



# Contributing to the Wellbeing of Future Generations:

the role of Further Education Colleges

## Links with Business and Local Employers



Students at International Centre for Aerospace Training, Cardiff & Vale College

Further Education is largely focused on immediate employment and specialises in NVQs, BTECs and apprenticeships. The sector provides people in employment with opportunities for professional development and acts as a bridge to employment for 16 to 19 year olds.

The Webb Review published in 2007 identified a need and opportunity for FE to collaborate with the business sector and with work based training providers and since its publication great improvements have been made in the way that these sectors collaborate.

The Wellbeing of Future Generations Bill aims explicitly to improve the skills, education and employment opportunities of the nation to deliver “a prosperous Wales.” Here are some examples of how Further Education is contributing to the realisation of this goal.

**Thanks to Colleges Wales for additional information.**

A [report](#) in 2014 has shown that Coleg Cambria contributes £401.1 million per year to the local economy. [Read More >](#)

The Meirionnydd Centre for Renewable Developments is a £4.5 million facility at Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor to meet the

needs of business, industry and young people in the region. 100% of the Coleg Llandrillo students who completed last year’s Marine Engineering course have gained careers within the marine industry.

Coleg Sir Gâr’s agricultural centre based in Gelli Aur is working with Wynnstay Group Plc, delivering a bespoke training package for its newly appointed team of agricultural traders based throughout its chain of specialist country stores. [Read More >](#)

Hair and Beauty students from Cardiff and Vale College have opened a new social enterprise in Ely - Inspire - which is run by the students themselves, supported by a grant from UnLtd and its FE Pioneers programme. [Read More >](#)

Engineering students from Cardiff and Vale College have been helping to construct the College’s £45m new site at Canal Parade, thanks to work placement opportunities with the developer, Willmott Dixon. [Read More >](#)

## Low Carbon   Zero waste   Skills   Innovation   Prosperity

Wales is home to a number of research institutes and teaching facilities that are pursuing the goal of a low carbon economy.

Colleges have reduced the amount of waste sent to landfill and are finding ingenious ways to reduce, re-use and recycle.

Further education can develop the capability of workers and equip young people with the skills that the Welsh economy and employers need.

New technology, new processes, new business models. FE is helping to unleash creativity and nurture entrepreneurship.

Strong local economies served by relevant local education and skills development are self reinforcing and an incentive for the best to stay in Wales.



## Renewable Energy at Llandrillo Menai

Coleg Llandrillo-Menai has formed a partnership with RWE Npower Renewables to train apprentices for the off-shore wind industry. The off-shore wind industry is locally significant as the Gwynt y Mor turbine array, visible from the campus, is one of the largest such projects in Europe.



The focal point of this partnership is the Marine and Built Environment training centre at the Rhos on Sea campus. The centre has workshops for training in a range of trades including a specialist marine and boat building facility. The Renewable Energy & Sustainability Centre for Wales (RESCW) forms part of the MBEC. It provides local communities, businesses, schools and individuals with facilities for demonstrations, educational visits and seminars, as well as installer training and Continuous Personal Development (CPD) courses on the use of renewable energy, including wind, solar power and ground source heat pumps.

## Cambria - Two Way Support

North east Wales is the home of a number of flagship industries and companies of major significance for the Welsh economy. The College has developed strong links with these through its "Employer Engagement Team". This team consists of people with industry and business experience and provides a one-stop-shop for any business that requires educational support. Team members develop one-to-one relationships with businesses and liaise across college to find existing courses or develop bespoke training. All work based learning contains a strong element of ESDGC and the College aims to spread the SD culture via students to the employers. Industry Focus Groups give businesses an opportunity to tell the College what skills are needed. Site visits from tutors keep them up to date with technology and practice so that they can better prepare students for work. Similarly, industry experts give guest lectures: Worcester Bosch and Airbus are two local employers who regularly do this. Toyota has provided a hybrid vehicle for the Motor trades department so that students can familiarise themselves with this emerging technology.



*Student Dan Roynan receiving award from Graham Hillier, Toyota UK;  
[www.cambria.ac.uk/news/dans-winning-plan-for-toyota/](http://www.cambria.ac.uk/news/dans-winning-plan-for-toyota/)*



## CAVC and Aerospace

The Cardiff and Vale College region includes both Cardiff Wales airport and the aerospace industry centre at RAF St Athan. The International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) is a partnership initiative between CAVC and the aircraft industry. This award-winning centre includes a range of specialist facilities for training in the aviation industry. Aeronautical Engineering apprenticeships and courses up to degree level are based here, as well as some Travel and Tourism courses.

## Innovation for Industry - Coleg Sir Gar

This initiative, funded by the [A4B programme](#) takes ideas through to commercial viability. Currently working with 104 companies, the College unit is able to act as an advisor, broker and critical friend. By maintaining a high level overview it is able to provide a route map to market linking each company to a network of other agencies and commercial interests. Innovation might be in any form: it might require new machinery, new processes or new skills. The unit is able to structure the development of an idea and co-ordinate support for the client business, calling on academic expertise as necessary.



**Cynnal Cymru - Sustain Wales** is Wales' Sustainable Development organisation (est. 2002).

We integrate policy, engagement and leadership to create positive change. We are not-for-profit.