receive bitesize online sessions for engaging with research enquiry, supported by Dr Rachel Lofthouse.

Aberystwyth ITE Mentoring Project

Thirty ITE partnership school schools will receive mentoring in practice training led by Aberystwyth University.

Professional Learning Journey Phase 2

Ten ERW schools will collaborate with Welsh Government to develop playlists for the Professional Learning Journey resource hosted on Hwb. The playlists are organised around the dimensions of the SLO model and are designed to support schools across the system in their readiness for Curriculum for Wales.

Research Studies – HEIs in collaboration with ITE Partnership Schools

ITE schools from across the ERW region will be involved in collaborating with Higher Education Institutions to provide answers to research questions on the following areas:

The use of distance/blended learning (University of South Wales/Aberystwyth University/Glyndwr University)

The impact of distance/blended approaches on learners including disadvantaged learners (Bangor University/Aberystwyth University/UWTSD)

The experience of Welsh-medium education (Bangor University/Aberystwyth University/UWTSD).

The implications for assessment of learners (Cardiff University and Cardiff Metropolitan University)

Parental and family engagement (Swansea University (6 schools) and Bangor University)

The health and wellbeing of learners and practitioners (Glyndwr University/Bangor University/University of South Wales)

ALN

Professional Learning Blended learning support for PRU's

Work with Challenge Advisers and Carmarthenshire PRU staff to ensure effective support for Blended Learning. A training session and a subsequent sharing of practice session have taken place. Further support to be provided later this term. 100% of attendees stated the training increased their knowledge and would recommend the training to others"

Local Authority support

ALN Transformation to support professional learning

The training plan for ALN Transformation was developed with the ALN Transformation leads from all regions. ERW is currently leading the training subgroup jointly with Ceredigion Inclusion lead, commissioning on behalf of ALN transformation resources to support schools.

Welsh Government

ERW continues to work with WG strategy group developing the Masters for ALNCo modules and core ALNCO module. Preparation is ongoing and modules will be ready for delivery in September 2021.

Work with external agencies

ERW is working with Sue Pellew – James, University of Wales Trinity St Davids to redesign and revalidate the post graduate diploma initially developed by special schools for improving the expertise of those teachers working in special schools and specialist settings. The qualification has been re-developed and is currently in the 2nd phase of re accreditation.

Equity and Well-being

ERW will ensure that all schools and settings are supported to:

1. *design and deliver the health and well-being area of the curriculum*
2. *develop an understanding of the barriers to learning that many pupils face*
3. *Identify and develop universal approaches which promote wellbeing*
4. *be aware of and contribute to the PDG and PDGLAC regional priorities*
5. *be informed and prepare for the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act*

Building on the key contributions to the Continuity of Learning from March 2020 and a wide range of ERW developed PL opportunities, work has continued to focus on engaging with teachers and leaders to ensure strong support for schools and settings. This has enabled professionals in schools and settings across the 5 LAs to develop their understanding of universal approaches and effective practice which, whilst benefitting all learners, will disproportionately benefit those who would be seen to be disadvantaged and vulnerable.

School Support

Understanding Anxiety in Children and Young People : Professor Neil Frude

These videos were made available on Dolen at the end of August in readiness for the return to school. Almost 200 schools have accessed the videos and feedback has been very positive and the videos have been used by leaders to support whole school training

Twilight session with Robin Banerjee ‘Back to School –relationships as the key to emotional wellbeing’

This twilight session was attended by 111 from across the 5 LAs. Primary, secondary and special school practitioners shared their initial observations on how learners were managing the return to school. Professor Banerjee shared his insights into their observations and set this within the context of the fundamental importance of positive relationships in the context of learning environments. He also introduced delegates to his sociogram tools and explored how they can support practitioners to gain a deeper understanding of the complex nature of peer relationships.

The session was recorded and is available on a Hwb Playlist though Dolen.

“I thought the video clips of teachers sharing their experiences was really useful with Professor Banerjee responding to them and drawing our attention to underlying key messages” Teacher

Wellbeing Matters webinar

A webinar was held to introduce and launch 6 bilingual videos available to all schools and settings in ERW. The videos use research and evidence from the field of positive psychology to promote personal and social awareness. Videos and accompanying resources are available on Dolen.

“First of all a huge thank you for arranging the training yesterday. It was a little Pause in the emotional mine field we are currently living in and I will certainly be sharing it with my staff.” Headteacher

Introduction to Equity and Well-being

Bespoke training session and accompanying playlist developed and piloted at a secondary school in Pembrokeshire

Trauma Informed Schools: Back to School Training

Ninety seven schools from across all 5 LAs received training delivered by Dr Coral Harper focussing on supporting schools to prepare for the return to schools. The session offered an underpinning of theory as well as practical application to enable staff to understand the impact of the crisis and move forward to a find new normal and received very positive feedback.

PL programme for LAC & Vulnerable Learner Leads

Forty four delegates from across all 5 LAs attended the sessions. Schools in attendance were very positive about the learning opportunities emerging from this training. These four sessions, delivered by Helen Worrall, are to be made available via Dolen and are accompanied by a Hwb Playlist. The PL was designed to give schools leads a strong theoretical and operational understanding of the role and the support frameworks that can be used to support children who are looked after and vulnerable learners within schools. Each session is a standalone training session but each one will build knowledge and compliment the previous session.

Supporting Adopted Learners with Adoption UK Cymru

Forty delegates from schools across the region attended this session. Most delegates requested further training to supplement initial session.

Thinking Differently for Disadvantaged Learners

Professional Learning programme for all schools across the region from Challenging Education

As part of the ERW Equity in Education Programme - 6 recorded training modules are to be released half termly. Modules focus on the topics most pertinent to disadvantaged learners and is available for all schools and settings. This innovative new professional learning programme is available free to all schools and staff across the ERW region. This programme will take an in depth look at disadvantage and vulnerability within our schools and offer solutions and opportunities to think differently.

The training modules will cover a wide range of areas pertinent to the needs of disadvantaged learners and across the six modules this will include (but not be limited to):

- What it is like to be poor in school
- The impact of the curriculum
- Adapting teaching and effectively using metacognitive strategies

- Addressing the difficulties of participation in all aspects of school life
- Teaching appropriate learning behaviours
- Thinking about career-related learning from the earliest age

Raising Achievement of Disadvantaged Youngsters

As part of the ERW Equity in Education Programme - 14 Secondary schools across the region have been funded to take part in the Raising Achievement of Disadvantaged Youngsters (RADY) programme and looking at how they put in place fundamental changes across the whole school from year 7.

