



# Enterprise and Entrepreneurship

**Impact Review January 2022 - August 2022**

**Coleg Gwent is committed to the advancement and acceleration of enterprise creation and the enhancement of entrepreneurial skills amongst our learning community.**

With the support of Welsh Government funding, our learners have access to regular inspirational role model and business expert talks, inter-college enterprise challenges, signposting of funding and growth opportunities, and 1:1 support for developing their business ideas and capabilities. Our strategic focus has been designed around the Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy delivery areas:

- **Enabling** our staff to champion entrepreneurship within their subject or department.
- **Engaging** learners with initiatives designed to raise awareness of entrepreneurship.
- **Empowering** learners with activities to help develop their entrepreneurial capacity.
- **Equipping** learners with the skills and opportunities to develop and launch their business ideas.

Coleg Gwent contributes regionally to the Welsh Government Economic Action Plan ambitions to promote economic growth and provide jobs for young people. We are a Career College, and work closely with industry towards meeting the needs of regional businesses and their supply chains. Enterprise and entrepreneurship are key objectives, and we take an holistic view of the development of transferrable employability skills in our learners that can benefit both the individual and the local economy.

# 2022 in numbers...



learners **engaged**  
in enterprise and  
entrepreneurship  
awareness-raising  
initiatives & events



learners **empowered**  
to explore and put  
into practice their  
entrepreneurial skills  
and capabilities



learners **equipped**  
with the support and  
opportunities to test,  
validate or launch  
their business ideas



staff **enabling**  
entrepreneurship  
within their academic  
subject or department

## We aim to..

**Facilitate** entrepreneurial ambition and support student businesses at every stage of their start-up journey.

**Encourage** the college community to provide an enterprising and supportive environment.

**Inspire** students with opportunities to meet and hear the stories of local entrepreneurs.

**Develop and nurture** learner capabilities, helping them to recognise and harness entrepreneurial traits they may not realise they already possess.

**Motivate** our students to follow their entrepreneurial ambitions and to regard self-employment as a realistic prospect.

## Our team strategy is...

To provide a range of blended and tailored resources including information, worksheets, guest talks and workshops to support embedded employability within the curriculum.

To provide every learner with the opportunity to attend an enterprise and employability event, produce a career or business plan, and engage with careers advice to help prepare them for the world of work.

## Benefits of Enterprise Education

Employability skills

Recognising opportunities

Resilience and independence

Social value

Innovation and creativity

Collaboration

Communication

Feeling valued

Leadership



## Events and Competitions...

**Our inter-college competitions have continued, both online and gradually, getting back to in-person events.**

### **Young Enterprise Team Competition Regional Winners**

We supported two groups of learners to take part in the Young Enterprise Programme, to run stalls on campus selling their products. The ILS team had a stall in Crosskeys College selling their pottery-based arts and crafts. The Business learners in team Re-retro'd in the Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone, had a stall at the Health and Wellbeing event, selling second-hand clothing that they had upcycled. Both stalls ran well, each making a profit and giving the learners an opportunity to see their business ideas come to life. The ILS group intend to do further stalls until the end of the college year.

ILS learners open pop-up charity shop for St David's Hospice Care and became Young Enterprise Team Competition Regional Winners. Independent Living Skills (ILS) learners at Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone set up a pop-up charity retail shop in support of St David's Hospice Care. The shop was solely run by the students and staff of the ILS department at our Ebbw Vale campus, and worked hard to set up, stock and run their very own retail shop. Open every Wednesday, the shop was made up of nearly new goods which were sold to students and staff on the campus.

Learner had the opportunity to get involved and played an active role in making the shop a success. From cleaning the goods, stacking and displaying items, handling sales and balancing the money; students are learning the basics of enterprise, and it's all for a very good cause.

The pop-up shop sold branded items including t-shirts and wrist bands from St David's Hospice, as well as items donated to the hospice such as books, DVDs, CDs, jewellery, gift sets and clothing. Donation bags from St David's Hospice were also given to students and staff in the college, to fill with unwanted goods, and able to drop into a donation basket at Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone to help re-stock the shop.

