

Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers

Annual report 2019-20

Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers, Annual report 2019–20

Audience

Welsh Government departments; public bodies in Wales; third sector organisations in Wales; private sector companies in Wales; education institutions in Wales; organisations working to promote the use of Welsh; organisations working with families, children and young people, and communities; and other interested parties.

Overview

In order to fulfil the requirements of the Government of Wales Act 2006, *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers* was launched in July 2017, when the previous strategy came to an end.

The Government of Wales Act 2006 requires an annual report to be published to monitor progress against the Welsh Language Strategy.

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Additional copies

This document is available on the Welsh Government website at www.gov.wales/welsh-language

Related documents

Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011; *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers* (2017); *Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers, Work programme 2017–21* (2017); *Technical report: Projection and trajectory for the number of Welsh speakers aged three and over, 2011 to 2050* (2017); *Welsh in education: Action plan 2017–21* (2017)

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Ministerial foreword

It's a pleasure to publish the latest report on our language strategy, [Cymraeg 2050: A million Welsh speakers](#). This is the third annual report that we've published in relation to this strategy and it considers the work we've done during 2019-20, strengthening the foundations laid since the launch of *Cymraeg 2050* in 2017. I would like to thank everyone for all the work that's been done to increase language use and the number of Welsh speakers, and this report is an opportunity to show what's been happening at the heart of our communities, by grant partners and by the Government itself over the past year.

One of our highlights this year was taking part in *UNESCO's International Year of Indigenous Languages* – the perfect opportunity for us to raise Wales' profile internationally as a bilingual country and reinforce our status as one of the leading countries in the field of linguistic regeneration. As I mentioned during the Our Voice in the World Festival in Aberystwyth, we need to be positive, create unity and offer support, working together, with a smile, to reach the million. We need to look towards the future not the past. And the year was a chance for us to put Wales on the map as a country with a modern, vibrant language that welcomes everyone – a bilingual, and indeed multilingual, country. We can now look forward to *UNESCO's Decade of Indigenous Languages* which begins in 2022.

This report shows the work we've done all the way through from the early years, through statutory education provision, to post-compulsory education and Welsh for adults, implementing the main *Cymraeg 2050* targets. It also shows projects which help to increase the use of Welsh in our communities and various schemes which enable and underpin these efforts.

We've followed the same structure as last year, with relevant data and charts included under the strategy's 15 headings by theme, so that there's clear context, explanation and analysis on the progress made. Due to COVID-19, we have not been able to collect all the data for 2019-20 from the usual sources at the time of going to print. Therefore, we've included information from other sources where possible to provide a possible early picture, although these are not the usual approved sources. As we will also be publishing this report earlier in the year from now on, making it more relevant and to enable better scrutiny of our work, the latest data may not always be available. We intend to include further updates in the next *Cymraeg 2050* annual report.

This year, I announced our intention to establish Prosiect 2050 – a brand new unit coordinating our work towards the million, creating new initiatives to double the use of the language and supporting policy areas across Government to implement *Cymraeg 2050*. It will work with a range of partners across Wales and beyond and I look forward to seeing the pioneering work that this multidisciplinary unit will undertake.

It gave me great pleasure to launch a consultation on the draft national policy on Welsh language transmission and use in families – the final policy will be published before Christmas. Encouraging families to choose Welsh is one of the most important areas of *Cymraeg 2050*, and I'm confident that what is being proposed is

groundbreaking on an international level and will help other languages to understand how behavioural change can drive language transmission.

It was good to see the Helo Blod service being launched during the year – a support and translation service available online and by telephone to small businesses and the third sector. The service is going from strength to strength and has been a vital resource during the pandemic.

We do face challenges in some areas, as some of the data shows. These include recruiting teachers and ensuring that young people continue to use Welsh after the age of 16. But we are working hard across Government and with our partners in the relevant sectors, and continue to keep an eye on data to adapt our plans if needed.

This report, of course, is a snapshot of a period of time which ended in March this year. Since then, the world has changed in a way none of us could have imagined or predicted.

All our work, including our projects on the Welsh language, have been seriously challenged this year due to COVID-19. But, with each challenge comes an exciting opportunity: a chance to look at things in a different way and create new communities where people can come together in different virtual groups to learn and use Welsh.

Undoubtedly, the nation has responded to the crisis. While COVID-19 has changed our lives, and has been a distressing time for us all, it is so encouraging to see how people have responded to the challenge. I have been very impressed by the innovation, determination and creativity demonstrated by our partners. It was a pleasure to watch Eisteddfod T and Eisteddfod AmGen, hear about the excellent voluntary work of the Young Farmers and Merched y Wawr and see all sorts of events held online by the mentrau iaith. We've seen more learners than the past three years combined, signing up for the National Centre for Learning Welsh's online taster courses since March this year. This all shows the important work our partners have been doing, driving Welsh language policy and delivering *Cymraeg 2050*'s aims during this difficult time. Thank you for everything.

We've responded to the pandemic by supporting partners by trying to anticipate and respond to situations, and we will continue to do this. The [A summer full of Welsh for your kids](#) campaign supports parents of children at Welsh-medium schools and we will continue to develop this work. We've held an audit of language use in our communities so we can identify brand new opportunities for people to use their Welsh, as well as to see what's at risk.

The Cysgliad pack is now available free of charge to individuals and small organisations making it easier for more people to use Welsh. We've also been considering the impact of COVID-19 on Welsh language use in workplaces and the impact of the pandemic and Brexit on the rural economy where so many communities with high percentages of Welsh speakers live. Leaving the European Union without a trade agreement would be a blow to the agriculture sector where 43% of workers speak Welsh across Wales – with very high percentages in some areas. We are also aware of the concern about second homes in some areas and

the ability of local people to access the housing market – and the impact of that on the Welsh language. We're currently considering how we can make it easier for local people to buy affordable housing in such areas.

Our next annual report will include more details on these matters and any findings about the impact of the pandemic. This will all help us as we plan the next *Cymraeg 2050* work programme for our next Government.

As the Minister responsible for the Welsh language, I'm delighted by the range and variety of work taking place, not only here within Government, but also by our partners, groups and individuals across the whole of Wales. We are all proud of our language, and it's wonderful to see so many people working passionately to make a difference in such difficult times. Despite having had to postpone so many events and activities for the time being, we will get back to work in these areas with vigour and enthusiasm once we come through these challenging times. COVID-19 has made us think creatively and much of the incredible innovation of the past few months will continue when we can move forward from this pandemic.

Although the context of our work has changed dramatically since the launch of *Cymraeg 2050* in the summer of 2017, our strategic priorities have remained the same. The hard work already undertaken and the new opportunities we've seen over the past year are a strong foundation for the next government to continue our vision of reaching a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

November 2020

**Eluned Morgan MS
Minister for Mental Health, Wellbeing and the Welsh Language**

Context – *Cymraeg 2050*

Cymraeg 2050 is our Welsh language strategy. It has two main targets:

- The number of Welsh speakers to reach 1 million by 2050.
- The percentage of the population that speak Welsh daily, and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh, to increase from 10% (in 2013-15) to 20% by 2050.

After each financial year, the Welsh Ministers are required (under Section 78 of the Government of Wales Act 2006) to publish a report on how the language strategy was delivered during the financial year, and how well we've promoted, encouraged and helped people and organisations to use Welsh.

This report looks at the 2019-20 financial year, and includes details of our progress under the 15 headings of the three themes:

- Increasing the number of Welsh speakers
- Increasing the use of Welsh
- Creating favourable conditions – infrastructure and context

We must remain on track towards securing a million Welsh speakers by 2050, and so, alongside the strategy itself, we published our Work Programme for 2017-21. This is the first of several Work Programmes that will be published during the lifetime of the strategy, each of which will set targets for the Senedd term, and will allow us to take stock, and adjust or develop some elements as required.

This will be a slow, consistent process, perhaps without obvious success at the beginning, and our first Work Programme focuses on laying firm foundations during the early years. Laying the foundations at the start of the period is necessary to help us to succeed in the medium to long-term.

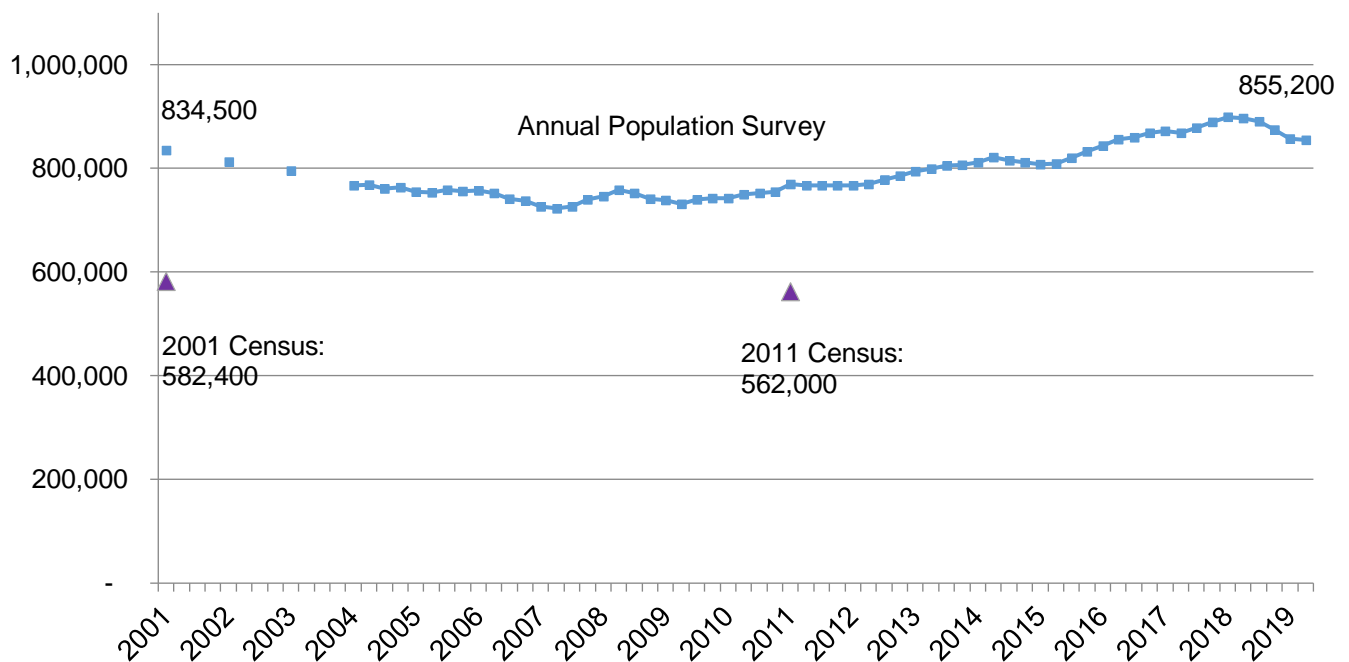
We'll publish our second Work Programme next year, and this will need to reflect how the way we live has changed. By keeping an eye on policies as they change and responding proactively to those changes, we'll make sure that we're constantly aware and working towards our overall aims and vision for a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Theme 1: Increasing the number of Welsh speakers

The current situation – how many people can speak Welsh?