Ongoing work with Pembrokeshire Challenge Advisers to roll out the RADY programme to all clusters in the LA

Local Authority Support

Powys NQTs

A one day training package was developed for NQTs in Powys on 'Creating a positive Learning Environment for All' . Developed in response to direct request for support from Powys.

“Very many thanks for this we will very much work around you for convenient dates. Look forward to these sessions and many thanks for the resources” Senior Manager, Education Services

Link meetings with LA leads for Equity and Well-being

Half termly meetings have been set up with the PDG and Wellbeing leads from LA teams. Previously 'catch up' meetings were held with individual LAs rather than as a group.

Training with Challenging Education on 'Supporting schools to tackle the barriers facing eFSM learners'

As part of the ERW Equity in Education Programme - The sessions, attended by 70 ERW Central Team and LA Challenge Advisers, had a clear message around supporting school to ensure authentic opportunities for disadvantaged learners are harnessed. Training has already resulted in positive conversations between ERW and LA based staff and their schools.

Cross Regional Support

- Regional Coordinator for PDG continues to contribute to the cross-regional PDG group
- Lead for Health and Well-being contributes to the newly formed 'Wellbeing in Leadership' group

Welsh Government Support

- Lead for Health and Well-being continues to work closely with Welsh Government and currently chairs the Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE) group tasked with writing the RSE guidance and code.

- Regional Coordinator for PDG continues to work closely with Welsh Government Officers, Attainment Advocate and Consortia PDG Leads to develop guidance and effective practice.

Collaboration with other ERW Officers

- Secondary Team : Bloom resilience training for all secondaries (Mental Health UK) organised with Post 16 lead
- Close work with the Curriculum Development Team: HAPPEN resources, EmpathyLab, Banerjee, ACEs training, Equity in the Curriculum resource as part of the suite of resources for schools embarking on their curriculum journey.
- Work with Head of Special Schools and Alternative Settings regarding vulnerable learners literacy project introducing Headsprouts online reading to 40 plus schools to support parents continue to develop pupils reading.

Working with external partners

Head of Special Schools and Alternative Settings works closely with ALN transformation regional group to ensure updates are provided to ERW team and Challenge Advisers.

ALN

School support

Support for teachers working with ALN/vulnerable learners to improve the teaching of vulnerable/disadvantaged learners

Resources currently commissioned and available on Dolen to support differentiation – 5 x 1hour sessions provided by Mike Gershon.

Support for teachers working with ALN/vulnerable learners

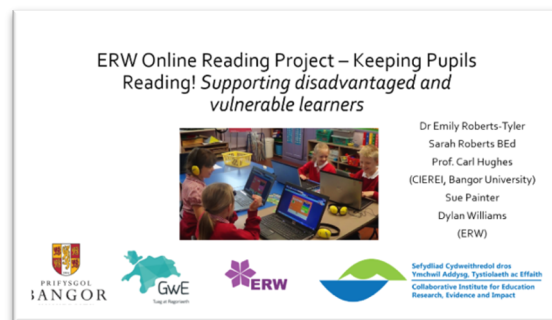
Future Pans

Five 15 minute videos providing an hour long professional learning module are currently being developed by Sam Gardner, an educational consultant specialising in special education needs and mental health on a range of support issues for schools -

- Working with parents
- Inclusivity and education
- Quality first teaching as a first wave of support for ALN students
- Using multi sensory teaching to support ALN students
- Neurodiverse and neurotypical – what do these terms mean and what does it mean, how does it affect children and what does this mean for the teacher.

These will be available later in the autumn term.

Support for vulnerable learners



Support for teachers working with ALN/vulnerable learners

The “WOW” programme has been developed to support schools in the effective use of teaching assistants. Two Hwb Playlists have been developed for launch in November. This programme is designed to support schools develop an inclusive approach to meeting the needs of those learners who find learning difficult. It will also support schools implement the requirements of the new Additional Learning Needs and Educational Tribunal Wales (ALNET) Act . It aims to increase the skills, strategies and confidence of staff - particularly teaching assistants (TAs) - to support pupils to work more independently within an inclusive classroom. Regular updates are provided to the ERW Cental Team, Challenge Advisers and schools via ERW newsletter and twitter regarding ALN Transformation.

Resources to support schools implement ALN Transformation

- awareness raising PowerPoint and playlists including Person Centred Practice have been developed and available on Dolen

<https://porth.erw-rhwyd.cymru/repository/resource/aa48491c-a257-4982-aa87-5b4a3a6fe337/en>

- ALNCO guide to support schools understand changes under new ALNET Act have been made available to schools via Dolen

<https://porth.erw-rhwyd.cymru/repository/resource/e9396c4a-ae3f-400c-bfc5-2ae0c117eff/en>

Future Planning

- Work is currently being planned with special schools and PRU settings to develop resources to enable parents to access IT to support their children’s learning
- Work is currently being planned with special schools and Proff. Corinna Grindle to introduce TEN-DD (Teaching Early Numeracy to Children with Developmental Disabilities).
- Work underway to develop ‘Disadvantage and Digital programme of activities and resources to support parents and carers with online and digital support for learners
- Comprehensive PL programme, covering a wide range of equity and wellbeing areas, currently planned for each term this academic year

Leadership

ERW will ensure that all schools and settings are supported to:

1. *access a high-quality, extensive portfolio of leadership development opportunities at every stage of the Professional Leadership Pathway.*
2. *utilise the Professional Standards in order to develop and lead effective learning organisations.*
3. *access development opportunities and accreditation for Higher Level Teaching Assistants*

All Leadership Programmes operate in full compliance with the National Cross Consortia Leadership Group. This group ensure equity in the access and delivery of all National Leadership Programmes. Many aspects of these programmes are now being delivered national basis with shared resources and personnel.

The ERW Leadership group consists of the Lead Challenge advisor from each LA. This group promote programmes within their LA and form the endorsement panel for applications for all programmes ensuring applications are appropriate and that capacity and local resources are available.

The ERW leadership Group include members of the Leadership Strategy Group who inform, guide and support delivery of the business plan.

Newly Qualified Teachers. NQT

All schools have a named and trained IM in place as they may need to employ an NQT (Including ST Supply) at short notice.



NQT Induction programme timetable of all induction modules are in place and training for Internal Mentor and External Verifiers is offered from a selection of dates throughout the autumn term.

Across ERW, 391 colleagues have been trained on the national training programme. Effective changes to induction in the light of Covid 19 have been implemented and close working with WG ,EWC, across all 4 consortia and with LAs have ensured aligned messages for individuals in schools and support for the amended process. This is a strong example of collaborative working to support schools and has been successful as the system has continued without any negative impact for NQTs or schools.

