

Learning Pathways 14–19



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
Welsh Assembly Government

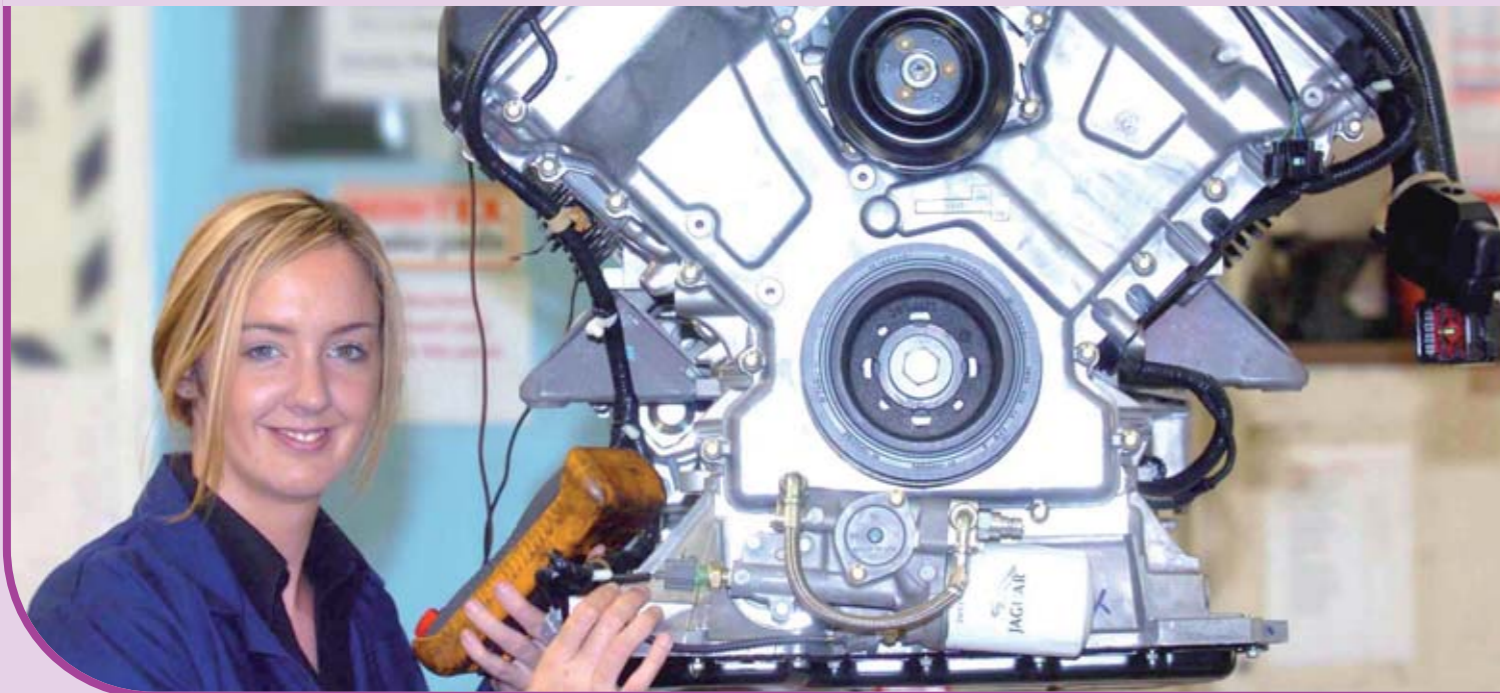
Information for Employers



A new approach in Wales for all 14–19 learners

Improving skills for employability

The message from Welsh businesses has been clear and unequivocal: it's time to raise the bar in order to compete successfully on the world stage. Your organisation needs employees of the highest calibre to help create and sustain a vibrant economy in Wales.



You have told us that we need to increase the number of young people succeeding in school, particularly in areas such as literacy, numeracy and employability skills. Well, we've listened and we've acted.

There is now a national commitment to completely transform the experience of young people between the ages of 14 and 19 in Wales. We call the policy 'Learning Pathways'.

It will bring about a fundamental reform of education and training for 14–19 year olds in Wales.



What do we mean by Learning Pathways?



All young people aged 14–19 should have the maximum opportunity to recognise their individual talents and realise their learning potential. In doing so they must develop the skills that are needed for further study and employment.

Alongside the existing GCSEs, AS and A Levels, we will provide the opportunity for all young people to follow further vocational courses, aligned to the current and future needs of the Welsh economy.

The skills of literacy, numeracy, ICT, problem solving, communication and working with others will be central to all courses.



We will also ensure that 14–19 year olds, in school or college, have the opportunity to learn about the world of work and entrepreneurship. This will include high-quality and practical work experience.

How does the Welsh Bac fit into the Learning Pathways vision?

We have also introduced the **Welsh Baccalaureate** to broaden what 14–19 year olds study and to capture it all in a single overarching qualification. This will show employers and others what these young people have achieved and can do. It will be available at three levels — Foundation (the equivalent of five GCSE passes), Intermediate (five GCSEs at grades *A–C) and Advanced (two A Level passes).

It is also critical that we educate and train our young people to the highest possible level, so that we can succeed in the increasingly competitive economic situation to be faced in the future. You are critical to this process.

We must find ways through school, further education, work-based learning and employment (with training) to enable young people to stay in learning until they are 19.

How can you get involved with Learning Pathways?

We want you to be fully involved in decisions about how your potential employees are educated, trained and develop skills for the world of work.

We need you to get involved with the 14–19 Networks that are developing this policy within your Local Education Authority and with local schools, colleges and training providers.

Your involvement is essential for quality work-focused experience for young people.

We think your views and your support are crucial to the success of this policy. Contact points are provided below.

Web:

www.wales.gov.uk/learningpathways

E-mail:

14-19@wales.gsi.gov.uk

You can also go to:

www.SkillsPeopleSuccess.com

Or call the business skills helpline on:

0845 60 661 60