The Census is the source we use to monitor progress towards our target of a million Welsh speakers. However, as the Census is only held every 10 years, we use the Annual Population Survey to monitor the number of Welsh speakers more regularly. Traditionally, the estimates produced by this survey are far higher than Census estimates, as shown by the chart below:

Chart 1: Number of people aged three and over able to speak Welsh according to the Annual Population Survey and Census



Although the Annual Population Survey figures tend to be far higher than Census figures, they are useful so we can see patterns or trends in Welsh speaker numbers.

Although the Annual Survey figures vary a little from year to year, the emerging trend is that numbers seem to be increasing gradually over the past decade, despite a slight decrease over the past year. According to the Annual Survey, 855,200 people aged three and over were able to speak Welsh in the year ending 31 March 2019¹.

¹ The latest figures are available here:
<https://gov.wales/welsh-language-data-annual-population-survey>

1. Language transmission in the family

According to the 2011 Census, 82% of children aged 3-4 in couple households where two adults spoke Welsh could speak Welsh. The proportion of children aged 3-4 that could speak Welsh in couple households where one adult could speak Welsh was 45%. This shows why encouraging more parents and carers to pass the language on to their children is one of *Cymraeg 2050* strategy's key priorities.

During 2018-19, we organised a series of workshops with stakeholders after the research study, *Welsh Language Transmission and Use in Families*, was published in 2017². As a result, we drafted a national policy, outlining how we plan to make sure parents and carers are given the best possible support and encouragement to choose to use Welsh with their children.

This led to the launch of a formal consultation on our *National policy on Welsh language transmission and use in families*³ in February 2020. This consultation has informed a ten-year work programme that will include new projects and methods of increasing the rate of Welsh language transmission in families. This draft policy focuses on:

- Inspiring children and young people to speak Welsh to their children in the future.
- Reigniting the Welsh language skills of those who may not have used Welsh since their school days, or who have lost confidence in their language skills, to speak Welsh with their own children.
- Supporting and encouraging use of Welsh within families where not everybody speaks Welsh.
- Supporting Welsh-speaking families to speak Welsh with their children.

We intend to publish a final version of this policy by the end of 2020.

Cymraeg for Kids is a Welsh Government national scheme supporting parents to use Welsh with their children and to choose Welsh language childcare and education. This year, we worked with NHS Wales to establish Cymraeg for Kids groups in conjunction with health visitors. Events were held in clinics to extend the programme's reach. Information on Cymraeg for Kids continues to be included in material provided by the NHS to new parents and prospective parents across Wales. These messages are also shared with the families of each child born in Wales through a collection of resources, including the child's Personal Record.

Our Social Research Division published a final report on the process evaluation of the Cymraeg for Kids (Cymraeg i Blant) programme in February 2019.⁴ The report aimed to develop ways in which the programme supports parents, prospective parents and other family members to use Welsh at home, to pass the language on to their children, and to support their children's language development in a social and educational context. The evaluation's recommendations have been implemented as

² <https://gov.wales/welsh-language-transmission-and-use-families-0>

³ <https://gov.wales/national-policy-welsh-language-transmission-and-use-families>

⁴ <https://gov.wales/process-evaluation-cymraeg-kids-final-report>

the programme was further developed from April 2019, and included looking at the work again in the context of the change theory developed as part of the evaluation. This also allowed us to look again at the links between the support provided by the programme, the outputs of this support, and the programme's long-term aims.

2. The early years

Our aim is to expand Welsh-medium provision in the early years as an access point to Welsh-medium education. This includes supporting work to create 40 new Welsh-medium nursery groups by 2021, to allow us to reach the target of 150 more nursery groups by 2027-28.

We're pleased to have been able to continue to provide an additional investment of £1m for the work of Mudiad Meithrin during 2019-20, so the organisation could expand support for its members, strengthening Welsh-medium childcare provision across Wales. Our additional investment allowed Mudiad Meithrin to establish new Cylchoedd Meithrin in areas where Welsh-medium early years provision was lacking. 13 new Cylchoedd Meithrin were established during 2019-20, and it looks as though we're on track to reach our aim of establishing 40 new nursery groups by 2021.

In 2018-19, we provided additional support to develop Welsh-medium and bilingual capacity across the childcare sector, building on the support offered by Cwlwm (a consortium of five establishments in the areas of childcare and play) to its members, in order to expand services and ensure they are self-sufficient.

We've continued to work with authorities and local providers to improve early years Welsh-medium provision, through Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs) to help pupils to progress from Welsh language nursery groups to Welsh-medium statutory education. Mudiad Meithrin has gathered information on the number of children attending Cylchoedd Meithrin and their journey to statutory education. This information was shared with local authorities to help with their planning processes.

We've seen an increase in the number of children attending Cylchoedd Meithrin, and the percentage of those who then move on to Welsh-medium education, over the last three years – see Chart 2a and 2b below. COVID-19 has led to a delay in data collection in relation to Cylchoedd Meithrin during the summer of 2020, and so the corresponding figures for academic year 2019/20 are not yet available. This data will be included in our next annual report.

Chart 2a: Number of children who have attended a Cylch Meithrin

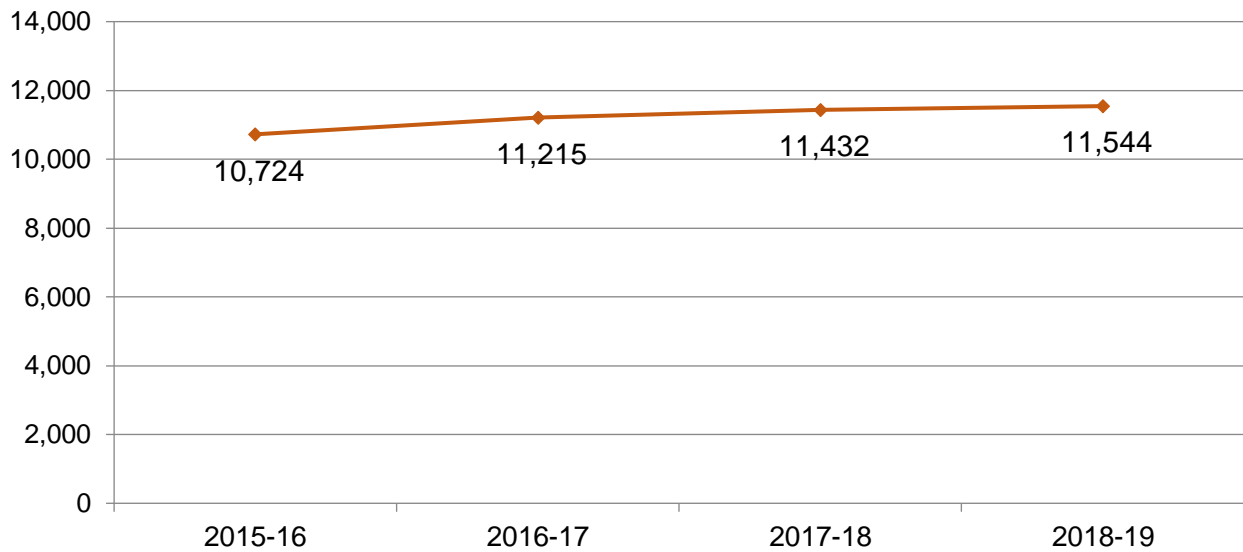
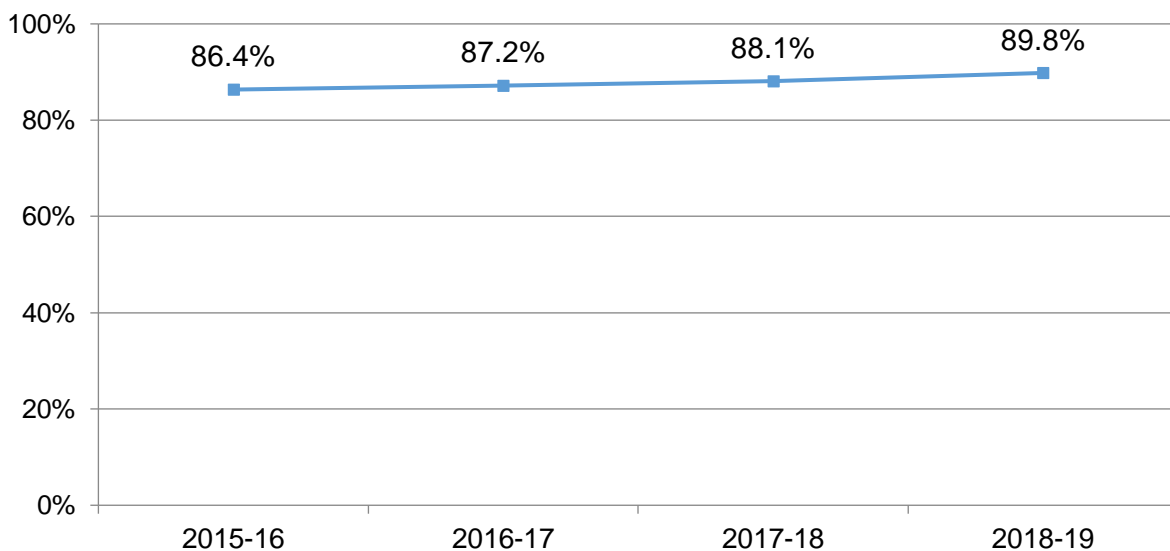


Chart 2b: Percentage of children who move on to a Welsh-medium primary schools



Since April 2019, the Childcare Offer has come into force in each of Wales' 22 local authorities.

In July 2019, 29% of the 15,929 children receiving care through this Offer were choosing Welsh-medium or bilingual settings. The January 2020 data again shows around 29% of around 14,600 children choosing to access Welsh or bilingual childcare through the Offer.

We monitored information about families' use of the Offer's Welsh-medium and bilingual services, and as a result, local authorities decided to take steps to raise awareness among parents that they have a language choice when deciding on childcare. Local authorities have continued to receive funding as part of our Children

and Communities grant to help them increase Welsh-medium childcare provision in their areas.

We commissioned research to help us to understand the factors affecting parents' decisions not to access our funded childcare. This also looked at the factors that influence parents' decisions about Welsh-medium and bilingual childcare provision, and the potential barriers to accessing such provision. We hope to publish these findings during 2020-21.

We've been working with local authorities to on projects worth £35.8m to refurbish childcare settings and develop new provision, to expand the availability of Welsh-medium and bilingual childcare.