Middle Leader Development Programme.

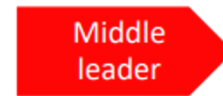
This programme will recommence after half term.

Applications for cohort 2 opened Friday 18th September.

Additional rounds of this programme are being offered to all ALNCo funded by LA Inclusion Lead Officers across the region (See ALN Section).

School based facilitators already trained will receive update training and their schools will continue to be funded for these System Leadership Roles.

NATIONAL MIDDLE LEADERS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



This one year development programme is a professional learning opportunity for middle leaders across Wales. It is a national programme delivered by local consortia and is endorsed by the National Academy of Educational Leadership with opportunity for accreditation in partnership with UWTSD and Bangor universities.



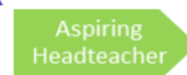
NPQH (Assessment Only)

Applications for NPQH Assessment Model closed 1pm 18/09/20
 NPQH Assessment February 2021

Aspiring Headteacher Programme

This new model for NPQH (delayed by Covid) will now start in January 2021. Previous endorsed applicants remain enrolled to start in January. Any additional applications must be received by 1pm 3/11/20. Participants who complete the programme will be eligible to apply for NPQH assessment in February 2022

NATIONAL ASPIRING HEADTEACHER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – PREPARING FOR NPQH



This one-year development programme is an exciting professional learning opportunity for experienced school leaders across Wales who wish to become head teachers in the near future. Completion of this programme is an expectation for all future NPQH applicants.

This national programme is delivered by Regional Consortia and their partners, which include Local Authorities and Higher Education Institutions. It has been endorsed by the National Academy of Educational Leadership with opportunity for accreditation in partnership with UWTSD and Bangor universities.



National New Headteacher Programme

Cohort 1: 2018-20 will be invited to attend Development Day 5 of Cohort 2 in July 2021

Cohort 2: 2019-21 will resume after half term 2021

Cohort 3: 2020-22 currently supported by LA. National programme will commence after autumn half term

NATIONAL NEWLY APPOINTED HEADTEACHERS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Newly Appointed and Acting Headteacher Programme is available to all newly appointed and acting Headteachers in Wales, it is delivered by the Regional Consortia and their partners which include Local Authorities and Higher Education Institutions. This programme has been endorsed by the National Academy of Educational Leadership.

National Experienced Headteacher Leadership Programme

The national Experienced Headteacher Development Programme remains paused and will resume as soon as restrictions allow.

It is not anticipated to open applications for the next round until this programme is evaluated.

NATIONAL EXPERIENCED HEADTEACHERS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

This programme is a new professional learning opportunity for experienced headteachers and has been created to enable headteachers to reflect on their current performance and determine their next steps in ensuring effective leadership.

The programme will provide each participant with personally tailored challenges and support; time to discuss ideas, theories and leadership tools; and the opportunity to benefit from, and to help others successfully fill the role.

It is a national programme, endorsed by the National Academy of Educational Leadership, co-ordinated by regional consortia in collaboration with Local Authorities and delivery partners. There is an opportunity for accreditation in partnership with Trinity St David's (Yr Athrofa) and Bangor University for those participants wishing to undertake such a route.

Teaching Assistant Learning Pathway (TALP)



Teaching Assistant Learning Pathway TALP

- Newly Appointed Teaching Assistant Induction Programme
- National Practising Teaching Assistant Development Programme
- Aspiring HLTA Development Programme
- National HLTA Assessment Model
- Specialised Teaching Assistant Opportunities
- ERW Teaching Assistant Google Classroom

ALN

ERW's Head of Special Schools & Education in Alternative Settings is currently working with the regional transformation lead and LAs to recruit ALNCo's to attend the national Middle Leader development programme.

Funding has been secured from Welsh Government through ALN Transformation grant to support 72 places across the region, 12 per LA (support includes NPT as linked to ALN transformation agenda and funding).

Digital Skills

ERW will ensure that all schools and settings are supported to:

1. *develop leadership of Digital Learning*
2. *ensure Online Safety, across all stakeholders, is as robust as possible*
3. *develop digital competence as a cross-curricular skill, engaging with the Digital Competence Framework*
4. *setup and run Code Clubs to develop logical thinking and coding skills*
5. *share effective practice in the use of digital technology, both in the classroom and as a management and collaboration tool for staff*



Continuity of learning – Developing blended learning approaches

A series of webinars for primary, secondary and special school practitioners were run during the first half of the Autumn Term, giving schools an overview of the digital tools available through Hwb that can facilitate blended learning/online learning. The sessions included an overview of considerations for school leaders to ensure a consistent, whole school approach to blended learning. Recordings and live discussions with school leaders from around the region were also shown, to give schools an insight into plans and strategies to facilitate a variety of scenarios now faced by schools due to the impact of Covid-19 e.g. members of staff having to self-isolate, whole co-horts of learners having to self-isolate, small groups of pupils self-isolating, etc. Schools found these ideas to be particularly useful as guidance to implement and influence their own plans.

Many practitioners viewed the webinars live, however, the complete series of webinars are also available on demand through Dolen.

A comprehensive list of these resources can be found in Section 5 of this document.



Resources

A number of blended learning resources are available to schools via Dolen and the new professional learning website. The resources are based around the webinar recordings from the summer term, but also include various links and guidance documents to support schools in improving their knowledge and awareness of the Hwb tools available to facilitate blended learning. Additionally, there are examples from schools across ERW that give a variety of ideas on how practitioners can best utilise these tools to develop an engaging and effective blended learning approach.

“Your webinars have provided all staff with the skills and confidence to be able to support our pupils in a blending learning format. Can I thank you for providing guidance at a level which suits everybody - you seem to tap in to where individuals are - we have a mixed age of staff and a mixed level of confidence, but our staff, under your guidance, have sprinted along their learning continuum.” Headteacher

Updated blended Learning guidance will continue to be made available to schools to ensure that they are aware of any changes to the Hwb toolset available to them. Examples of effective practice from schools across the region will also continue to be shared via Dolen, to ensure all schools are aware of the potential of the tools and effective pedagogy regarding blended learning.

Updated Blended learning/online learning guidance:



In order to keep up with the current Covid-19 situation and the latest guidance, ERW digital learning colleagues have worked closely with Welsh Government on the latest updates to guidance documents around blended learning and live streaming, which are available on both Hwb and Dolen. There are also less formal guides available e.g. short video screencasts, that give practitioners an update on the current features that have been released as software tools continue to be developed at a rapid pace. Some of this guidance revolves around the use of live streaming platforms through MS Teams and

Google Classroom and contains key messages to safeguard both school staff and learners.

