

ColegauCymru Annual Conference 2023

Shaping the future of further education – delivering a stronger, greener, and fairer Wales

Overview

ColegauCymru is delighted our Annual Conference will return on **12 October 2023** at **Hilton Hotel, Cardiff**.

With a packed agenda, the Conference promises to bring together key stakeholders, educators and industry leaders, from across Wales and beyond to demonstrate the value of further education. We'll reflect on learnings from a challenging period but will also look to the future, exploring the remit of the ambitious Welsh Government plans to overhaul the way in which post-16 education is governed and delivered in Wales, in line with their ambitious plans for a stronger, greener and fairer Wales.

The morning plenary sessions will be chaired by Chair of ColegauCymru and Principal and Chief Executive of Coleg Gwent, Guy Lacey, and the afternoon plenary sessions will be chaired by the Vice Chair of ColegauCymru and Principal and Chief Executive of The College Merthyr Tydfil, Lisa Thomas.

Agenda

Time	What	Who
8.00am - 9.00am	Registration, Refreshments and Networking	
9.00am - 9.20am	Welcome and scene setting	Guy Lacey, Chair, ColegauCymru
9.20am - 10.00am	Panel Discussion: A skills system that works for Wales – contextual challenges and opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gwyneth Sweatman, Head of Public Affairs, FSB Wales Sian Cartwright, National Officer (Learning and Skills) Wales TUC

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Richard Wyn Jones, Director, Cardiff University, Wales Governance Centre • Louise Warde Hunter, Principal and Chief Executive, Belfast Metropolitan College <p>Chair: Dave Hagedyk, Chief Executive, Colegau Cymru</p>
10:00am - 10.30am	<p>Welsh Government, Ministerial Address</p> <p>The Minister in conversation</p>	<p>Jeremy Miles MS, Minister for Education and Welsh Language</p> <p>The Minister in conversation with Jeff Greenidge, Board Member, Colegau Cymru</p>
10.30am - 10.45am	Headline Sponsor	<p>Angharad Lloyd-Beynon</p> <p>Policy, Stakeholder and Partnerships Manager (Nations and Ireland), City & Guilds</p>
10.45am - 11.30am	Refreshments, Networking and Exhibitions	
11.30am - 12.30pm	<p>Morning Workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality and Diversity - Looking towards an Anti-Racist Wales 2030 • Building a vocational education strategy for Wales • Welsh language and bilingual delivery in the FE and work-based learning sectors • Navigating the opportunities and challenges of AI in colleges 	

12.30pm - 1.30pm	Lunch, Networking and Exhibitions	
1.30pm - 2.30pm	Afternoon Workshops <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How international visits and partnerships can enhance and enrich learning and teaching across the sector • Active Wellbeing in FE: Active Colleges - Active Lives - Active Wales • Tackling peer-on-peer sexual harassment in further education • New Futures Wales: Supporting women into tech 	
2.30pm - 3.00pm	Refreshments, Networking and Exhibitions	
3.00pm - 3.30pm	Panel discussion The Learner Experience	Rocio Cifuentes, Children’s Commissioner for Wales Orla Tarn, President, NUS Wales
3.30pm - 4.00pm	Conference reflections and futures thinking	Simon Pirotte, Chief Executive, Commission for Tertiary Education and Research in conversation with Suzy Davies, Board Member, Colegau Cymru Chair: Lisa Thomas, Vice Chair, Colegau Cymru
4.00pm - 4.15pm	Closing Address	Guy Lacey, Chair, Colegau Cymru
4.15pm	Conference Closes	