We've also allocated £8.4m in small capital grants to local authorities across Wales, for care providers to increase the number of childcare places available at their setting, or to improve their facilities.

At the end of March 2020, we began working with Care Inspectorate Wales, the Cwlwm consortium, and other key stakeholders so we could try to understand the impact of COVID-19 on the Welsh-medium and bilingual childcare sector. This work will continue throughout 2020-21 to make sure that our support continues to address the particular challenges in this sector.

We've also continued with our work to support childcare providers to strengthen and expand their Welsh-medium services.

Through our work with Mudiad Meithrin, we have:

- Improved the arrangements to measure families' use of Welsh-medium childcare provision and its link to statutory education provision.
- Continued to work with other providers and partners to increase the proportion of children moving on from early years provision to Welsh-medium schools.
- Worked with the National Centre for Learning Welsh (the Centre) to continue to develop the Clwb Cwtsh programme to give over 500 parents, families and carers of children the opportunity to develop Welsh language skills for use with young children.
- Offered training to over 1,600 practitioners and volunteers from Cylchoedd Meithrin across Wales through the Continuous Professional Development programme, 'Academi'.
- Extended the reach of the 'Croesi'r Bont' training programme, which focuses on language acquisition and immersion and equipping practitioners with specialist skills for use with children from non-Welsh-speaking homes.
- Established 13 new Cylchoedd Meithrin and 14 new Cylchoedd Ti a Fi in areas of Wales where there is currently a shortage of Welsh-medium early years provision.

The Centre's 'Camau' programme, through its work with the Cwlwm consortium over the past year, has given practitioners in childcare settings the opportunity to develop their Welsh language skills to use at work. This has provided access to training tailored to the needs of the childcare and play sector for over 650 practitioners.

The early years were also part of the work to put the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESPs) on a more robust footing. Strengthening the link between statutory education planning and Welsh-medium early years provision was woven into the development of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations and associated guidance.

3. Statutory education

The *Welsh in education: Action plan 2017-21*⁵ was published in December 2017. This is our national policy for teaching and learning Welsh in our statutory education system. The plan sets out how the education system will contribute to our aim of increasing the number of confident Welsh speakers.

The *Cymraeg 2050* strategy sets targets for education, and *Welsh in education: Action plan 2017-21* uses indicators to monitor our progress against those targets. We report on our progress against both the targets and the indicators in this section.

One of *Cymraeg 2050*'s main targets is an increase in the percentage of learners leaving school able to speak Welsh, with a target of 70% of learners leaving school able to speak Welsh by 2050. According to the 2011 Census, 33% of 16-17 year olds were able to speak Welsh – so, this is our baseline.

We've seen an increase in the percentage of learners sitting the Welsh first language and second language (full course) GCSE since 2008/09, as shown in Chart 3.

Chart 3: Percentage of Year 11 learners registered for GCSE Welsh (first language and second language)

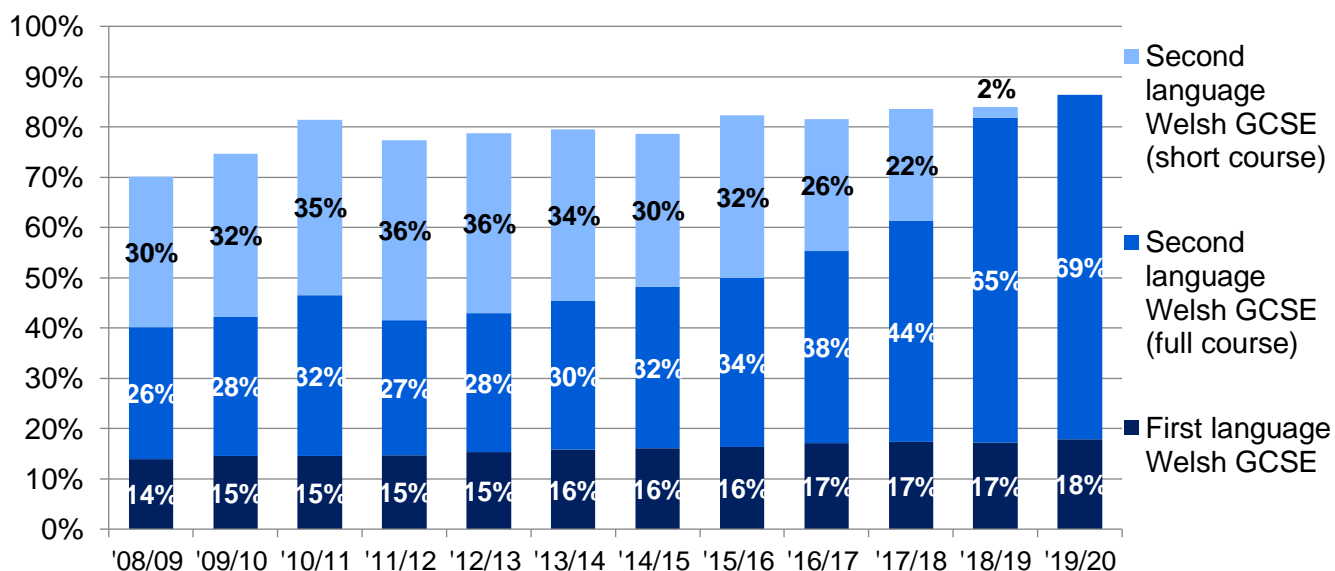


Chart 3 shows that 86% of learners had registered to sit a GCSE in Welsh as a first or second language by 2019/20. This has increased over the past decade from 70% in 2008/09.

⁵ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-02/welsh-in-education-action-plan-2017%E2%80%9321.pdf>

The chart also shows a decline in the percentage sitting the second language short course between 2012/13 and 2017/18. Since this was discontinued in September 2018, we've seen a significant increase in the percentage registering to sit a Welsh second language GCSE (full course). (The 2% that gained a Welsh second language GCSE through the short course during 2018/19 had sat the exam at the end of Year 10 the previous year).

Welsh within the new curriculum

A draft of the curriculum was published in April 2019 for stakeholders to give their feedback. The curriculum was then amended between September and December 2019, and the final version, *Curriculum for Wales*⁶ was published in January 2020.

Welsh is now a part of the new curriculum's Languages, Literacy and Communication Area of Learning and Experience. It continues to be a mandatory subject for all 3-16 year old learners, with flexibility for schools to decide the best way of ensuring the progress of learners in Welsh.

Progress in each Area of Learning and Experience is based on the concept of a learning continuum. In terms of Welsh, this means that each learner develops from having no language, or very little language, towards being a confident and successful learner.

All learners in Wales will follow the same curriculum, in line with Professor Sioned Davies' recommendations to do away with "second language Welsh", so all 3-16 year olds have the same language experience. We'll also place greater emphasis on language use.

Qualifications Wales have consulted on the high-level principles in relation to the new curriculum's qualifications, with more specific consultations to follow – this will include consultation on Welsh qualifications.

Welsh in Education Strategic Plans

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (WESP) Advisory Board was established in May 2018, with Aled Roberts as chair.

The Advisory Board's priority was to advise us on changes to strengthen the planning framework in order to expand Welsh-medium education provision through the WESPs.

The role of the Advisory Board formally ended in March 2019. A report, *Improving the Planning of Welsh-Medium Education*⁷, and recommendations were presented to the Minister for Education, and were published in May 2019.

During 2019/20, we've been implementing the Advisory Board's recommendations, and this has included preparing for, consulting on and making new regulations for

⁶ <https://hwb.gov.wales/curriculum-for-wales>

⁷ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-05/improving-the-planning-of-welsh-medium-education.pdf>

WESPs, that will set higher expectations for local authorities in planning Welsh-medium education.

We've also commissioned research looking at the process of categorising schools based on the medium of learning and teaching. Meirion Prys Jones has been appointed to co-ordinate a panel of educational and language experts, including Professor Colin Baker, to consider the way in which the policy is implemented at present.

Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations

Following the publication of the Advisory Board's final report, we amended the *Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and Assessing Demand for Welsh Medium Education (Wales) Regulations 2013*. After a consultation period on the new proposals within the draft regulations (between 30 May and 13 September 2019), we published a response to the consultation on 7 November 2019.

The *Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019*⁸ were laid on 5 December, and came into force on 1 January 2020. They contain a change in emphasis so we can plan early on to make sure we increase the number of children educated through the medium of Welsh, as outlined in *Cymraeg 2050*.

Another change introduced in the regulations is the emphasis on strengthening partnerships. This acknowledges that WESP plans cannot be implemented without local and regional support or expertise. Guidelines on co-operation and implementation will be introduced through local authorities' Welsh Education Planning Forums in order to make the ultimate use of local resources and expertise.

Capital funding

Capital funding is an effective means of creating demand for Welsh-medium education through ambitious planning and setting achievable and realistic targets, whilst making the most of resources already available to us.

The capital projects that have been approved in principle will make a substantial contribution to Welsh-medium education across the country, and will promote the Welsh language locally.

This has enabled us to allocate an additional £30m to expand Welsh-medium education, and £15m to early years settings to expand Welsh-medium provision. The projects will range from expanding provision in schools to opening new schools or immersion centres.

New primary schools will be established in Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Merthyr, Newport, Torfaen, Pembrokeshire and Swansea. Meaningful planning and developments are already underway in Blaenau Gwent, Cardiff, Caerphilly, Newport, Neath Port Talbot, Rhondda Cynon Taf, Carmarthenshire, Denbighshire, Torfaen and Wrexham. Highlights include completing the extension at Ysgol y Wern, Cardiff,

⁸ <https://senedd.wales/laid%20documents/sub-ld12909/sub-ld12909%20-e.pdf>

starting on the process of establishing a new primary school in Pillgwenlly, Newport, and opening a new immersion centre at Ysgol Glan Clwyd, St Asaph.

During 2019, capital funding was allocated to the Urdd, and as a result, work has begun to renovate and upgrade its 'gwersylloedd' (residential centres). The aim is to improve the facilities and resources at the centres to create a safe space to innovate and provide a wealth of activities and experiences for learners outside the traditional classroom and in a naturally Welsh language environment.

The renovation and development of the Glan-llyn centre was completed in October 2020. This is the Urdd's first self-catering accommodation for smaller groups to enjoy all the centre's activities in a contemporary environment. Work on Llangrannog's Calon y Gwersyll project began in January 2020 and is likely to be completed in November 2021.

School categorisation

As well as the work to revise the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans Regulations, the WESP Advisory Board considered the recommendations of the Rapid Review in terms of definitions and school categories describing varying degrees of Welsh-medium education. The Advisory Board's work highlighted the need to review current definitions and categories of schools in Wales based on their linguistic nature and language provision, so that schools are in a better position to respond to the new curriculum.

In response, the Minister for Education commissioned a review of the current definitions and categories of schools in Wales in 2019. The review ended in December 2019 with a report summarising the current situation and offering options for strengthening arrangements in future.