All money raised by the pop-up charity shop went towards the work of St David's Hospice, as our chosen charity in 2021/2022.







## Welsh Skills Competition Silver Medallists

149 Coleg Gwent learners took up the challenge of Skills Competition Wales 2022, demonstrating their skills, abilities, competence and knowledge in a multitude of areas. As a college, we offer a wide variety of courses across several sectors, which is reflected in the skills categories our learners chose to compete in this year.

They've competed against hundreds of students from colleges across the country in a wide range of skills competitions, bringing home an impressive 35 gold, silver and bronze medals in recognition of their talents!

Skills Competition Wales is an opportunity for our learners to challenge themselves and push their boundaries to improve their skills in their chosen career. By taking part, they're raising the level of their skills and growing personally and professionally.

5 students achieved silver medals for Enterprise at the Wales Skills Competition 2022. This is a team competition designed to challenge the entrepreneurial skills of all participants. The scope of the competition enables learners to develop and put into practice a variety of skills that are required to be a successful entrepreneur.

## Tafflab Grant Winner – Rhys Edmunds

A key highlight in March 2022 was meeting with one of the Tafflab grant winners, learner Rhys Edmunds and his mentor and discussing his new business start-up. He has recently won the Gold medal in the World Skills Competition (from approximately 500 learners) for Physical Training. He has made a brilliant promotional video to promote his business. [Rhys Edmunds PT Promo - YouTube](#)



## Caerphilly Council for Entrepreneurial Schools Award

Coleg Gwent Enterprise & Employability Team were nominated for the above award.





## Stakeholder Support...

Partnership with our external enterprise stakeholders ensured a range of opportunities, professional connections, and entrepreneurial role models. This support and collaborative network throughout Wales allow us to work as part of an entrepreneurial eco-system for education. It gives us the ability to provide learners with advice and information and focused business support with a range of events and guest talks. Topics in 2022 have included, growth mindset, knowing your customer, steps to branding, pitching and presenting yourself.

TM **Tim Monckton**  
Mar 7

Big Ideas Wales have some great webinars coming up in March for people interested in starting a business:

**17th March, 12 - 2pm:** *4 Steps to Branding*

**24th March, 10am - 12pm:** *Planting a Great Idea: Helping your Gardening Side-line Grow*

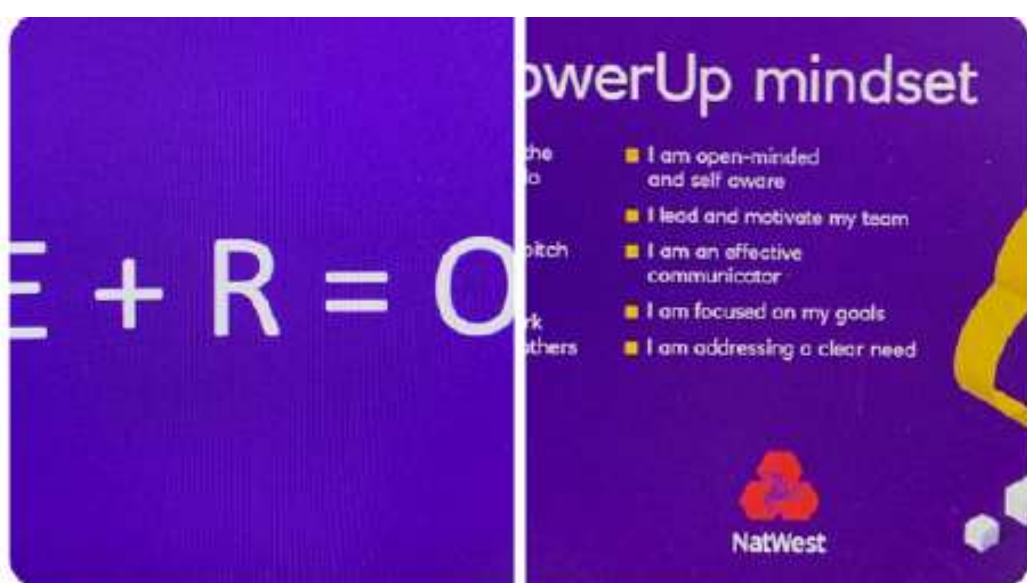
**29th March, 5.30 - 7.30pm:** *TikTok – Tick List and Trends*

All the webinars are free.

