



# PARENT NEWSLETTER

## Summer 2024



Gyrfa Cymru  
Careers Wales

### How we can help

Careers Wales are here to support you and your child make the right education and career decisions.

### Supporting young people

Our careers advisers can:

- give impartial careers information, guidance and coaching
- understand your child's strengths, interests and values to help identify potential career paths
- guide your child when choosing subjects
- share information about various career options, industries, and job markets
- help your child set achievable short-term and long-term goals related to their career aspirations
- support your child if they face setbacks and challenges

*Our careers advisers tailor their approach depending on your child's age and needs.*



### Supporting young people with Additional Learning Needs

- If your child has an Individual Development Plan (IDP) the careers adviser may be invited to their annual review to discuss their transition from school. The career adviser can provide information and advice about post school options and signpost you to other agencies that could also support you and your child as they move on from school.

## Supporting parents

Our careers advisers can:

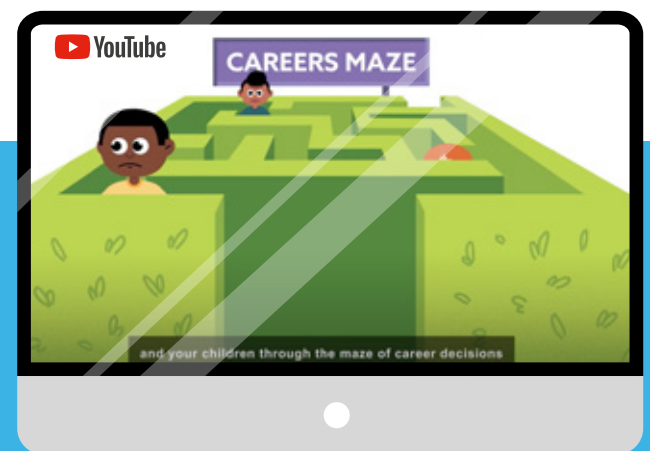
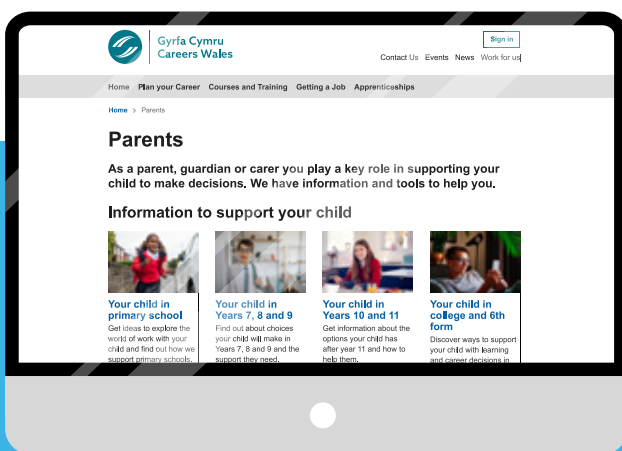
- ➔ offer insights into appropriate course selections and educational pathways based on your child's interests and strengths
- ➔ help you understand academic requirements for various career paths; including college and vocational programmes
- ➔ share information about different careers, industries and job markets; helping you find potential opportunities for your child
- ➔ help you understand college and university application processes



## Parent website pages

As well as a link careers adviser at your child's school, our website is home to a host of information that can help you to support your child at every stage of their career journey.

Our YouTube video also tells you more about the support we give your child.



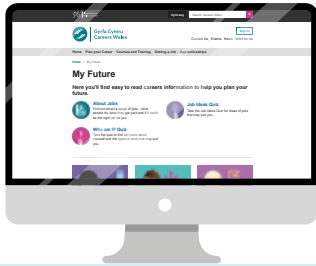
[careerswales.gov.wales/parents](https://careerswales.gov.wales/parents)



[Careers Wales support for parents - YouTube](#)