Our aim is to provide more clarity for local authorities, schools and, most importantly, parents regarding Welsh-medium provision available in individual counties and individual schools.

We held two engagement sessions in Llandudno and Carmarthen on 3 and 6 February 2020 to present the work of the review and introduce a draft model of school categories for consideration and discussion. The sessions were attended by local authority officials, and primary and secondary head teachers (Welsh-medium, bilingual and English-medium).

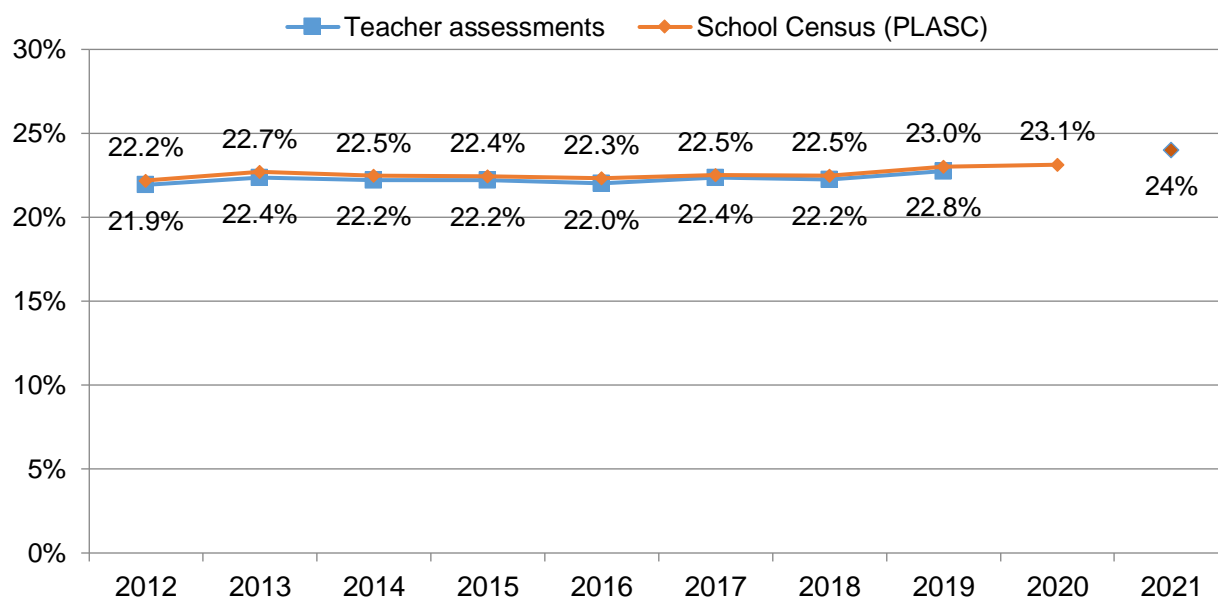
Work continues to develop guidance on the proposed changes, and we aim to consult on this before the end of 2020.

Proportion of learners in Welsh-medium education

One of the *Cymraeg 2050* targets is to increase the proportion of learners in Welsh-medium education from 22% of seven year olds in 2015/16 to 24% by 2021, to make sure we're on track to reach 40% by 2050. In the past, we have used teacher assessments to report on the percentage of seven year old children assessed as Welsh first language learners.

This year, due to COVID-19, teacher assessments are not being undertaken. We have therefore used the percentage of learners who learn Welsh as a first language, based on the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC). Chart 4 includes both sources to show how closely they align, and to show our progress against this target.

Chart 4: Percentage of Year 2 learners (seven years old) assessed in Welsh as a first language or who learn Welsh as a first language



According to the School Census, 23.1% of seven year old learners learned Welsh as a first language during academic year 2019/20. This percentage has remained fairly steady, varying between 22% and 23% since 2011/12.

Our target is to increase the percentage of seven year olds in Welsh-medium education from 22% to 24% by 2021. The School Census data for Year 1, 2020 suggests there will be 23.3% in Year 2 by 2021.

Since the introduction of *Cymraeg 2050*, we've seen a gear change in terms of working to increase the number of learners in Welsh-medium education, and the early indications are positive. Over the past eight years, we've seen a substantial increase in numbers of seven year old learners learning Welsh as a first language, although the chart does not show a substantial increase in the percentage. In 2011/12 there were 7,200 seven year old learners learning Welsh as a first language, with 8,000 by 2019/20. This increase has not been reflected in the percentages as there's been a general increase in the numbers of seven year old learners over the past years.

Another target in the *Welsh in Education* action plan is to increase the proportion of Year 9 learners assessed in Welsh (first language) from 17.9% in 2016/17 to 21% by 2021. Once again, in the past we have used teacher assessments at the end of Key Stage 2 (the end of primary school) and the end of Key Stage 3 (Year 9 of secondary school) to monitor this. As teacher assessments are not available this year, we use the percentage of learners who learn Welsh as a first language, based on the Pupil

Level Annual School Census. As with Chart 4, Chart 5 also includes both sources side by side to show how closely they align.

Chart 5: Percentage of learners at end of Key Stages 2 and 3 assessed in Welsh as a first language or who learn Welsh as a first language, according to academic year

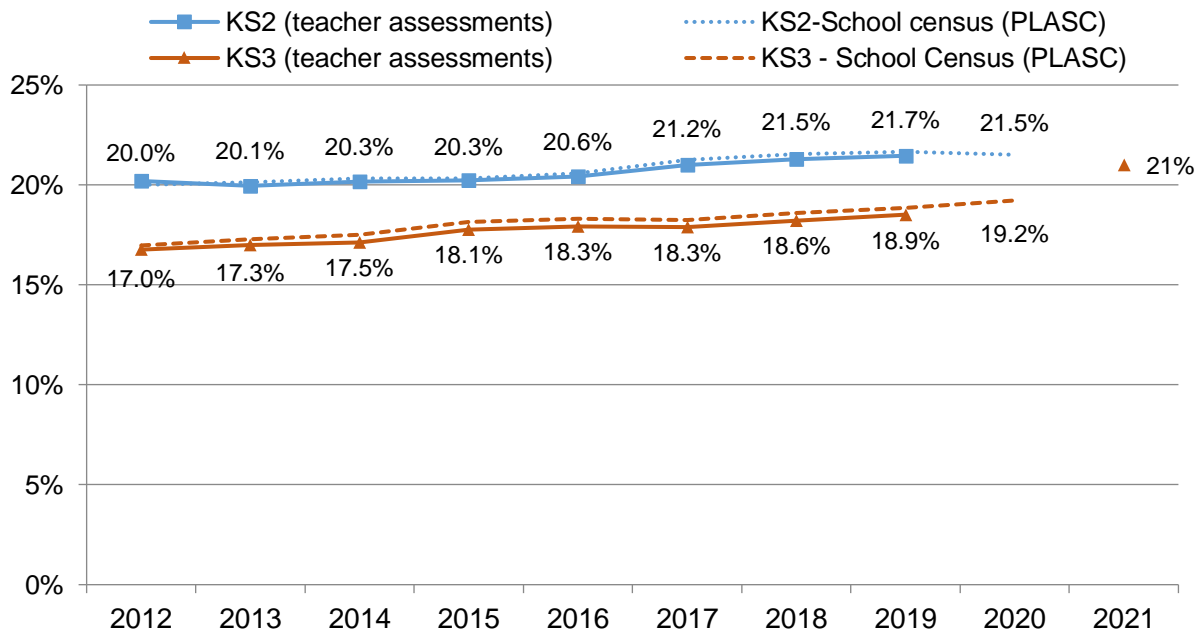


Chart 5 shows that, according to the School Census during academic year 2019/20, 21.5% of learners at the end of primary school and 19.2% of Year 9 learners in secondary schools learn Welsh as a first language. These percentages have increased slightly since 2012. But the percentage of those learning Welsh as a first language in Key Stage 3 continues to be lower than the percentage in Key Stage 2 three years previously. However, some local authorities, such as Ceredigion and Anglesey, have seen an increase in the rate of learners moving on from primary school to secondary school, learning Welsh as a first language.

Chart 6: Percentage of learners registered for the Welsh first language GCSE who are registered for at least two or five other Level 1/2 qualifications through the medium of Welsh

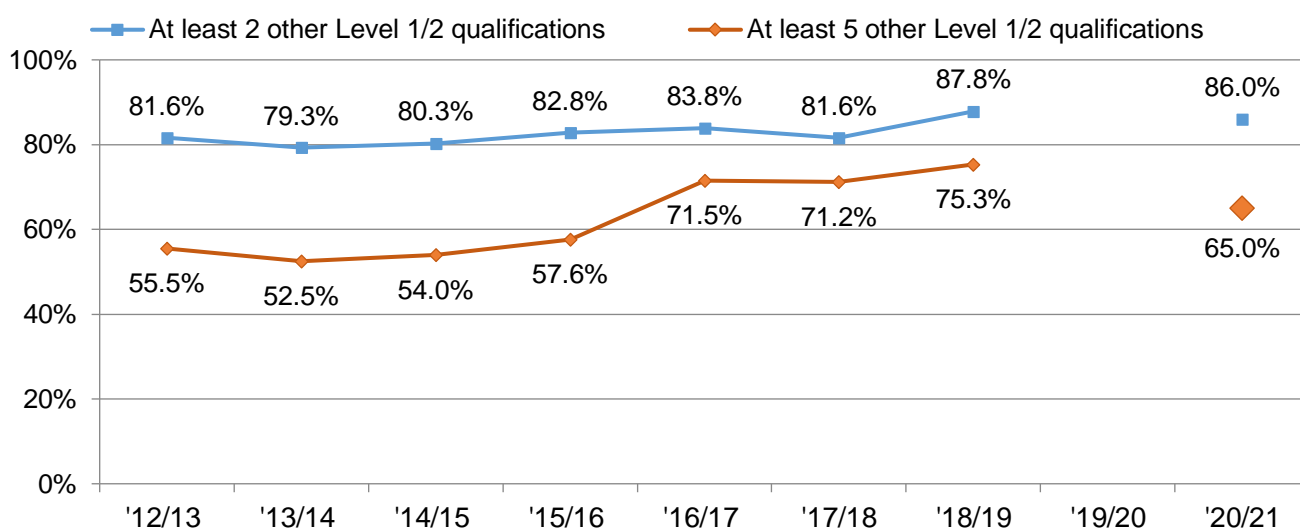


Chart 6 shows that 87.8% of learners registered for the Welsh first language GCSE in 2018/19 had also been registered for at least two other qualifications through the medium of Welsh. There has been a slight increase since 2013/14 and appears to have reached the target of 86.0% by 2021.

75.3% of learners registered for the Welsh first language GCSE in 2018/19 had also registered for at least five other qualifications through the medium of Welsh. This figure has increased substantially since 2015/16, and has long since reached the target of 65% by 2021.