Online Safety

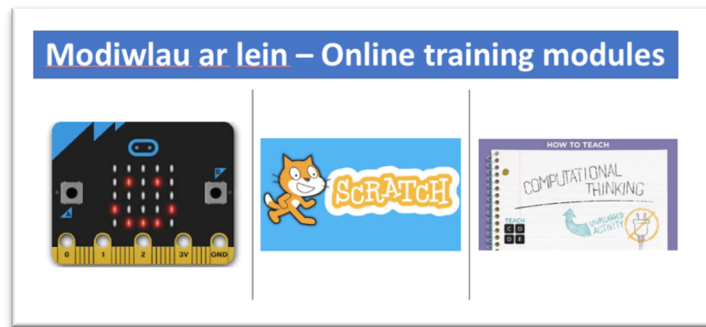
All practitioners, both staff and learners are spending more time than ever online as part of their school day. To help ensure all stakeholders have the skills and knowledge to remain as safe as possible whilst online, ERW continues to work in partnership with SWGfL, to provide online courses to highlight the current trends and concerns around online safety and blended learning. Any updates regarding the review of online safety through the 360 degree Safe Cymru tool are also shared with schools. ERW's close working relationship with SWGfL enables us to utilise their expertise to ensure that practitioners are aware of the current issues regarding safeguarding and blended learning.

360 DigiCymru Self Review Tools

ERW officers have worked as part of a cross-regional group to produce a digital learning self review framework. The group has now liaised with the Hwb team to create an online tool, available to schools as part of the Hwb toolset. The Beta version of the new 360 Digi Cymru digital self review tool will be assessed by school leaders through online awareness sessions. The tool will give school leaders a comprehensive view of digital learning in their school and provide clear action plans against areas for improvement, in order to develop digital learning. The main features and purpose of the tool will be outlined during the online sessions and schools will be invited to give feedback on the Beta version to inform amendments for the full release in January 2021.

Coding training

ERW will work with 12 schools across the region to create coding resources and receive coding packs. The resources created will be shared with all schools via Dolen. There will also be funding made available for schools to release staff to engage with online learning materials and to receive coding packs. The online training modules available to schools will be:



1. Introduction to Coding
2. Scratch
3. Micro;bit

Curriculum for Wales

The ERW Curriculum Team will support schools to create resources to develop cross curricular projects in line with Curriculum for Wales principles. These resources will be shared with schools via Dolen.

Virtual RDLE

A number of schools will showcase ideas and examples of how to develop digital competence across the curriculum in a virtual event run over the course of a week during the Spring Term. Practitioners will be able to choose which online workshops they would like to attend.



Cymraeg

ERW will ensure that all schools and settings are supported to:

1. *deliver current and future curriculum to support improvement in the Welsh language*
2. *develop as bilingual communities*
3. *plan effectively in order to contribute to the delivery of the 'Cymraeg 2050: Welsh Language Strategy'*
4. *develop the Welsh language proficiency of teachers and education assistants at different levels*

National and regional priorities

The overarching aims, and the long term strategy for Welsh in Education and the 'Cymraeg 2050: Welsh Language Strategy' remain the basis for all our work in the context of Welsh in Education. Some areas of work have naturally been stalled or delayed due to current circumstances and the restrictions presented upon us in our work with schools over the last 6-7 months. However, where possible the delivery of the work has been adapted to ensure the original aims are fulfilled, albeit in a different way.

Collaboration with Welsh Government officers remains strong, as does the collaboration with the other consortia and the LAs. Leads for Welsh in Education in the four regions meet regularly to discuss national priorities and collaborative projects. Regular communication between ERW and Welsh Government officers ensures that the focus is on key national priorities and addressing those priorities in a consistent manner where possible.

Resources to support the teaching and learning of Welsh in the primary and secondary sectors

Developing resources has been a key element of the work in the context of Welsh in Education over recent years. Although there has been some delay in the completion of certain projects due to Covid-19, a range of resources have been completed with other resources due to be completed before the end of the term. Feedback has been very positive on recently completed projects, and there has been an increased use, and wider than expected use of some resources, such as Secondary Welsh language thematic video clips, as they've been a way to ensure pupils in second language settings in particular are able to 'hear' more Welsh around them, something that was difficult for many when schools were closed.

Some recently funded / completed projects include:

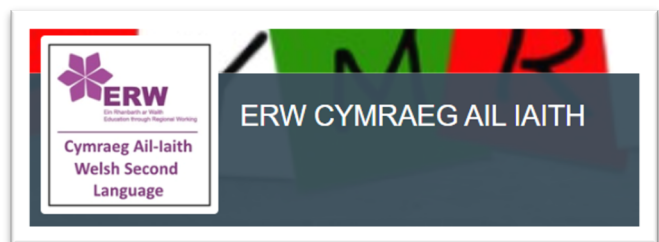
- Tric a Chlic good practice training videos
- Primary second language Welsh video clips to support teaching Welsh in the Foundation Phase and KS2
- 'Dim Dreigiau, Dim Defaid' workshops and resources to support schools to present the Welsh dimension across the curriculum.
- Ap Iaith – language skills app.

A range of new resources have been commissioned with the aim of addressing current needs and priorities in schools. These resources, include the following:

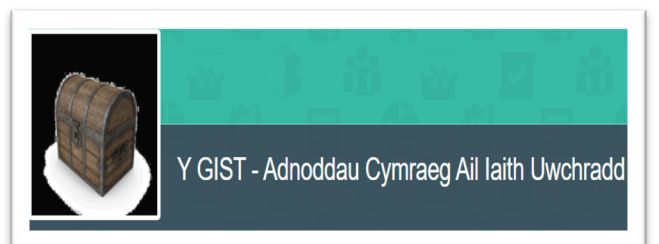
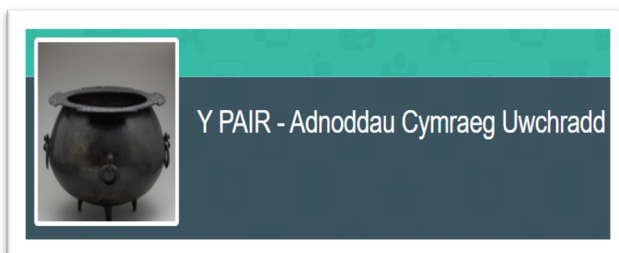
- GCSE Welsh and GCSE Second Language Welsh video clips
- A book of PISA style reading exercises (Firs Language and Second Language)
- Further development of the Ap Iaith developed last year
- Videoscribe resource on the history of the Welsh Language
- Regional and pan-Wales networks

All resources have been widely promoted through ERW communication platforms to ensure that they are available and easily accessed by all schools. There are two designated networks on HWB (ERW – Welsh and ERW – Second Language Welsh) where secondary teachers can find a wide range of resources, and in recent months two new national platforms have been created to share resources – Y Pair (Welsh Secondary Resources), and Y Gist (Welsh Secondary Second Language Resources). Both new platforms have been developed by means of collaboration between officers in the four regions, and the development of Y Gist has been led by ERW.