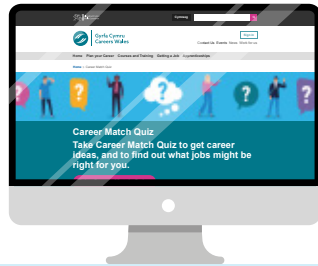
# Online resources

Did you know that we have a range of online tools and resources to help your child identify their strengths and weaknesses and learn about future career options? Here are some of them:



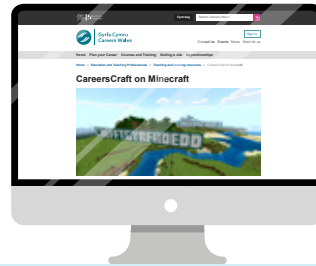
## My Future ↗

Easy to read section with resources such as 'About Jobs', 'Who am I? Quiz' and 'Job Ideas Quiz'.



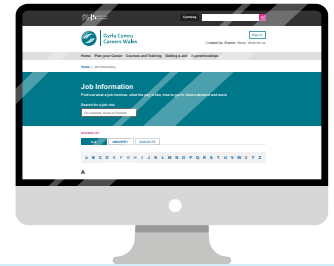
## Career Match Quiz ↗

Get career ideas and find out what jobs might be right for your child.



## Careers Craft ↗

Our Minecraft game is the perfect resource for gamers to explore careers topics and develop skills by visiting different landmarks in Wales.



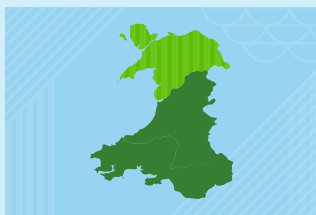
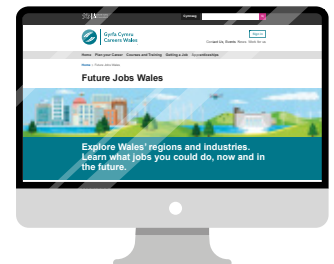
## Job Information ↗

Find out what a job involves, what the pay is like and what would be needed to apply.

# Future Jobs Wales

As a parent, you may have a keen interest in understanding the future career landscape that awaits your child.

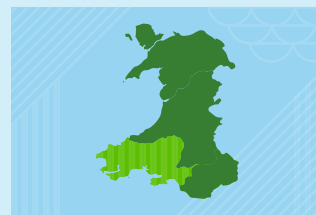
Our new interactive labour market information resource, [Future Jobs Wales](#), provides up to date information on key industries and regions in Wales.



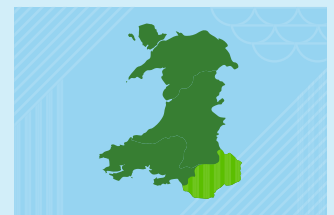
## Jobs in North Wales ↗



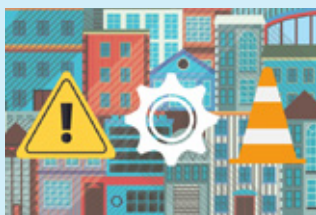
## Jobs in Mid Wales ↗



## Jobs in South West Wales ↗



## Jobs in South East Wales ↗



## Jobs in Construction ↗



## Jobs in Energy ↗



## Jobs in Health ↗

## How we can help your child

### Real life stories

#### An alternative to sixth form

17-year-old Olivia knew she didn't want to continue into sixth form at school. She spoke to Vicky, her school careers adviser, to understand her other options.

Vicky supported Olivia to explore her likes and dislikes during several sessions together. They looked at career roles that might suit her best and discussed the qualifications she would need for those roles.

Olivia said: "Vicky reassured me that I didn't have to go into sixth form first to do an apprenticeship. She helped me realise I could go straight into one, which was a huge relief."

#### Confirming next steps

Olivia continued: "I sort of knew I wanted to do an apprenticeship. I knew I wanted to go to college and study a specific subject.

"I used the methods Vicky showed me to find opportunities. This included the [Apprenticeship Search](#) on the Careers Wales website.

"Through this I found the engineering apprenticeship at Qioptiq and wanted to apply."

Vicky supported Olivia to develop her CV and cover letter for the role. She also helped with interview preparation.