We continue to work to increase the number of learners in Welsh-medium education. As noted above, the research has been undertaken and we will be consulting on a new policy to support the categorisation of schools by medium of learning.

New regulations for WESPs set out new, more ambitious arrangements for local authorities to follow. We now expect local authorities to adopt 10-year targets, which will show how each authority will contribute to the *Cymraeg 2050* targets. Some counties will need to consider increasing the proportion of Welsh-medium learning and teaching in some schools to meet their WESP targets.

During the WESP Advisory Board's discussions, the need to increase the proportion of Welsh-medium teaching and learning in schools became apparent. They recommended that we should establish a clearer picture of the number of teachers able to teach through the medium of Welsh, setting specific and ambitious targets for providers of initial training in terms of recruiting Welsh-speaking trainees.

They also identify the need to plan more purposefully alongside higher education institutions, local education consortia and local authorities. Steps are being taken to co-operate with relevant Government departments to attract teachers, improve teacher skills and offer support, and to plan the workforce with the aim of moving

towards the targets. See Chart 10 and full details of the work taking place in this area later in this report.

Of course, these actions will take some time to come to fruition, but they are part of the focus on laying the foundations during the first phase of the *Cymraeg 2050* Welsh language strategy, i.e. this Work Programme.

Latecomers

Our aim is to reinforce and expand the opportunities for Welsh-medium education among learners, in primary and secondary schools, by providing a specific provision for latecomers.

Provision of late immersion opportunities in the primary and secondary sectors are noted within local authority WESPs. And through the new regulations, immersion provision and opportunities along with their development will be given a more prominent place on a county and national level. We will continue to work in partnership with authorities to strengthen the provision available for latecomers, and will monitor this area carefully during 2020-21 in the context of COVID-19 and the possibility of a substantial increase in latecomer numbers.

Promoting Welsh education

We've continued to develop our campaigns to support the pathway to Welsh-medium education over the past year.

We've been working closely with local authorities to improve the information provided to parents and prospective parents. Communications and marketing sub-committees, established by some local authorities, have helped to improve this information making sure it reaches across the work of the local authority, as well as other partners locally and nationally.

We provided intensive support for two counties during 2019/20, and hope to provide similar support to others in due course. We'll consider ways of making sure our support is right for each individual county, and this may include a chance to work with external education and language planning specialists, or receive direct support from Government.

The Regulations outlining the new WESP arrangements are now in force. Unfortunately, our conference, due to be held in March, had to be postponed due to COVID-19, but will be held at a future date. Mudiad Meithrin's Chief Executive had been invited to discuss their role as the first point of contact for parents considering Welsh-medium education for their children, and how they introduce early language skills to children before they move on to school.

4. Post-compulsory education

According to Census results, the number of Welsh speakers drops substantially after 16 years old. A range of complex social factors influence young people, including post-16 training and study opportunities, social activities (including social media), the language at home and employment opportunities.

We must ensure that there are plenty of opportunities for young people to speak Welsh. Reducing this post-16 drop a little would help us reach a million speakers sooner.

We also want to see more students with higher Welsh language skills. This is another target in the *Welsh in Education* action plan. We monitor this by looking at how many learners have enrolled to take Welsh at A-level as a percentage of those enrolled to take Welsh at GCSE level two years previously.

Chart 7a: A-level Welsh course enrolments as a percentage of GCSE Welsh course enrolments two years previously – first and second language

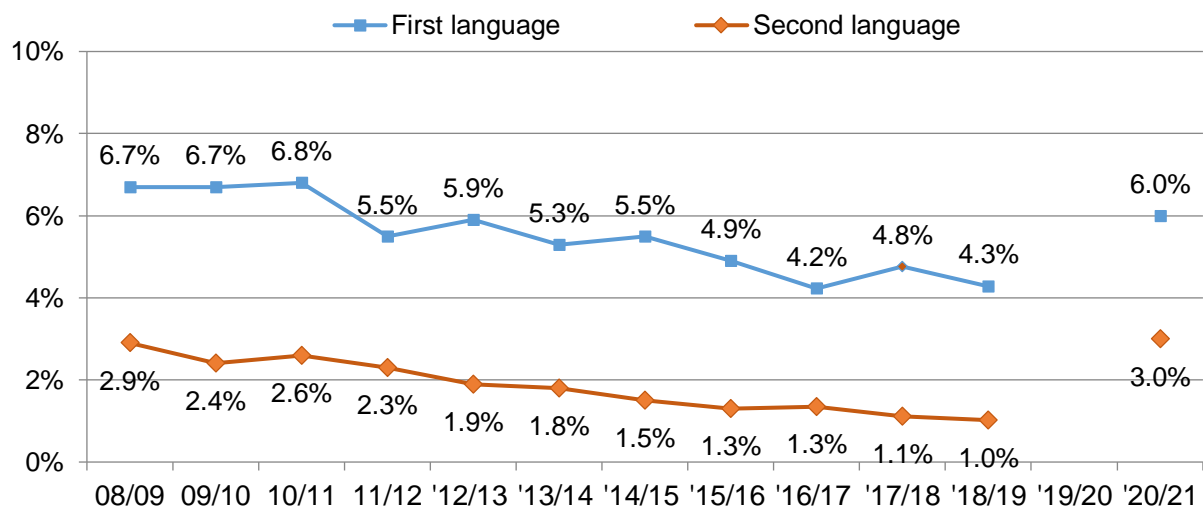
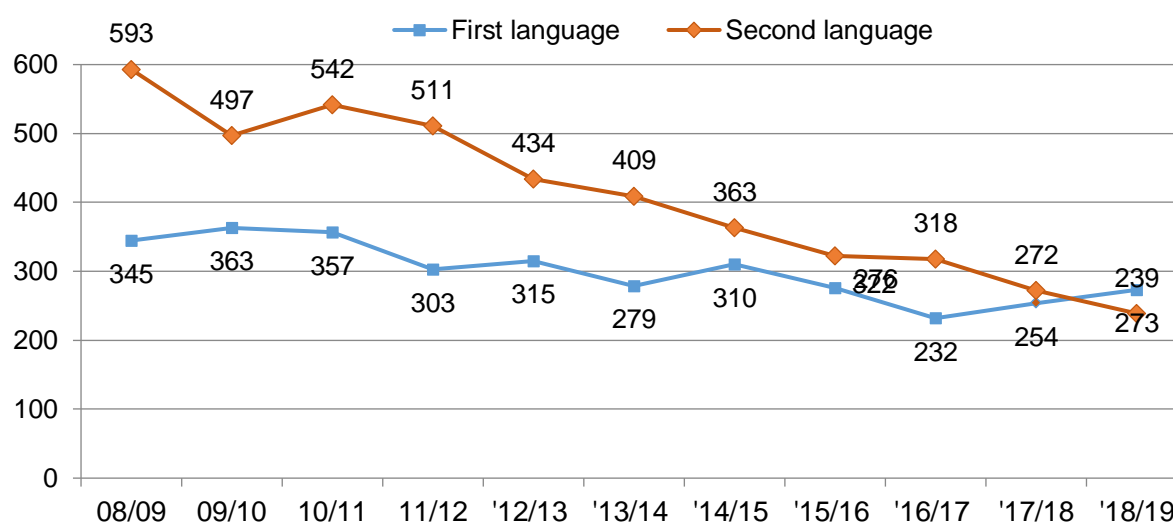


Chart 7a above shows that by academic year 2018/19, 4.3% of learners registered for first language Welsh GCSE were registered for first language Welsh A-level. It also shows that 1.0% of the learners registered for second language Welsh GCSE were registered for second language Welsh A-level.

We've seen a fall in the percentage of those who enrolled to take Welsh at GCSE, who enrol to study Welsh at A-level (both as a first and second language) over the decade. One of the reasons for this is the increase in the percentage taking Welsh at GCSE (as seen in Chart 3). Chart 7b shows the same information, using the numbers enrolling to take Welsh at A-level, rather than a percentage of the GCSE enrolments two years previously. This is the most recent data we have at the time of publishing this report. We intend to include a further update in the next *Cymraeg 2050* annual report.

Chart 7b: Number of A-level Welsh enrolments – first and second language



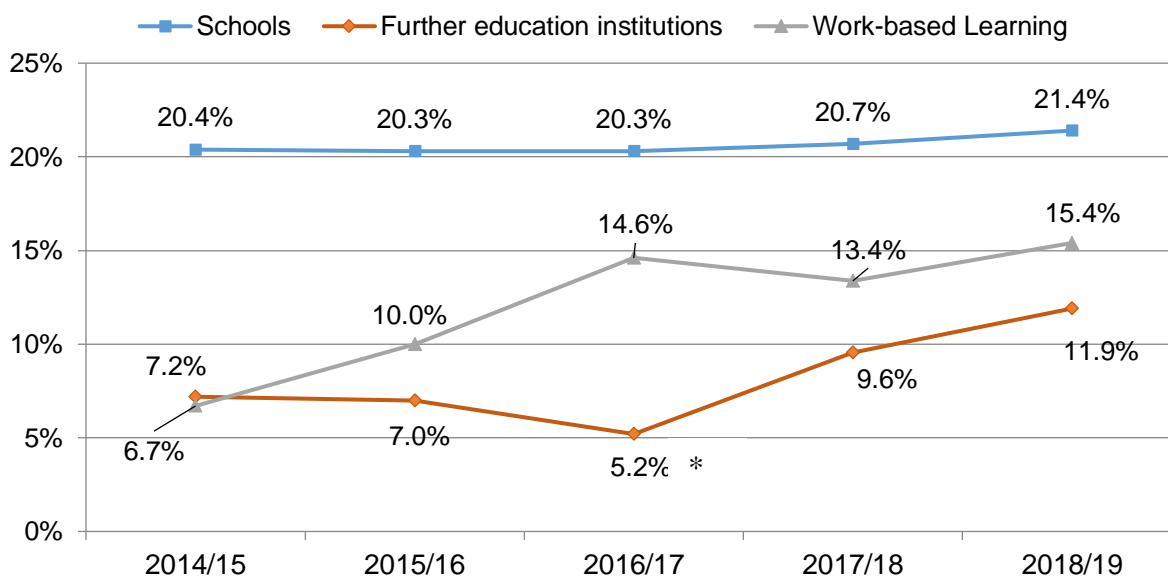
As seen in Chart 7b, it appears that the percentage increase in those sitting GCSE Welsh (see Chart 3) is not transferring to the number taking Welsh at A-level. This is the most recent data we have at the time of publishing this report. We intend to include a further update in the next *Cymraeg 2050* annual report.

The *Welsh in education: Action plan 2017-2021* contains a specific objective to increase the numbers sitting Welsh at A-level. A stakeholder group, which includes the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, Qualifications Wales, WJEC, Welsh departments within universities, the Urdd, regional education consortia and teachers, has been established to take the work forward.