Rhwydweithiau ERW



Rhwydweithiau Traws-rhanbarthol



Collaboration across the regions has strengthened significantly over the last 6-7 months, and has resulted in many collaborative projects. One significant collaborative project was the creation of an interactive website and a set of resources to support GCSE Welsh pupils studying the 'Llyfr Glas Nebo' novel. The website was successfully launched in October and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. This was a collaborative project that was led by ERW, and having successfully completed this project the intention now is to work on further similar projects in the future.



“Ces fodd i fyw yn gwyllo'r cyflwyniad. Adnodd arbennig a hynod flaengar a defnyddiol i ddisgyblion ac athrawon. Gwych yn wir!” Estyn

“Gair byr i ddiolch ac i dy longyfarch ar y prosiect hwn ar Lyfr Glas Nebo. Mae'n mynd i fod yn gymaint o gymorth i athrawon a disgyblion wrth astudio'r nofel. Diolch yn fawr iawn. Adnodd gwych. Bydd yn cyfoethogi addysg disgyblion sydd yn astudio'r nofel.” Prif arholwraig TGAU

*“Diolch yn fawr i'r holl gyflwynwyr ac i bob aelod o'r tim datblygu am eu gwaith ar y wefan arloesol hon. Llongyfarchiadau ar waith mor wych!”
Swyddog Rhanbarthol*

“Diolch yn fawr. Bydd yn adnodd defnyddiol iawn.” Swyddog Llywodraeth Cymru



Hwb | i | Llyfr Glas Nebo

**GWEFAN RYNGWEITHIOL NEWYDD
AC ADNODDAU DYSGU
I GEFNOGI DYSGWYR I ASTUDIO A MWYNHAU
'LLYFR GLAS NEBO'**

Cyflwyniad byw i ddulliau cyfoes o astudio nofel TGAU

- Cymeriadau
- Themâu
- Digwyddiadau
- Iaith ac arddull

**DYDD MAWRTH
Hydref 13eg
9.00-10.00yb**

Mae'r adnoddau yn ffrwyth gwaith cydweithio cenedlaethol

EAS ERW Gŵel

Lansiad yr adnoddau

Recordiad o'r lansiad

13.10.2020

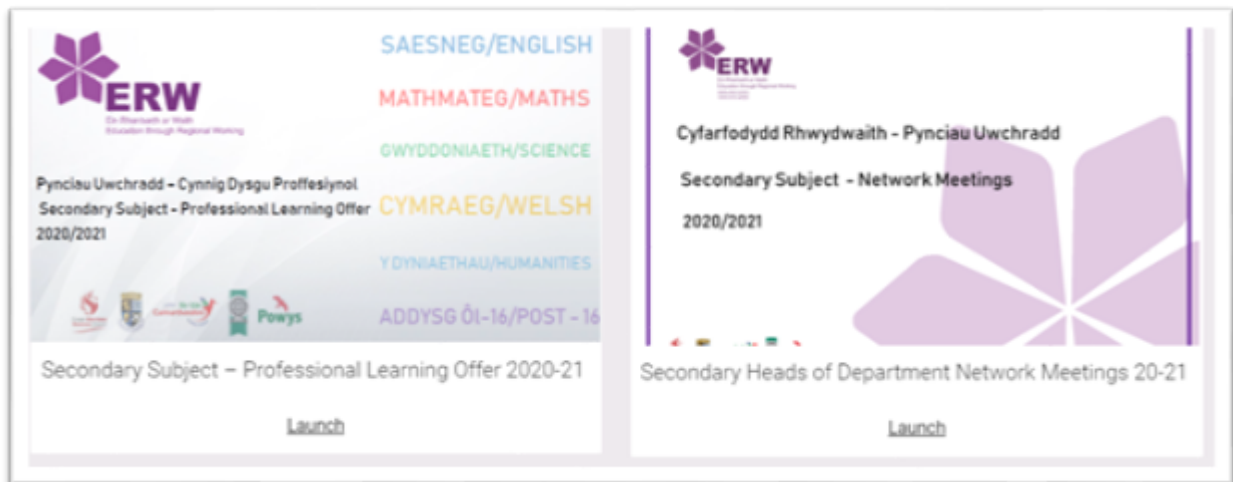
Atodiadau

- Cyflwyniad (7 MB)
- Lansiad Adnoddau LLYFR GLAS NEBO (278 MB)

Direct support to schools

Secondary Subject Specialists continue to support individual department and address identified needs, including the Blended Learning agenda and support for Welsh Medium pupils in English speaking homes through the work of the Continuity of Learning plan with Welsh Government and regional partners. A range of opportunities are available to middle leaders via MS Teams, and there's a full programme of events in place for the Autumn Term, as well a programme of meetings for the Spring and Summer Terms.

All departments have been invited to attend the Autumn Term Network Meetings and engage with the Blended Learning agenda, and attendance at Network Meetings is high, and feedback to date is very positive. The Network Meetings provide an opportunity to update heads of departments and / or colleagues on recent development, to present new resources, and share best practice etc. They also provide an important opportunity to engage with the departments, and give departments the opportunity to express any concerns and seek advice and guidance.



“Dim ond eisiau diolch yn fawr iawn i ti am yr holl adnoddau rwyt ti wedi eu danfon atom. Mae'n bendant yn hwyluso'r broses o osod gwaith ar -lein i'r plant yn ystod y cyfnod rhyfedd hwn!”

*“Mae'r adnoddau sydd ar gael yn wych, diolch o gallon i ti amdanynt”
Pennaethiaid Cymraeg*

Professional Learning

ERW continues to work with external providers including the Welsh Language Sabbatical Course providers to develop the Welsh language proficiency of teachers and education assistants at different levels. Due to the limitations of the current circumstances many language courses have been postponed this term, and discussions are ongoing regarding the possibilities for the Spring and Summer Terms.

