

'Seizing the Opportunity'

Shaping a new curriculum for Wales

Cardiff Education Convention - 23rd October 2018, 16:00 – 19:30

What sort of tomorrow will our children and young people face?

- *What forces are shaping the world we live in?*
- *How can we prepare children and young people to deal with the unpredictability of the future?*
- *How can we foster creativity and resilience to enable them to respond to whatever the future may bring?*
- *In a rapidly growing city, which is ethnically and culturally diverse, what will it mean to be a citizen of Cardiff?*

With the challenges posed by the Successful Futures report on a future curriculum for Wales, we are facing a once in a generation opportunity to reframe our approach to education and the curriculum. A strong education system provides the key foundation for vibrant, cohesive communities, and a prosperous economy and society.

We need to understand and anticipate the future, and reconsider the attitudes, knowledge and competencies that learners will need. Whilst teachers and educators have a key role in shaping a future curriculum, others too have a major stake in this enterprise. The perspectives of employers, communities, children, young people and parents need to inform and shape its development too - Education is Everybody's Business.

In Cardiff we are well placed to bring these perspectives together in one conversation. Cardiff is one of the fastest growing cities in the UK. It is an expanding creative and cultural city with a high proportion of sector leading industries, growing entrepreneurship, thriving arts, sports and leisure sectors, a diverse and active third sector, an improving school system and strong further and higher education institutions.

The vision articulated in Professor Graham Donaldson's review 'Successful Futures', published in February 2015, sets out firm foundations for a new approach to curriculum and assessment. The report emphasises the need to better prepare children and young people in Wales to thrive and be successful in a rapidly changing world. It points to the need for a simpler, more connected curriculum that provides breadth, enables greater depth of learning, ensures better progression and places a greater emphasis on skills.

The four **Key Purposes** of the new curriculum encapsulate this vision, to create:

- Ambitious, capable learners who are ready to learn throughout their lives.
- Enterprising, creative contributors who are ready to play a full part in life and work.
- Ethical, informed citizens who are ready to be citizens of Wales and the world.
- Healthy, confident individuals who are ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

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Purpose of Event

The convention is designed to capture wider perspectives on the key challenge of shaping a new curriculum for Wales. It will provide the opportunity to showcase innovative and creative approaches already underway. It will highlight developments in technology, business, the arts, sport which need to inform the work in schools and classrooms. It will provoke a conversation about the values and aspirations which must underpin this work. The event will be inclusive of all phases of statutory education, pre-school and post-16 transfer to further education, employment or training.

Outline content:

1. Thematic Workshops
2. A Marketplace of up to 50 exhibitors from education and wider partners.
3. A Plenary including:
 - Contributions from children and young people
 - A keynote speech
 - A Question and Answer session, facilitated by a BBC correspondent, with education leaders and employers from across the city

The target audience for the event is education professionals, and stakeholders from industry, business, the arts, sport and leisure sectors, the third sector, and further and higher education institutions.

Draft running order

16:00 – 18:00 Marketplace
16:45 – 17:15 Workshops x 3
17:30 – 18:00 Workshops x 3
18:15 – 19:30 Plenary
19:30 Networking and refreshments

Venue

Sophia Gardens Cricket Ground

Provisional workshop content

- Future qualifications
- Creative Education Partnership
- Well-being/mental health (Mind Hub)
- Innovations in Science and Technology
- Believe Charity
- Schools in Wales as learning organisations
- Special School perspective