We awarded £145,000 to support this work in 2019-20. 62 schools and colleges received a grant of between £800 and £1,500 to support activities to improve Welsh language learning experiences, and to support the cost of maintaining provision in settings where the numbers studying the subject were low. Resources have been developed for schools to use in parents' evenings to promote Welsh as a subject at A-level, and we are working on a marketing campaign to be launched in November 2020.

We also want to see an increase in the Welsh-medium and bilingual provision in the further education sector, and Chart 8 shows this increase according to provider type.

Chart 8: Percentage of educational activities held in Welsh or bilingually according to type of provider



* If two institutions had recorded data correctly in 2016/17, the figure would be 7.6%.

As seen in Chart 8, the percentage of learning activities held in Welsh or bilingually in schools, further education institutions and training providers has grown gradually over the last five years. This is the most recent data we have at the time of publishing this report. We intend to include a further update in the next *Cymraeg 2050* annual report.

Since the publication of the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol's *Further Education and Apprenticeship Welsh-medium Action Plan*⁹ (December 2018), the Coleg has set up strategic projects with six colleges looking at Health and Care, Early Years Care and Public Services to establish a firm foundation for the provision. We invested £150,000 in strategic projects during 2019-20, with the contributions from the colleges increasing the amount invested to £270,000. Because of this, additional tutors were employed, subject groups established across the colleges, classroom resources developed and good practice shared between institutions.

With an investment of £71,500, resources were commissioned in:

- Public Services – two apps: one to help learners to feel confident in professional situations and the second to help with Welsh pronunciation.
- Business Level 2 and 3 – units on business research and developing marketing campaigns.
- Sports Level 2 and 3 – a translation of the Blended Learning Consortium's (BLC) 30 interactive units.

This is all now available on Hwb and on the Coleg's Porth Adnoddau (resources portal) website. Making sure there are appropriate Welsh-medium resources and

⁹ <http://www.colegcymraeg.ac.uk/cy/astudio/addysgbellachaphrentisiaethau/cymraeg2050/>

qualifications available is key to the growth of provision. The Coleg is now working with Qualifications Wales to agree on priorities regarding support for awarding bodies where they can apply for a grant to provide Welsh-medium qualifications, as part of its Post-16 Action Plan.

Prentis-iaith, an interactive resource in the Apprenticeship sector, has been particularly successful in improving understanding of bilingualism and the importance of customer service amongst apprentices who have no or very few skills in Welsh. A number of apprenticeship providers have embedded Prentis-iaith in their induction programmes and there is a demand for additional levels to improve the apprentices' skills further. Four specific vocational routes: health, childcare, agriculture, and construction, will provide suitable vocabulary in their apprenticeship areas.

42 Ambassadors were appointed as the Coleg's Ambassador programme was extended to the post-16 sector. 36 of these Ambassadors are in colleges and six with training providers. Their role is to arrange events, to support and encourage their fellow-learners to speak Welsh socially outside the classroom. During Apprenticeship Week (3-7 February 2020), the Ambassadors took over the Coleg's Instagram account and the '*instatakeover*' of the @DyDdyfodolDi account generated over a thousand hits by young people, with an average of 450 hits for each post.

The Coleg established a Post-16 Strategic Group to advise and support the work of implementing the Action Plan. Group members include a strategic representative from each further education college and the main apprenticeship contractors, ColegauCymru and the National Training Federation for Wales as well as the three Regional Skills Partnerships who coordinate and collate information about the skills needs of employers.

Training for tutors is key in expanding provision. During the year, over 519 tutors and staff were trained in 24 education and post-16 training organisations. The Sgiliaith training is suitable for all abilities – from those new to the language, to those who undertake bilingual learning, to those who are very experienced and can achieve an MA Bilingual Teaching Methodology accreditation. Through the wide ranging provision and mentoring provided, the number of tutors able to offer Welsh in their teaching, and assessors who can support apprentices to complete their work through the medium of Welsh or bilingually, is increasing year on year. The infrastructure is stabilising with provision embedding further within the organisations.

The Urdd received an investment spread over three years to develop an infrastructure for providing Welsh-medium apprenticeships in sport and youth leaders. They created an apprenticeship department, with the core team growing from one officer to six qualified Welsh-medium officers. Over the three years, 102 apprentices completed their training at Level 2 and 3. Of these, 18 were external sports apprentices working as classroom assistants in primary schools, mostly in the Valleys Taskforce area, developing expertise in leading various activities with pupils in Welsh. Because of our investment, training is going from strength to strength with at least 70 apprentices continuing with their training, 38 of them externally in primary schools and 32 internally at the Urdd's own centres. The intention is to expand further into the field of Early Years Care to meet the need for a Welsh-medium workforce in childcare settings. This will be a partnership with the Mudiad Meithrin.

We continue to work with the Post-16 Training and Education Planning and Funding Branch to promote the bilingual vocational training and education provision in order to increase the number of students who access the provision. Sectoral priorities are set in order to increase the number of learners who are studying and assessed in Welsh. Four specific vocational routes: health, childcare, agriculture, and construction, will provide suitable vocabulary in their apprenticeship areas.

Higher education

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol is working successfully with universities across Wales to develop Welsh-medium modules and courses in subjects where it was not available before the Coleg was established. During the last three years, the Coleg has supported the provision jointly with the universities rather than funding lecturers' salaries, leading to the provision becoming embedded as an intrinsic part of these institutions' offer. Full scholarships and incentives are offered to enable undergraduates and postgraduates to study higher education courses and modules through the medium of Welsh.

The work is divided into three categories:

- Increasing the universities' provision of Welsh-medium higher education, ensuring linguistic progression in a very wide range of areas.
- Supporting core activities including academic planning and staff training, promotion of Welsh-medium higher education, and supporting research, along with providing the Welsh Language Skills certificate for students.
- Maintaining a scholarship plan which offers financial support to students completing some or all of their studies through the medium of Welsh.

Since the Coleg was established in 2011, 26 of the main subject groups are now available through the medium of Welsh – an increase of 14 areas in an eight-year period, and with new provision established in Medicine in Cardiff and Swansea Universities. In the 2019/20 academic year, 75 students were studying part of their Medicine course through the medium of Welsh, with most of them studying at least 40 credits. A decade earlier, only 10 students were studying through the medium of Welsh.

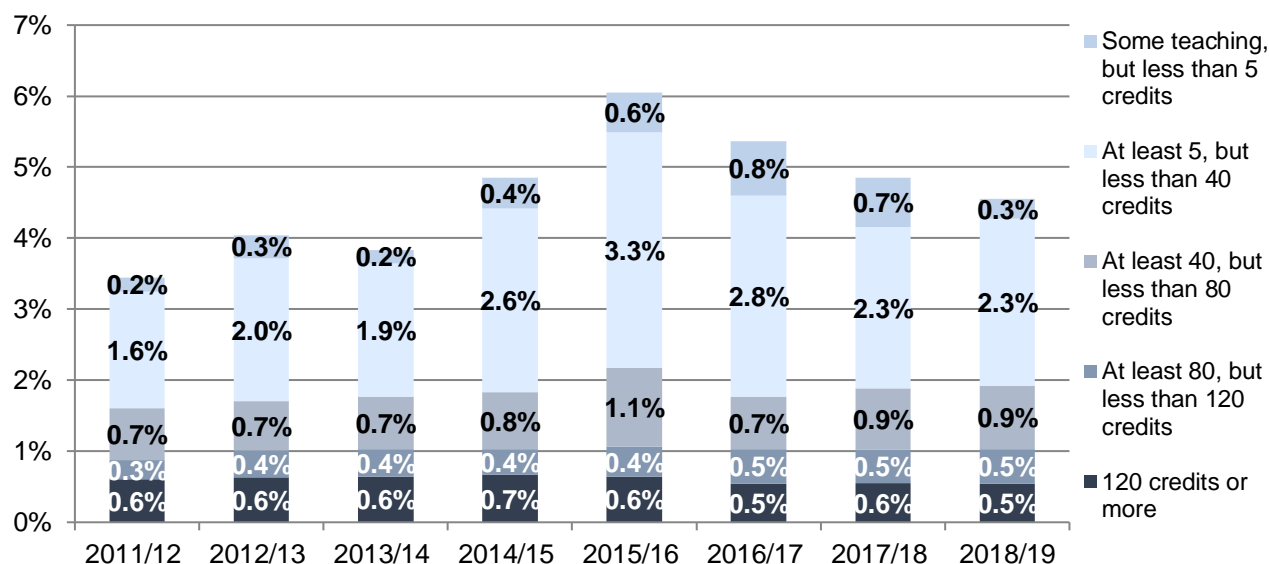
New Welsh provision was developed in Business Studies for the first time in 2019/20, and over 100 individuals chose to study part of their Business course in Welsh, with the vast majority of them studying at least 40 credits at Cardiff Metropolitan, Aberystwyth, South Wales, Bangor and Trinity St. David's universities. At Bangor University, 80 undergraduates were studying part of their Psychology course in Welsh.

We've seen an increase of 49% in the number of staff who can teach through the medium of Welsh between 2011/12 and 2018/19.

The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol distributed 33 Subject Grants to universities to support higher education provision in 24 fields. Four Catalyst Grants were distributed to establish new Welsh-medium higher education provision in 2018/19 in the fields of Dentistry, Psychology, Sociology and Social Policy and Religious Studies.

Grants were also provided to support collaborations to develop specific modules, to hold summer courses, workshops and subject conferences.

Chart 9: Percentage of students registered at Welsh universities using Welsh in their education



Source: HESA student records

Of the 5,575 students who studied at least five credits through the medium of Welsh, 2,510 studied at least 40 credits in Welsh – an increase of 100 enrolments since 2017/18. 1,340 the students studied at least 80 credits in Welsh – an increase of 40 enrolments since 2017/18. Also, 710 students studied 120 credits in Welsh, during a period when 265 fewer students were following some of their studies through the medium of Welsh in comparison with 2017/18. Although there was a fall of 265 students following some of their studies in Welsh in comparison with 2017/18, this fall was limited to those studying fewer than five credits.

This is the most recent data we have. We intend to include a further update in the next *Cymraeg 2050* annual report.

Learning Welsh

The National Centre for Learning Welsh (the Centre) was established in 2016 to coordinate provision and provide direction to the learning Welsh domain. The Centre’s aim is to create new Welsh speakers who are confident in using their new skills, and by so doing, will contribute to achieving the ambition of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

2019-20 was a successful year for the Centre, with an increase in the number of learners and of learning opportunities. The Centre published a complete set of data for the academic years 2017/18 and 2018/19, which establishes a baseline against which to measure the sector’s contribution towards achieving *Cymraeg 2050*’s targets. This is the most recent data we have and we intend to include a further

update in the next *Cymraeg 2050* annual report. The data showed that the Centre had 13,260 unique learners during the 2018/19 academic year – an increase of 5% in comparison to 2017/18.