As well as supporting and collaborating with the Sabbatical Scheme providers, ERW has decided to support courses / programmes on and LA basis in an attempt to address their current needs and priorities. These programmes are currently being discussed and planned with the aim of starting some programmes this term and others in the Spring term.

In addition to the Sabbatical Scheme, and other LA level provision, last year, ERW worked with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to develop two 10 hour 'taster' Welsh language courses – one tailored specifically for headteachers, and one for teachers – both of which have proved to be extremely popular in the region and beyond. Discussions are on-going with the Centre to explore additional programmes as part of the professional learning offer to English medium schools in particular, as it has been recognised that there is a need to develop the ability of teachers to teach through the medium of Welsh to support the need for increased capacity.

Siarter Iaith

ERW has continued to co-ordinate the Siarter iaith initiative in the region, working closely with the LAs and all schools across the region to ensure there are appropriate and ambitious plans in place to support increasing pupils' informal use of the Welsh language by delivering the Siarter iaith and its associated programmes. Regional courses and meeting are held regularly to share information and provide training (when required) to LA Siarter iaith Co-ordinators. The Welsh Government have



recently held an extensive and wide scale national evaluation of the programmes of the Siarter and its associated programmes, and ERW have participated fully in the review, and in the discussions held over the Summer regarding the recommendations of the review and the proposed changes. ERW has also continued to work closely with the other consortia in responding to national changes, and in ensuring consistency where possible in the delivery of the programmes. The strong collaborative work between the four regions in this area of work has also led to the development of many resources to support, and inspire schools.

Centrally, ERW has established and maintained two strong networks on HWB which provide a platform to share resources and best practice. The ERW Siarter iaith network has 490 members, and the Cymraeg Campus network has 1645 members. Both networks have been made available to colleagues nationally, by request, due to the volume of resources contained within these networks. New resources are added to the networks on a weekly basis.

In recent months, in addition to the ongoing work of maintaining contact with schools and LA officers to ensure schools remain committed to the programmes and their targets, several new resources have been created including posters, 'Welsh heroes' Top Trumps, Siarter Iaith Calendar, a collection of sample school services with a Welsh dimension, Seren and Spark video clips etc.

This term grants have been provided to the LAs to enable them to address the bespoke needs and priorities of their schools. Each LA will draw up a development plan which will be agreed by ERW to ensure suitable use of the funds and the progress of the work will be monitored, and evaluated at the end of the year.

[Communications work / Marketing Welsh education and bilingualism as a skill](#)

ERW commissioned an external communications company to create and deliver a communication project to promote Welsh education and bilingualism as a skill. The project, or campaign, was launched in 2018 under the brand 'Clwb Ysgol', and mainly focused its work on social network platforms such as Instagram and Facebook. It included various initiatives including interactives quizzes and competitions and in March 2020, just before the lockdown it launches a new scheme 'Cymraeg mewn Mis' (Welsh in a month) with the aim of encouraging parents to learn Welsh alongside their children. Although this was launched before the lockdown, and school closure, it became apparent that this scheme could be influential and beneficial during the period of school closure to help parents learn some basic Welsh with their children. This scheme proved popular and gained interest in the media and the resources created remain to be available to all.

In addition to the programme outlined above, a sub-brand was launched – 'Clwb Cartref'. This resulted in a series of various activities which children of all ages could participate in at home during school closure – including sport and fitness videos, music /singing lessons, cooking lessons etc. These resources also remain available to all and their impact is currently being evaluated.

Section 3: ERW Stakeholder Engagement

ERW is represented on, and has a full and active role in, numerous groups and central team officers attend many stakeholder meetings.

Engagement with Welsh Government

- Challenge and Review
- Weekly meeting with Welsh Government
- ALNCo Professional Learning (PL) Steering Group Meeting
- Assessment Advisory Group
- Careers and work-related experiences group
- Professional learning Leads
- Curriculum for Wales practitioner group
- Curriculum Implementation network
- Cross-Regional Professional Learning Leads
- National Strategy for Educational Research and Enquiry
- National Professional Enquiry Project meetings with WG
- Professional Learning Journey Phase 2
- Schools as Learning Organisation meetings
- National Pedagogy Project meetings
- Curriculum Team meetings
- OECD Teachers Professional Learning Study
- Post-16 Professional Enquiry Project
- EWC Recruitment and Retention Meeting
- PL & Collaboration Group
- Pedagogy, Leadership and Professional Learning Division regarding National Leadership Programmes and TALP
- RSE working group
- 360 Self Review Framework working group
- Hwb working partnership
- ADEW Digital Learning sub-group
- A Levels Task and Finish group
- Democratic Renewal 16/17 year olds working group
- Qualifications Stakeholder Group: Quals Wales
- Qualifications Stakeholder Group: WJEC
- NEIR
- National School Improvement Document working group

Engagement with Cross Regional Groups

- Consortia Managing Directors
- Estyn
- National Academy of Educational Leadership
- WJEC – subject officer meetings
- Regional ALN Transformation group
- Regional ALN Transformation Training sub group
- Cross regional network with GWE leads for special schools and PRUs
- Professional learning cross-regional group
- Curriculum for Wales cross-regional group
- Talk Pedagogy project
- BAME working party
- LLC Hwb resources group
- Global Futures
- EAS Primary Languages
- Regional support networks e.g. Empathy Lab, HAPPEN
- Regional training for NQTs, MLDP and ACEs
- Cross-Regional Professional Learning Leads
- Professional Learning and Collaboration
- Leading Collaborative Learning
- WISERD Data Lab Advisory and Strategic Boards
- National Leadership Group
- National Leadership Group sub-group
- National TALP Group
- National TALP Group sub-group
- Wellbeing of Leaders
- Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Learners Cross Regional Group
- Cross regional digital group
- Regional Leads for Welsh in Education Meetings
- Cross-Regional meetings with WG Officers (Siarter Iaith)
- Cross-regional meetings with WG Officers (Welsh in Education)
- PISA group
- A Level Steering group
- Cross-Regional Welsh First Language meetings
- Cross-Region Welsh teachers
- Post-16 team
- Post-16 Leadership Development Programme
- Skills Challenge Certificate
- Leadership programme
- Leading Collaborative Learning
- Post-16 NPEP
- Cymraeg KS3 and KS4 - Cross consortia working parties
- Wellbeing of Leadership cross regional project

