



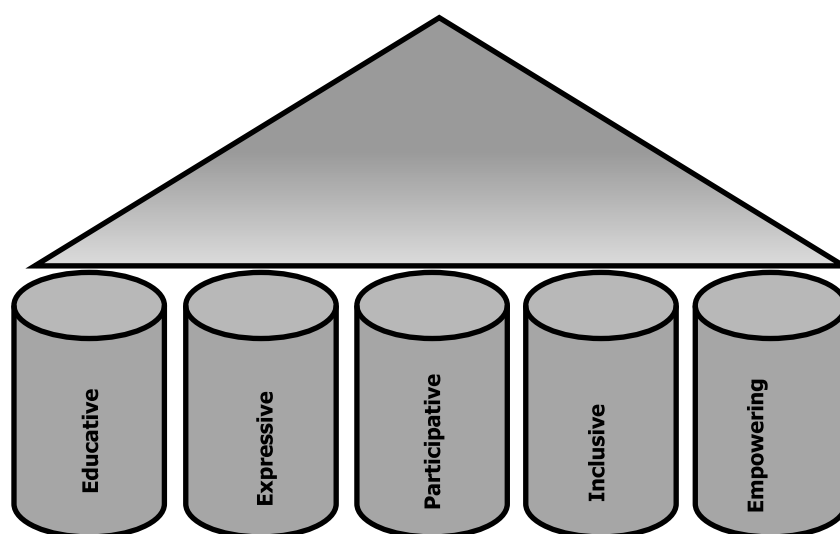
GRŴP PRIF SWYDDOGION IEUENCTID CYMRU
WALES PRINCIPAL YOUTH OFFICERS' GROUP

The Youth Service is the framework by which youth work is delivered; youth work is open to all young people aged 11-25 with its key purpose being to: “enable young people to develop holistically, working with them to facilitate their personal, social and educational development, to enable them to develop their voice, influence and place in society and to reach their full potential.”¹ Youth work in Wales is delivered by both local authorities and voluntary sector organisations, often working together.

“Evidence...demonstrates that young people who experience a diverse range of educational relationships in different contexts develop a stronger sense of confidence and a better understanding of how relationships work which may be beneficial effects on young people’s educational engagement”. *NYA and Fabian Society the Contribution of Non-Formal Learning to Young People’s Life Chances: Learning from Evidence* (2008)

Youth Work is based on a voluntary engagement and delivered via informal and non-formal education approaches during the period of transition from childhood to adulthood. It is carried out in a variety of settings and through a number of methods.

The Five Pillars of Youth Work in Wales:



¹ Youth Work National Occupational Standards <https://cldstandardscouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/YouthWorkNOS2019Intro.pdf>

How are youth workers working with schools?

Extending and promoting learners' experience is a key principle of Curriculum for Wales, with an emphasis on experiential learning in the new guidance "A school's curriculum is everything a learner experiences in pursuit of the four purposes" Curriculum for Wales Guidance, 2020, (p. 5). As the curriculum has been developed and refined, in line with the principle of subsidiarity, this provides a platform for schools and relevant stakeholders to consider, particularly at local level, how and where a local 'youth offer' and 'pupil offer' can work together in broadening experiences for all young learners.

The new ambitious curriculum offers an excellent chance for youth workers and teachers to better understand and appreciate each other's approach and contribution. Whilst teaching and youth work are different educational approaches, they deliver their greatest impact where they both embrace and understand each other as being **complementary**.

Some examples of effective practice include:

- 'detached work' around corridors, cafeterias, common rooms and recreation areas;
- work with various interest groups around things like school newspapers, social action and school councils and forums;
- PSHE delivery
- homework and study support clubs;
- school holiday provision;
- work with young people experiencing difficulties around schooling; and
- pastoral and personal support
- support for young people not in education, employment & training (NEET)

...including a selection of accredited programmes:

• BTEC	• Princes Trust XL/Achieve
• OCN	• PSD
• Youth Achievement Awards	• Health
• Adventure Service Challenge	• Duke of Edinburgh
• First Aid	• ASDAN
• Agored Cymru	• Millennium Volunteers
• John Muir Award	• Youth Work Certificate

A number of these opportunities can make a valuable contribution towards experiential learning, Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE), Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) as well as a number of Areas of Learning and Experience including in particular Health & Well-being and Expressive Arts.

Youth services use a variety of mechanisms and tools to measure and evidence impact and progress.

Education Workforce Council

Since April 2017, youth workers in schools have been required to register with the EWC. This means that registered youth workers will be subject to the EWC Code of Conduct and be expected to work towards the aims of the EWC, in a similar way to that of teachers, FE College lecturers and support staff and work-based learning practitioners.

Four Purposes of the Curriculum				
Examples of youth work provision (taken from the 2018-19 Welsh Government Youth Work Audit)	Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives	Enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work	Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world	Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society
	1,100 After School Clubs	600 Arts & Drama projects	1,100 One-to-One projects	1,500 sports, and physical activity projects
	600 Accreditation projects	500 Information and Marketing events	600 Information Service projects	1,300 Health & Well-being projects
	400 Alternative Curriculum projects	400 Participation/Forum/Council projects	600 Welsh Language projects	600 Holiday Schemes
	400 projects for young people not in education, employment or training	300 Information Technology projects	500 Citizenship projects	400 Disabilities projects
			400 Black and Ethnic minorities projects	300 Duke of Edinburgh projects

Also: 200 projects with young offenders, 100 residential projects, 50 gender specific groups, 50 young parent groups

Source: <https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Education-and-Skills/Youth-Service>