The data also showed that:

- The Centre provided 20,330 learning activities during 2018/19.
- 51% of learners were at Entry level (this is the introductory level for beginners).
- 17% were at Foundation level and 32% at Intermediate or Advanced levels (including Proficiency level).
- 79% of learners were between the ages of 16 and 64.

The Centre's face to face provision came to an abrupt end in March 2020, due to COVID-19, but the Centre and its providers succeeded in switching to online learning by the end of the month.

5. The education workforce, resources and qualifications

The Early Years Workforce

The Continuous Professional Development programme, 'Academi' has offered training to over 1,600 members of staff and volunteers from Cylchoedd Meithrin across Wales during 2019-20.

We have continued to develop the 'Croesi'r Bont' programme, introducing Welsh language immersion methodologies to practitioners in the Cylchoedd Meithrin.

We've also been working to establish a partnership with the Urdd to offer Welsh-medium apprenticeships to workers in the Childcare field.

Mudiad Meithrin's training programme has also enabled current and future practitioners to qualify and work confidently through the medium of Welsh.

Teachers

Chart 10: The number of teachers able to teach through the medium of Welsh

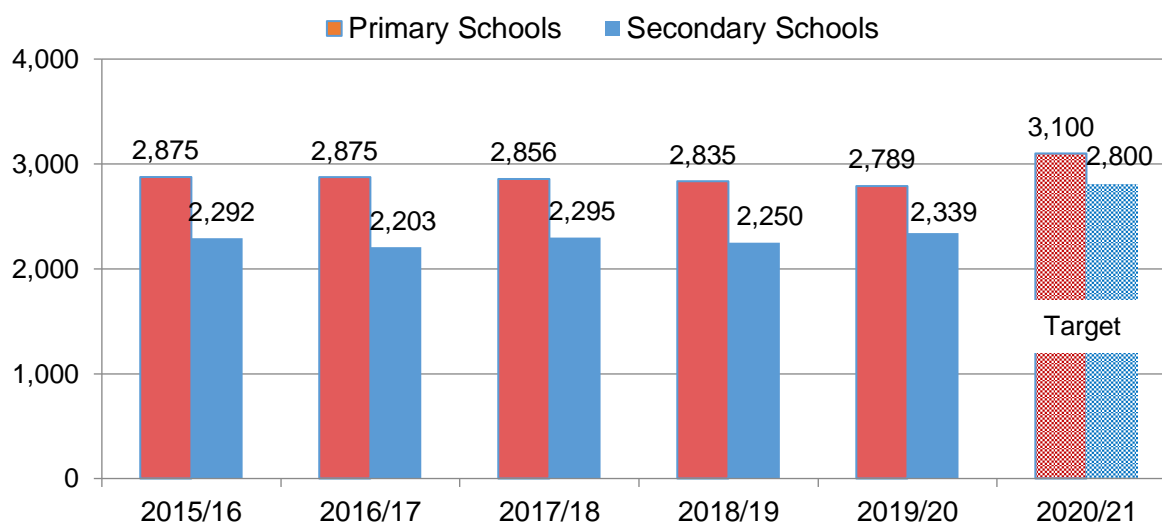


Chart 10 shows that the number of primary teachers (in red) able to teach through the medium of Welsh has fallen a little since 2015/16, while the number of secondary school teachers (in blue) has remained relatively consistent.

Primary teachers

There is a slight shortfall in the number of Welsh-medium primary teachers recruited against the *Cymraeg 2050* targets for increasing the Welsh-medium workforce by 2021. The target number of teachers recruited is correlated with the target number of learners in Welsh-medium education outlined in *Cymraeg 2050*. The work on the new Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019 placed an additional emphasis on the requirement on local authorities to identify the workforce needed to provide Welsh-medium education as part of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans:

- There were 2,789 Welsh-medium primary teachers in the 2019/20 academic year compared with the target in *Cymraeg 2050* for 2021 of 3,100, which is a shortfall of 311 (10.0%).
- Five people were training as Welsh-medium primary teachers through the Graduate Teacher Programme (GTP) in the 2019/20 academic year.
- If similar numbers apply for Welsh-medium primary Initial Teacher Education (ITE) in the next year, there will be a shortfall of approximately 203 (6.5%) primary teachers against the target by 2021, excluding staff turnover.

Secondary teachers

The recruitment of secondary teachers has been more challenging:

- In 2019/20 there were 2,339 secondary teachers teaching in Welsh compared with the target for 2021 of 2,800, which is a shortfall of 500 (16.5%).

- 11 people trained as Welsh-medium secondary teachers through GTP in 2019/20.
- If similar numbers apply for Welsh-medium secondary ITE in the next year, there will be a shortfall of about 367 (13.1%) against the 2021 target, excluding staff turnover.

As outlined under Chart 7b, the *Welsh in Education: Action Plan 2017-21* includes targets and actions to increase the number of learners studying Welsh at A-level (as a first or second language), as one way of ensuring an adequate supply of secondary teachers who can teach Welsh in the future. We are working with stakeholders to encourage more learners to study Welsh at A-level to increase the number that continue to study Welsh at undergraduate level who can then progress into initial teacher education.

Recruiting Welsh-medium teachers is a key part of our goal of a million Welsh speakers by 2050. We provide substantial financial incentives to attract Welsh-medium teachers through our *laith Athrawon Yfory* scheme (see below), which, with our targeted marketing campaigns, attracts new Welsh-medium teachers. We're also taking a number of innovative approaches, including our new 'conversion' programme for Welsh-medium primary teachers who want to teach in secondary schools.

The latest UCAS figures (as of August 2020) show a 19% increase in the number of student applications for teacher training places. This is encouraging, as we would then also expect a rise in the number of people training to become teachers who will be able to teach through the medium of Welsh.

School Workforce Annual Census

In 2018-19, preparatory work for an Annual Census of the School Workforce took place, so we could learn more about the Welsh language skills of the education workforce.

The first School Workforce Annual Census (SWAC) was undertaken in November 2019, and included questions on the workforce's Welsh language skills and their ability to teach through the medium of Welsh.

Data collected from the first census was published on our website¹⁰ in August and included an analysis of information collected on the Welsh language ability of the workforce and its use within the context of their teaching.

This information, along with that provided by local authorities in their Welsh in Education Strategic Plans, 21st century schools' business plans and school organisation proposals provides a more detailed and complete picture of the progress made towards achieving our *Cymraeg 2050* targets and will help us to improve future workforce planning.

¹⁰ <https://gov.wales/school-workforce-census-results-november-2019>

Training programmes and initial teacher education

Another one of our aims is to make sure that training programmes and initial teacher education encourage people to appreciate the Welsh language, with opportunities to learn the language and develop skills, which will help them to teach through the medium of Welsh.

The 2019/20 academic year was the first year our newly accredited ITE programmes were available. Following the publication of *Teaching Tomorrow's Teachers*¹¹, and stemming from the ITE reforms, the new accreditation criteria makes sure that providing development opportunities regarding the Welsh language are a core component of all our ITE programmes.

The first cohort of student teachers who experienced the new ITE programmes graduated this summer, and all received a minimum of 25 hours of Welsh language tuition, assessing their language skills against a single, common framework.

This framework is the basis for delivering a programme of Welsh language training through career-long development and addresses a recommendation made in the evaluation of Welsh-medium provision in ITE.

Mentors will continue to receive funding for a transitional year to ensure that NQTs in secondary Welsh-medium schools receive adequate support to improve their Welsh language skills and to support them as they develop their learners' language skills.

Recruitment and marketing

Although we do not have specific targets for Welsh-medium recruitment onto ITE courses, we have introduced a requirement for ITE Partnerships to work towards ensuring that 30% of those recruited speak Welsh.

We have marketing campaigns specifically targeting Welsh-speaking ITE students, as well as more general teacher training recruitment programmes.

We continue to work closely with ITE Partnerships and other stakeholders to develop more sustainable recruitment strategies aimed at increasing the levels of Welsh-medium recruitment.

We are also looking at innovative ways to encourage Welsh speakers to become teachers, such as the pilot convertor courses from primary to secondary.

laith Athrawon Yfory

The laith Athrawon Yfory ITE incentive scheme, launched in September 2018, is available to eligible student teachers studying to teach through the medium of Welsh. The amounts available under the scheme are:

¹¹ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-03/teaching-tomorrow%E2%80%99s-teachers.pdf>

- £2,500 on the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) following the completion of an accredited secondary postgraduate ITE programme.
- £2,500 on the successful completion of induction at a maintained Welsh-medium or bilingual secondary school or teaching Welsh in any maintained secondary setting in Wales.

This gives £5,000 in total and is in addition to other incentives available to eligible new Welsh and Welsh-medium teachers.

Welsh Language Sabbatical Scheme

The Welsh Language Sabbatical Scheme provides intensive training for practitioners in both Welsh and English-medium schools across Wales to develop their Welsh language skills and the methodology of language learning.

During the 2019/20 academic year, five 'Welsh in a Year' courses were provided at four settings across Wales, with 69 participants. In addition, courses at a range of levels were provided for a total of 51 participants. As the effects of COVID-19 took hold, the courses were adapted for online learning.

We awarded a contract for conducting an evaluation of the Sabbatical Scheme to an external company, starting in April 2019. We hope to publish a report on the evaluation's findings in January 2021.

Work with the regional consortia

In 2019-20, the regional consortia were awarded £2,700,000 from the Raising School Standards budget specifically to support the provision of Welsh and Welsh-medium training and professional development.

As part of the Raising School Standards grant conditions, the consortia drew up annual plans for providing professional learning.

Under the plans, the regional consortia support schools and practitioners to prepare to introduce the new curriculum, and in particular to teach Welsh as part of the Languages, Literacy and Communication Area of Learning and Experience. The regions provide a wide range of learning and professional support, including:

- Welsh Language Skills and teaching methodology to strengthen every aspect of the teaching of Welsh as a subject, using Welsh across the curriculum and the informal use of Welsh in schools.
- Developing practitioners' skills to improve the way the curriculum is taught through the medium of Welsh.
- Developing leadership to ensure that leaders are equipped to plan for and develop Welsh strategically across their schools and to develop a Welsh ethos in schools.
- Regional planning of the workforce, using data from the School Workforce Annual Census in order to improve practitioners' language skills and their ability to teach Welsh or through the medium of Welsh and to promote career opportunities in this sector.

Funding was also provided through the Education Improvement Grant. Local authorities have used this funding to support elements of Welsh in Education Strategic Plans for example funding for immersion centres.

The post-16 workforce

During 2019-20, we have continued to support Sgiliaith to provide practical support regarding using Welsh and teaching bilingually to tutors at further education colleges and work-based learning providers. We have done this in order to improve provision for students completing their education through the medium of Welsh or bilingually.