ERW hosted meetings

- ERW Executive Board
- ERW Joint Committee
- ERW Councillor Scrutiny

Networks

- PRU Leaders network
- Professional Learning Networks – Pedagogy, LLC, Expressive Arts; Humanities; Science and Technology
- Arts Council Wales
- Into Film
- Welsh Books Council
- Meetings with the Sabbatical Scheme Providers
- Meetings with the National Centre for Learning Welsh
- Money and Pensions Service) and Young Money

Local Authorities

- ADEW
- LA Directors of Education
- ERW Curriculum strategy group
- LA CoL group
- Powys Cluster Heads network
- Swansea Curriculum strategy group
- Swansea and ERW Multilingualism group
- Carmarthenshire Primary languages
- Swansea MfL network
- ERW / LA Leadership group every half term
- LA leads for wellbeing and PDG
- LA Digital leads working group
- Cross-regional meetings with WG Officers (Welsh in Education)
- LA Welsh/Literacy representatives
- Seren Network
- PDG LAC Leads Half Termly Meeting
- LA PDG Leads Half Termly Meeting

HEIs

- Trinity St Davids HEI - re accreditation of Specialist ALN qualification
- Story of Wales – with National Museum of Wales, National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth University, Swansea University, Welsh Assembly Government
- Student mentoring
- Routes into Languages Cymru advisory group
- National Professional Enquiry Project
- ITE Strategic Board Meetings for Cardiff Met, Swansea, Aberystwyth, UWTSU, Open University and USCET
- ITE provision
- National Leadership Group (UWTSU & Bangor)
- Physics mentoring project' steering group
- 'Step up to Swansea' - Swansea University

- Heads of 6th form consortium – UWTSO
- Further Maths support programme - Swansea/Aberystwyth universities
- A level Welsh revision - Bangor University
- Post-16 Professional Enquiry Project
- Raising standards, GCSE and digital learning for Swansea, UWTSO

School Groups

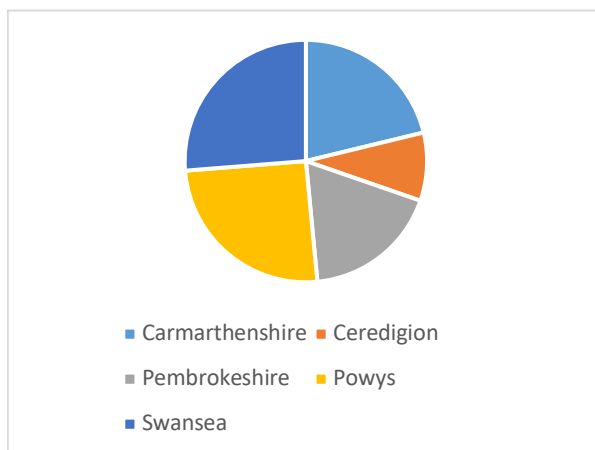
- ERW Headteacher Reference Board
- Special school HT network
- Middle Leader Networks:
 - Cymraeg
 - English
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Geography
 - History
 - Religious Studies
 - Humanities
 - Sixth Form Leaders

ERW Officer support - Autumn 2020
September 1st 2020 – October 23rd 2020

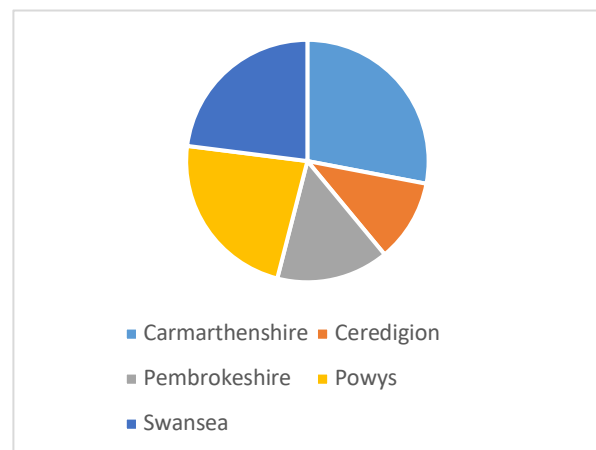
During the first half term of the current academic year, ERW officers have engaged with schools across the whole region, providing the equivalent of 512 days of support for schools. The table below shows that there is a very close correlation between the percentage of schools in each LA with the percentage of support provided to schools in those LAs.

	Num of schools per LA	% of ERW schools per LA	Support days provided	% of support provided per LA
<i>Carmarthenshire</i>	112	28%	107	21%
<i>Ceredigion</i>	44	11%	48	9%
<i>Pembrokeshire</i>	62	15%	94	18%
<i>Powys</i>	92	23%	128	25%
<i>Swansea</i>	94	23%	135	26%
	Total schools: 404		Total days: 512	

% of ERW Schools per LA



% of Support Days Provided per LA



ERW Officer Support 2020/2021 (source: ERW Support Log)

September 1st 2020 – October 23rd 2020

Selection of focus areas

Curriculum for Wales	Support days delivered : 84.8 day(s) Number of schools : 85 school(s)
Secondary Support	Support days delivered : 170 day(s) Number of schools : 58 school(s)
Health and Well-being AoLE	Support days delivered : 10.5 day(s) Number of schools : 20 school(s)
Wellbeing and attitudes to learning	Support days delivered : 41.5 day(s) Number of schools : 42 school(s)
Leadership	Support days delivered : 74.9 day(s) Number of schools : 85 school(s)
Leadership and management	Support days delivered : 246.9 day(s) Number of schools : 189 school(s)
Teaching and learning experiences	Support days delivered : 333.7 day(s) Number of schools : 199 school(s)
Digital Learning	Support days delivered : 53 day(s) Number of schools : 80 school(s)
Standards	Support days delivered : 197.6 day(s) Number of schools : 148 school(s)

