



Arolygiaeth Ei Fawrhydi dros Addysg a Hyfforddiant yng Nghymru
His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales

Report following monitoring

of

Carmarthenshire Adult Community Learning Partnership

**Carmarthenshire County Council,
County Hall,
Carmarthen,
SA31 1JP**

Date of visit: December 2024

by

**Estyn, His Majesty's Inspectorate for Education and
Training in Wales**

This report is also available in Welsh.

Outcome of visit

The provider is judged to have made sufficient progress in relation to the recommendations following the most recent core inspection.

As a result, His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales is removing the provider from the list of providers in follow-up.

Progress against recommendations from the core inspection

R1. Sharpen strategic leadership procedures and practices in the partnership, including the quality assurance of provision

The adult learning in the community partnership in Carmarthenshire has made good progress in developing its strategic procedures and practices following the core inspection in November 2023. It has established a strategic group, which is made up of core partnership members from the local authority, Coleg Sir Gar, the regional skills partnership and Careers Wales. Within the local authority, adult learning in the community is part of the education directorate, enabling it to be seen as a valued and essential part of the lifelong learning continuum.

The strategic group has developed and shared a vision for adult learning in the community, which is informed by the local authority's community plan. The group holds regular meetings. Agendas focus well on using partners' strengths to plan provision to meet community learners' needs, to avoid duplication and offer clear progression routes. The newly developed website, 'Learning Carmarthenshire', provides learners with an easily navigable portal to the courses that are offered by the different partners across the local authority and allows them to plan more effectively for progression in learning.

Clear terms of reference for the strategic and operational groups, as well as minutes indicating actions with deadlines to be carried out by different partners, enable the partnership to keep an effective track of progress in carrying out its plans and to ensure that there is momentum with their improvements. The college takes a lead role in collating and analysing data. This is helpful to the partnership in checking progress against its targets and in identifying strengths and prioritising areas for improvement.

Partners have aligned their quality cycles. The development of a joint observation process with common paperwork and expectations is proving beneficial in securing high expectations of learning and teaching quality across the partnership. It is also helping to develop partners' understanding of the differing needs of learners and the differing teaching styles required in community learning to those in more formal learning.

Effective moderation processes help tutors and leaders to develop a common understanding of quality and targets for development and improvement. The process

allows for the identification of areas for improvement that need addressing, thereby developing provision of a shared standard across the partnership.

These procedures and practices are having an impact. Tutors value the re-development of the partnership, as it allows them to connect with other organisations and provide a more interconnected service for learners. Tutors value the professional development being offered through different partnership members because it introduces them to a wider range of professional training and greater opportunity to focus on their personal professional development needs and interests.

Operational leaders and tutors welcome the fact that through the development of the partnership over the past year they have a greater understanding of, and communication with, the wider network offering community learning.

R2. Develop and promote Welsh-medium provision

The partnership has made sound progress in developing and promoting Welsh-medium provision from the limited opportunities available to learners at the time of the core inspection in November 2023. It has reached out to organisations across the local authority already providing opportunities for people to learn either bilingually or through the medium of Welsh.

It has made connections with those in the school improvement team providing family learning in bilingual and Welsh-medium schools and those who provide such programmes as Adam yn yr Ardd, where parents and children explore numeracy topics in the primary curriculum outdoors through the medium of Welsh. In two other schools, eight parents who want to improve their language to support their children's Welsh language development attend six sessions of tuition through the medium Welsh. At the end of the course, their achievements are marked with certificate and a book in Welsh.

Through Menter Iaith, the partnership has connected with learners with different levels of Welsh who learn in informal classes, such as Clwb Clonc, which is aimed at learners who could speak Welsh but have lost some of the language, and those who want to take craft classes through the medium of Welsh.

For those wishing to improve their Welsh, there are opportunities to volunteer for such activities as delivering meals on wheels or working in a local shop. Additional opportunities are available through social prescribing where professionals work systematically with a family on various themes through the medium of Welsh.

From its campus in Ceredigion, the college offers more formal provision through the medium of Welsh. This provision is offered as a mixture of face-to-face and online.

Although identified numbers wanting to learn more formally through the medium of Welsh remain low, the connections between the partnership and organisations working through the medium of Welsh are mutually beneficial. They help the partners determine the level of interest and need for learning bilingually or through the medium of Welsh in the local authority and ensure that the provision of adult learning in the community reaches a wider audience.

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