To sign up for them, [Business Wales Events Finder](#) - [Big Ideas Wales](#), [B, Event organisers](#) ([business-events.org.uk](https://business-events.org.uk))

Thanks.

Natwest also support our HE Creative and Employability week offering sessions on Power Up Mindset and pitching.







This initiative falls into our new branding, CG Ambitions, whereby all support related to furthering learner ambitions and progression routes are facilitated together, and hosted in one place on the learner intranet, CG Connect.

In conjunction with our Employment Bureau funding, we have been able to plan for the use of a brand new trailer, which will be utilised for enterprise for those learners who wish to test-trade, showcase, exhibit or for our enterprise champion to conduct business planning support.



[coleggwent.ac.uk](http://coleggwent.ac.uk)





# Blended Learning and Events...

Internal event support has included wellbeing and progression fairs, and our 'Summer of Skills', where we encourage our learners to utilise their summer holiday with business or career planning and provide them with the content and support to get started.

## Progression Events

Over 2,800 learners attended our progression events across our Torfaen Learning Zone, Blaenau Gwent Learning Zone and Crosskeys campus. The Progression events helped students to understand the different routes they can take when leaving college, and allowed them to ask questions and explore each option. Students had the chance to network with universities and employers covering a range of industry sectors including, engineering, manufacturing, healthcare, finance, IT, hospitality and catering a number of apprenticeship and employment opportunities were promoted as part of the event.

### Learner progression events

Throughout March and April, we will be running three progression fairs for learners to explore their options after college. This might be progression on to a different course, higher education, an apprenticeship, or career opportunities.

Coleg Gwent is committed to supporting our learners to achieve their goals and expand their horizons. It's our college mission to 'change lives through learning' and helping learners to progress is fundamental to our aims.

The events are targeted at L3 year 1 learners, but all learners with an interest are welcome and should be supported to attend. There will be over 20 universities attending for those thinking about higher education, along with a range of employers, guidance around student finance, applying for jobs, apprenticeships and starting a business.



#### Learners Progression Event - BGLZ

It's Coleg Gwent Learner's Progression Event today at BGLZ, another great opportunity for students to engage and network with a number of employers and universities. Thanks to Office of National Statistics, My Care My Home, CITB, GAVO, Torfaen County Council Social Care, Menter Laith, Stagecoach, ABUHB, Urdd, Educators Wales, Welsh Ambulance, Digital Health & Care Wales and School of Thought, (automotive). Please do come and visit today from 10 am - 3 pm.



#### Health and wellbeing roadshow

From March through to May, we will be running a health and wellbeing roadshow to give learners and staff the opportunity to talk to different people and organisations that can support with health and wellbeing.

The event will provide a mixture of free activities, health checks and information from a wide range of service providers, charities, and individuals in your area.

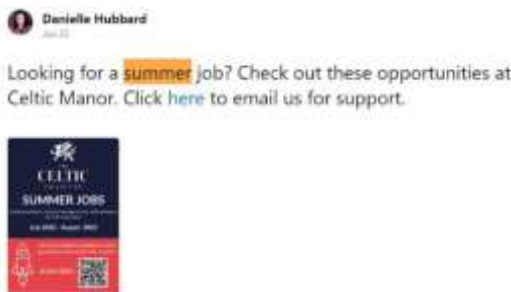
We are asking all staff to book learners onto these events at your campus, to do this please book your preferred time slot through the relevant LSO.