#### An engineer in the making

Olivia started her apprenticeship after finishing school in the summer of year 11. She has been going from strength to strength since.

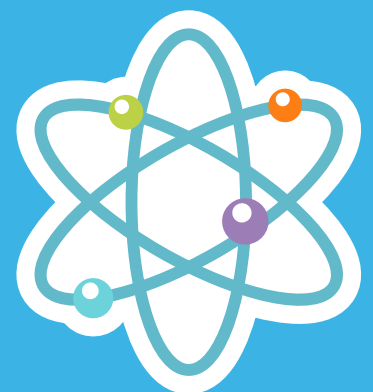
She said: "I didn't know what I wanted to do. I've realised now that this is something I really enjoy.

Olivia would like other young people to know that there are other options they can take after school. She added: "Don't be scared of exploring other options. You don't have to do what your friends are doing."



#### ← Olivia's story

***Following support from a careers adviser, Olivia is thriving in an engineering apprenticeship.***



## Options

Your child might need to make some important career decisions during the summer term.

### Your child in years 8 and 9

Year 8 and 9 mark a pivotal moment in a young person's academic journey as they begin selecting their GCSE subjects. It's a time when they can delve into their passions, discovering what ignites their curiosity and drives their ambition.

The subjects your child chooses may affect:

- ➔ The sixth form or college they can attend
- ➔ What subject, course and qualifications they can do next, or later in university
- ➔ What apprenticeships they can apply for
- ➔ What job they can do in the future



➔ [Support is available here](#)

### Your child in years 10 and 11

In years 10 and 11 your child will be busy working towards their first qualifications. During this time they need to think about what they want to do after year 11 and research their options.

After year 11 your child could decide to:

- ➔ Continue in education
- ➔ Do an apprenticeship
- ➔ Get a job
- ➔ Apply for Jobs Growth Wales+ training and development programme
- ➔ Become self-employed



➔ [Support is available here](#)

Your child's results can open many doors and enable them to pursue a number of different paths. We have information to help if your child is about to get **their results** this summer.

## Your child in college or 6th form

Your child will be taking more responsibility for themselves, their work and plans. But your support will still be important as they decide what to do next. After their course your child might be considering:

- ➔ Further study at college or university
- ➔ An apprenticeship
- ➔ Self-employment
- ➔ Getting a job



[Support is available here](#)

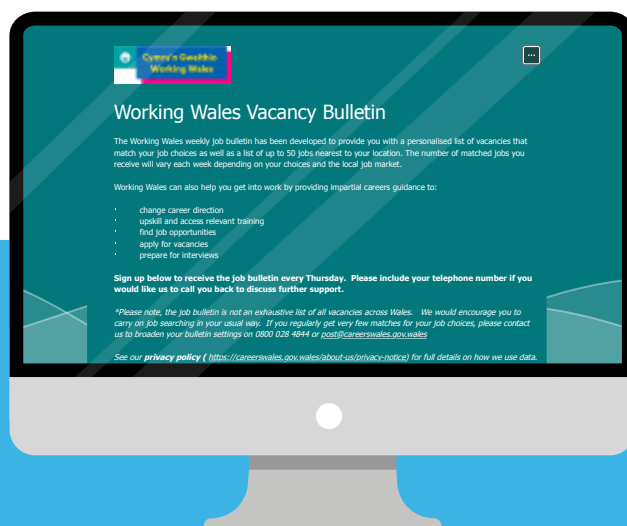
If your child is thinking about university, they should have already started their application by researching options, attending open days and thinking about their personal statement.

There's a lot to find out about with each of these options. Our [career routes and pathways](#) information will help with this.

## Working Wales Job Bulletin

If as a parent you are looking to explore job opportunities, Working Wales can help.

Our Job Bulletin can give you access to current live vacancies across Wales.



**Working Wales**  
#changeyourstory



[Subscribe here today](#)

## Working with employers

### Did you know that we link schools with local employers?

Engaging with employers is an important part of your child's educational journey.

Employer engagement can raise aspirations and enhance your child's awareness of the range of career opportunities available to them.

