**Further Education Learners' Voice Forum**

**04 February 2025 over Teams at 17:15**

**Present:**

Forum Members: Aidan Bowen, Ffion Thomas, Eban Prys-Davies, Cian Curry.

College Officers: Mared Jones, Mabon Dafydd

Apologies: Lora Pritchard, Magi Hughes, Kelsey Minihan

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| Item | Discussion and Action Point | Responsibility | By/Date |
| 1. Welcome and apologies | Everyone was welcomed to the meeting, and permission was questioned to record the meeting for internal use for the Coleg Cymraeg only. Agreed. |  |  |
| 2. Your Ideas | 1. What would you like to discuss at the forum? What themes?   It has been noted that a negative attitude towards Welsh remains a problem across Wales, despite the fact that many speakers visit colleges to discuss the importance of bilingualism and the Welsh language. It was agreed that it would be good to work together as ambassadors to see what we can do to improve this.  [The Sbarduno Scheme](https://colegcymraeg.ac.uk/en/pages-a-z-content/sbarduno-scheme/) was discussed, a mentoring scheme for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Welsh speakers. Aidan is part of this year's project, and noted how much he enjoyed the scheme, and already wants to give back and be a mentor himself in the future. He also said it would be good to have a similar scheme for all pupils or learners. |  |  |
| 3. Children and young people's Committee consultation | The context of the consultation was explained.  We asked: *To what extent did you feel that you received information regarding the full range of Welsh-medium options available to you after finishing Yr.11*  One noted that their first option was sixth form, but after attending for a while, it turned out that they weren't enjoying sixth form, so they went to a further education College instead. It was felt that there wasn't much support within the school if you didn't want to stay and go on to sixth form. Others pointed out that they did not realise there were so many options to study through the medium of Welsh in the further education Colleges. Another noted that they didn't know about the options until at least a year into their course at the College.  *We asked: Where did you get the most advice/options after leaving Yr.11?*  Some reported receiving the information from Careers Wales, others noted open nights at the Colleges. Some noted that they received information in school from teachers, but many said that they had to do much of the research themselves.  *We asked: How satisfied were you with the quality of the advice in regard to the Welsh medium options?*  Some said they were unaware of the Welsh medium options until they arrived at the College and didn't know if they could complete work through the medium of Welsh or receive advice in Welsh.  *We asked: Do you feel you have received enough information and advice about the Welsh language?*  The forum agreed that they did not feel that they had received enough advice about all the options available to them through the medium of Welsh. But now that they have started at the College they are aware of all the options. |  |  |
| 4. Your experience as an ambassador | Everyone agreed that they enjoyed their work as an ambassador. The highlight for many was meeting new people, the extra responsibilities and educating people about the Welsh language. It was agreed that they would like to collaborate more together. |  |  |
| 5. Post 16 Strategic Board | It was explained that the minutes of the forum will be shared with the post-16 strategic board. The date was shared, and it was noted that they were welcome to attend if they wished. |  |  |
| 6. Date of next meeting | Information was shared about Gweithwyr Iechyd Yfory, Doctoriaid Yfory a Deintyddion Yfory, and the ambassadors were asked to disseminate this information within their colleges.  It was noted that the forum will meet again in early May, MJ/MD to share a date. | Ambassadors  MJ/MD |  |