## Summer of Skills - Prepare for Your Future

Our Summer of Skills activities aim to support our learners taking their first step into their chosen careers and aims to enhance their employability, through a wide range of transferable skills resources and activities on offer during the Summer months. Developing a core set of skills and abilities that our students can apply to a variety of roles and industries is essential in helping our learners stand out from the crowd and support future progression opportunities. Enterprise content has been designed and uploaded and will be available to learners over the summer.

From support with practicing interview techniques and CV writing, short courses and summer job and volunteering opportunities there were many sessions that students could sign-up for and toolkits and resources to aid career and world of work understanding. As well as the above there was advice for those interested in starting your own business, freelance career or social enterprise.





# Summer Start-Up Week



We have continued to support the award-winning pan-Wales enterprise group's 'Summer Start-Up' - in 2022. Delivered by some of the brightest entrepreneurs and experts in Wales, with a mix of interactive workshops, panel discussions and live Q&As, covering everything from research and marketing to cashflow and funding, key elements needed for a successful business, freelance career or social enterprise.

We had learners attending during the week and session delivered by Zoe Blackler 'professional networking' and 'time for action'. Two BIW role models talks were also included as part of the week-long activities.



Have you got a business idea? Not sure where to start? Summer Start-Up week can help!



Syniadau Mawr  
Cymru  
Big Ideas  
Wales

## Careers Week

Coleg Gwent celebrated National Careers Week with a week packed full of activities. The events focus on skills students are learning at college to prepare them for the workplace.

National Careers Week 2022 is a celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education across the UK. The aim is to provide a focus for careers guidance activity at an important stage in the academic calendar to help support young people leaving education.

This year's theme was 'Empowering Positive Change through Careers Education'



### Wythnos Genedlaethol Gyrfaoedd

Cyn bo hir ar gampws yn lleol i chi!! Fel rhan o Wythnos Genedlaethol Gyrfaoedd, mae'r Tim Menter a Chyflogadwydd yn ymweld â phob campws. Dewch i'n gweld am wybodaeth, cymorth gyrfaoedd yn ogystal â rhai gemau hwyliog.

Dydd Mawrth - Newport  
Dydd Mercher - Usk  
Dydd Iau - TLZ  
Dydd Gwener - Crosskeys

### National Careers Week

Coming to a campus near you!! As part of National Careers Week, the Enterprise & Employability Team is visiting each campus. Come and find us for information, career support as well as some fun games.





# Hair & Beauty Expo 2022

Hair and beauty, complementary therapy and theatrical make-up students had the opportunity to meet employers at the Hair and Beauty Expo held at Cwrt Bleddyn Hotel.

Seminar leaders and representatives from various product suppliers and employers were on hand to discuss the industry with our students and give their valuable insight. Topics covered included, progression to further study, and being self-employed. 122 learners attended the event and provided an opportunity for students wanting to progress onto other Coleg Gwent course to explore options, meet tutors as well as receive seminars on Self-employment options and how to set up a SME.

The Expo attracted companies such as Celtic Manor Resort, Olaplex, Bryn Meadows Golf, Hotel & Spa, nspa Beauty and Colorwow Hair – a great chance for Coleg Gwent students to interact with potential future employers.

A Social Media Take-Over was agreed with the Coleg Gwent marketing department so that learners could create their own social media posts and hashtags about the event and the winning one chosen would be used across Coleg Gwent's social media channels. Some learners created TikTok videos along with a range of creative and innovative submissions.



29 views

laurajellybean Come along with us on the Coleg Gwent career exhibition at the maes manor #coleggwent #careerexhibition #olaplex #careerswales #brynmedows #celticmanor #moroccooil #matrixcolor #tanyawhitebits #nspa #ita10hairecare #coleggwentcrosskeys #coleggwenthair #coleggwentbeauty #coleggwentebbwale #coleggwentnewportnash @olaplex @nspabeauty @moroccanoil\_uk @thecelticmanor @matrix @colorwowhair @brynmeadowsgolfhotelspa @coleggwent