Here are some examples of our work with employers:

#### A taste of a food technology career for Aberystwyth pupils

We teamed up with local businesses in Aberystwyth to help demonstrate the career opportunities in the food industry to pupils of Ysgol Penglais. Working with Hybu Cig Wales, Cambrian Training and Rachel's Organic, our business engagement advisers arranged for the local businesses to provide interactive workshops.



#### Flintshire business helps young person lay foundations for construction career

Pure Homes partnered with us to help young people understand the vast range of roles available in construction. The organisation has become one of the leading housing developers in north and mid Wales, as well as the northwest of England.



#### Swansea student scores football coaching position after mock interview

One of many ways local employers can help young people experience the world of work is by providing mock interviews. Business engagement adviser, Andrea John, connected with Kieran Birch from Proelio Coaching, who provides one-to-one football coaching in Swansea.



# Ten ways to support your child with their career decisions:

## 1 Support your child's ideas.

A young person is more likely to be motivated and successful if they come up with their own ideas and make decisions for themselves. Encourage their passion.

## 2 Keep discussions broad to start and avoid focusing on job titles.

Start by talking about things like skills, interests, goals, lifestyle and values. See where these conversations lead and what jobs come up.

## 3 Sit and complete our online resources together.

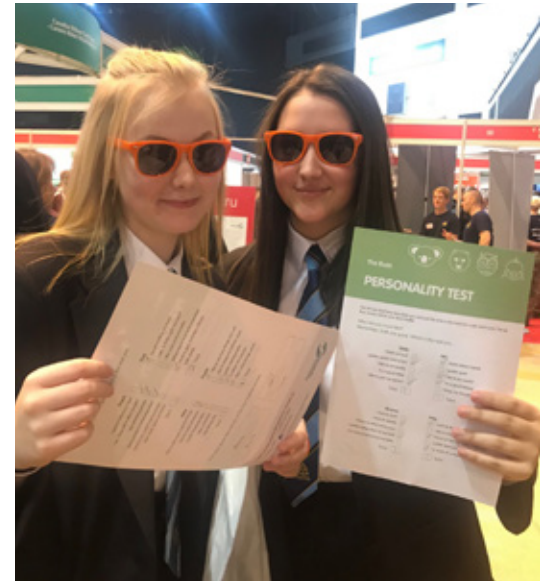
**Buzz quiz** can allow your child to find out their personality type and get ideas on jobs they might want to research further.

## 4 Promote extra-curricular opportunities.

Helping and encouraging young people to engage in activities outside of school can increase their opportunities. It will help them develop skills, build a network and broaden their outlook.

## 5 Be open minded about post 16 options.

College courses, BTECs, NVQs as well as A levels can all lead to successful employment or further study at university. There are apprenticeship opportunities in hundreds of occupations, and some you may not have thought of. There are also options to head directly into work. There are many different routes into most occupations and it's important to consider learning style and academic ability.



## 6 Talk about your own experiences and attitude to education and work.

Your values and opinions will influence your child's outlook and future decisions.

## 7 Promote financial independence and budgeting skills.

It's important to know how much things cost and how lifestyle is influenced by salary level. Open a bank account or a prepaid card and encourage responsible spending.

## 8 Use your networks.

Ask friends and family who do different jobs to speak to your child.

## 9 Encourage part-time work, volunteering and work experience.

Customer service roles are a great way to build confidence, communication and social skills. Communicating with a wide range of people at work will introduce your child to new ideas and opinions.

## 10 Talk about the news.

Chat about news articles they might have seen and the relevance to the economy and the future jobs market.



## Contact us

- ➔ You can contact a careers adviser at school or by phoning [0800 028 4844](tel:08000284844)

➔ We have a Wales-wide live chat facility available via [www.careerswales.gov.wales](http://www.careerswales.gov.wales)
- ➔ Email [post@careerswales.gov.wales](mailto:post@careerswales.gov.wales)

➔ Drop into one of our [careers centres](#)

Follow Careers Wales on social media