Section 4: Communication

Headteacher Communications Newsletter

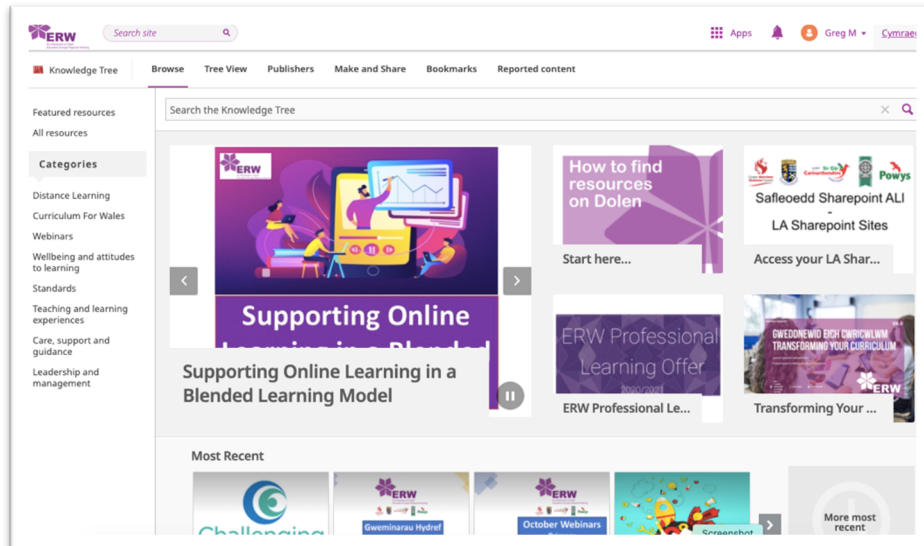
We have continued to publish our weekly Headteacher Communications newsletter on a Thursday and is currently issued to all school leaders in the region. The content has focused on WG Covid-19 guidance, the WG Continuity of Learning Plan and ERW guidance and support for Distance Learning, Blended Learning and wellbeing of staff and pupils. These overarching themes include support for Curriculum for Wales, Secondary curriculum and qualifications, Professional Learning, Digital support (including the Hwb toolset), middle and senior leadership, vulnerable learners, NQTs and HLTAs. All support is accessible via ERW's digital platform, Dolen.

ERW General Newsletter

Our General Newsletter for all school staff is issued every two weeks, currently to 677 school practitioners. The content focuses on Continuity of Learning Plan and ERW guidance and support for Distance Learning, Blended Learning and wellbeing published on ERW's digital platform, Dolen. At the end of each month, a 'What's new on Dolen' special issue is published.

Dolen

Over 227 new resources have been produced and published on Dolen since March 2020. These have been accessed by ERW schools and schools in all other regions.



Twitter

	September	October
Tweets The number of Tweets published by @ERWCymru	52	81
Tweet Impressions The number of times people have seen the Tweets	48,900	71,000 (63% increase from September)
Mentions A mention is when someone uses the @ERWCymru Twitter handle.	381	432
Profile visits The number of times users visited our Twitter profile page.	821	1,381

Links

ERW Website

<https://www.erw.wales/>

Dolen

<https://porth.erw-rhwyd.cymru/repository?redirectedFrom=Hwb>

ERW Professional Learning Offer

<https://sites.google.com/hwbcymru.net/erwpl/home-english>

Section 5: Blended Learning Resources

As a direct response to the Covid-19 pandemic, ERW colleagues created a large number of bilingual, digital resources to support Distance Learning and Blended Learning. Some of these resources were produced in collaboration with colleagues from the other RECs, via the cross-regional group formed as part of the Continuity of Learning work. These resources were made available to a range of stakeholders, including, where appropriate, parents and guardians of our learners, via the Hwb platform. Other resources were created by ERW officers, with some contributions from LA and school based colleagues, and shared via Dolen.

Resources created by the cross-regional group and shared via Hwb

Resource Category	Sub category	Title
Practitioners – How can I scenarios	Content Creation	
	How do I create screen recordings for pupils?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recording in Powerpoint Using Screen castify through Hwb Screen recording using Flipgrid
	How do I create a Self-Marking quiz?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google Forms – Creating and sharing a quiz MS Forms – Creating and sharing a quiz
	How can I create on demand videos to support teaching and learning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recording using screen castify through Hwb Sharing video content to support pupils through J2e Uploading and sharing video content with pupils through J2launch app Flipgrid – Staff set up guide
Practitioners – How can I scenarios	Communication and Sharing Content	
	How do I share online tasks with pupils?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Teams – Assignments Google Classroom – Creating an assignment J2e – Uploading a file,image or video and sharing with pupils J2e – Sharing activities out to pupils – Sharing files J2launch app – Sharing activities out to pupils via the app J2 homework Google Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating a site

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additional features 1 ○ Additional features 2 ○ Creating pages ○ Sharing and publishing
	How do I set up a virtual classroom?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● J2e Managing classes ● Finding Google Classroom and creating a class ● Accessing MS Teams through Hwb ● Creating a MS Team through Hwb ● Flipgrid – Staff set up guide
	How can I make video content available on demand?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Uploading a video to Google Sites ● Uploading a video to the Google drive app
	How can I enable collaboration between learners?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sharing collaborative documents through J2e ● Google sites – Collaborating to create a website
Practitioners – How can I scenarios	Assessment and Feedback	
	How do I access pupils work and give feedback?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● J2e – Learning conversation ● Flipgrid – Pupil feedback ● Google Classroom – Marking an assignment ● J2e – Learning conversation learner perspective
Cross regional working group	Live streaming guidance	
Cross regional working group	Developing integrated approaches to support blended learning for the phased opening of schools	
Cross regional working group	Developing approaches to support distance learning	

Resources created by ERW and shared via Dolen

Secondary - ERW webinar: Digital considerations for partial school closure scenarios
Primary Digital considerations for partial school closure scenarios
ERW Online Reading Project – Keeping Pupils Reading! Supporting Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Learners
Interactive website and learning resources for the novel 'Llyfr Glas Nebo'.
Developing speaking and listening skills in secondary Welsh lessons
ERW Webinars - Digital considerations for partial school closure scenarios
Models of blended learning
'Unlocking' Oracy after Lockdown
Supporting Online Learning in a Blended Learning Model
Blended Learning - Developing Integrated Approaches to Blended Learning
English Narrative Writing Blended Learning Pack – School and Home Learning.
Developing Speaking and Listening Skills using Hwb tools
Walking, talking mock videoAggregated
Coding Activities
ERW Webinar - Connecting Learners in the Foundation Phase through J2e
Preparing for Transition back to school for ASD (autistic spectrum disorder) pupils
Distance Learning – A Guide for Parents
Webinar - Supporting Transition through Flipgrid
Humanities Flexible Distance Learning
Webinar - Collaborating and Connecting Learners through j2e
Webinar - Connecting Learners through Flipgrid
Webinar - Collaborating and Connecting Learners through Google for Education
Distance Learning
Parents and Reading KS3 Guide ERW
Distance Learning – A Guide for Parents (Primary)
Webinar - Collaborating and Connecting Learners through Teams

i2eAggregated
ERW School Support Hwb Networks
Staying Connected
Creating a Flipgrid project
Distance Learning - Hwb
Google Sites to support Distance Learning
Models for the development of distance learning
Using Microsoft Teams to conduct school business
Self Marking Quiz - Google Forms and Microsoft Forms
Using JIT through Hwb