The National Centre for Learning Welsh runs the Work Welsh (Cymraeg Gwaith) programme in further education colleges to develop tutors' language skills, so that students can undertake more of their learning bilingually. In 2019-20, 305 employees from eight universities followed the 'Learning' course, as well as 305 employees from ten further education colleges. The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol now manages the Intensive Learning Plan, which co-ordinates the Work Welsh programme's work across the further and higher education sectors.

About 9,500 learning activities were provided, with 7,000 of these being online training and 2,500 being face to face training, during 2019-20. 1,258 employers enrolled for online Work Welsh courses, while 28 employers took advantage of the Intensive Learning training and 98 benefitted from the residential training available.

Educational resources

During the year, the Bilingual Educational Resources Stakeholder Group agreed on the way forward in terms of creating a national infrastructure for developing and producing relevant, timely resources to support the curriculum and qualifications in the future. The options were presented to the Education Minister in December 2019, and the work of developing the proposed option in more detail is ongoing, with the aim of making a statement at the beginning of 2021.

The work of commissioning resources for 3-19 year olds focussed on resources to support qualifications at general and post-16 level this year, as well as resources to support additional learning needs.

Twenty eight new titles were published in 2019-20 through our grant agreement with the Welsh Joint Education Committee (WJEC) to provide Welsh language versions of textbooks to support qualifications. The Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol was funded to provide teaching and learning resources for Public Services, and self-directed lessons for Business and Sport.

The research into the use of resources by teachers, learners and parents was completed, and in future, findings will feed into decisions made about resources needed, as well as their format.

RNIB Cymru received a grant to provide Welsh language versions of resources in formats suitable for learners who are sight or hearing-impaired. (Braille, bold print, DAISY, MP3 files).

Theme 2: Increasing the use of the Welsh language

A thriving language is a language which is used, and this is central to our vision of a million Welsh speakers. We want the language to be used every day, so speakers at all levels feel confident to use it formally and informally, with Welsh language products and services naturally available.

People need opportunities to use Welsh in a wide range of situations reflecting their lifestyle, including with the family, in the workplace, in local activities or in wider interest networks and communities which can be scattered all over the world.

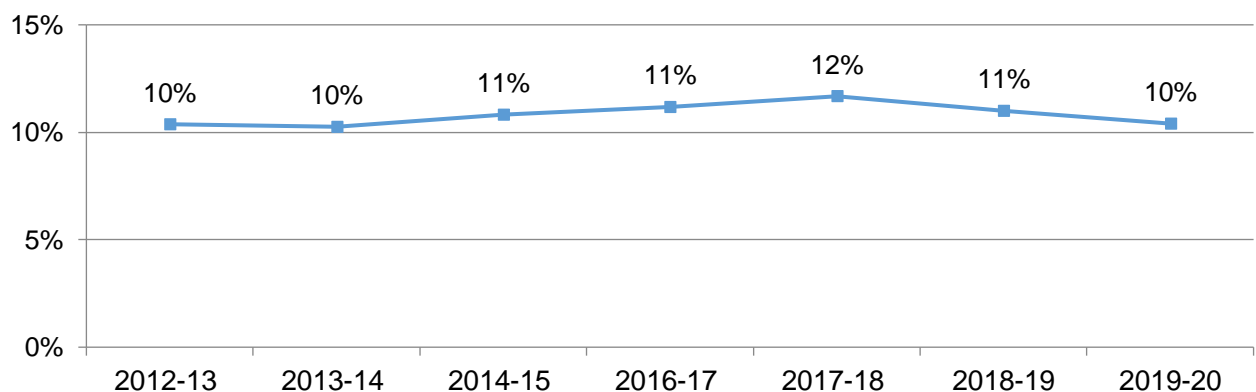
The current situation – how many people use Welsh?

One of the principal targets of *Cymraeg 2050* is to increase the percentage of people 3 years old and over who speak Welsh daily, and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh, from the 10% recorded in the 2013-15 Welsh Language Use Survey to 11% by 2021 (and 20% by 2050).

It's very difficult to measure language use. One way is by conducting language use surveys. Work began on a new Language Use Survey in July 2019, and was due to continue until the end of March 2021. Due to COVID-19, the survey was suspended in mid-March 2020. We'll publish the results collated so far by the end of 2020-21.

Although Language Use Surveys are used to monitor progress towards this target, we also use the results of the National Survey for Wales for adults aged 16 years and over, so we have more regular results.

Chart 11: The percentage of people aged 16 years and over who speak Welsh daily and can speak more than just a few words of Welsh according to the National Survey



The percentage of adults aged 16 and over who speak Welsh every day and can speak more than a few words of Welsh, has remained fairly stable over the last six years, according to the National Survey for Wales. In 2019-20, the percentage stood at 10%.

As a result of COVID-19, we have conducted an audit of community language use to see what has changed and to seek new opportunities. The results will be available by the end of 2020-21.

6. The workplace

One of the objectives of *Cymraeg 2050* is to increase the use of Welsh in the workplace, as "... *the workplace is central to our day-to-day lives ... [and] provides opportunities to use, practise and learn Welsh.*"

Work Welsh (Cymraeg Gwaith)

The National Centre for Learning Welsh is responsible for the administration of the Work Welsh programme¹². 2019-20 was the third year of the programme, which is going from strength to strength. The programme offers training and support to workplaces so that they can develop their capacity to provide Welsh language services. Providing more Welsh language training in the workplace is a way of increasing the daily use of the language and improving the Welsh language services available.

About 9,500 learning activities were provided, with 7,000 of these being online training and 2,500 being face to face training, during 2019-20. The courses included bespoke training in relation to the needs of those who work in health and childcare. The programme also worked with higher and further education bodies, with 610 members of staff across 18 institutions receiving training.

Welsh language use within Welsh Government

The National Survey for Wales 2018-19 asked how people use Welsh with colleagues and people outside their organisation whilst undertaking their role, as well what opportunities employers provide for staff to learn Welsh. This helped us to monitor the use of Welsh in the workplace, and the survey showed that:

- 80% of Welsh speakers speak Welsh with at least some of their colleagues.
- Fluency played a significant role in deciding to speak Welsh to colleagues. 93% of fluent Welsh speakers said that they spoke Welsh with at least some of their Welsh-speaking colleagues, compared to 38% of those who aren't fluent.
- 93% of employees who are fluent in Welsh speak at least some Welsh with people outside their organisation.
- Slightly under a third of employees said that their employer offered opportunities for staff to learn Welsh.

Our aim is to increase the use of Welsh in the workplace across all sectors. It's important that we lead by example in promoting and facilitating an increase in the use of Welsh by our own workforce.

¹² More data available at: <https://learnwelsh.cymru/about-us/statistics/>

We published our new strategy for promoting and facilitating the use of Welsh within the organisation at the beginning of April 2020. The title of the strategy is *Cymraeg. It belongs to us all*¹³.

We've spent time looking at good practice in other organisations, consulting with colleagues across the organisation, and considering how we can lead through example in our use of the language in the organisation.

The strategy sets an ambitious long-term goal for us to be a bilingual organisation by 2050. It notes that we are aware of how the use of Welsh in the workplace can give more purpose and relevance to the language, and we hope the objectives and aim of the strategy will be of interest to other organisations.

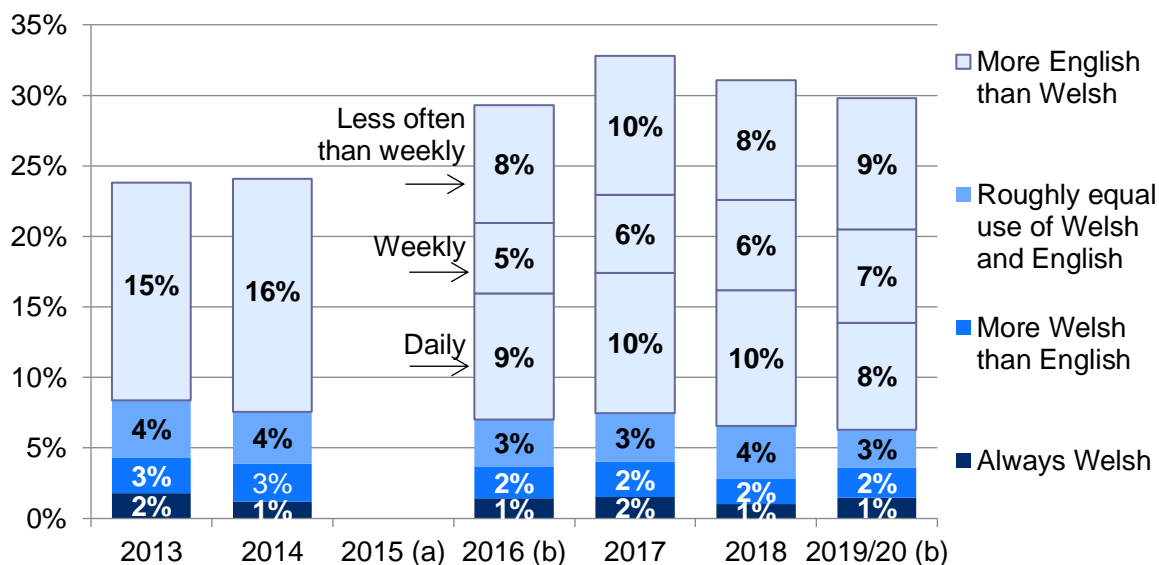
The strategy's objective is ambitious; however, the steps we'll be taking to increase the use of Welsh will be reasonable and proportionate. This means that change will happen gradually. The aim is to garner enthusiasm for learning Welsh, and no one should feel under threat or alienated by the initiative. The following principles form the basis of the strategy:

- A long term commitment and leading the way: change will be incremental and will happen over time, but we intend to lead by example in the way we promote use of the language in the workplace.
- Investing in staff and providing opportunities to learn Welsh and develop language skills: it is crucial that effective and convenient training is provided, with people given both time and motivation to continuously improve their Welsh language skills.
- Remaining an open, inclusive and diverse organisation: everyone has the potential to be a Welsh speaker and this strategy does not conflict with our commitment to being open, inclusive and diverse. Although Welsh language skills will progressively be needed for more posts, developing a bilingual workforce does not mean (or imply) those skills being a universal pre-requisite for joining the Welsh Government.
- Continuously reviewing our ways of working to facilitate the increased use of Welsh: when we introduce new internal policies and initiatives we will review the extent to which they provide further opportunities for staff to use Welsh in their day to day work.

We're currently refining the strategy's objectives for the first period (2020-25), focusing on ensuring that we are exemplar in our use of the language in comparison with similar organisations.

¹³ <https://gov.wales/cymraeg-it-belongs-to-us-all-html>

Chart 12: The percentage of the Welsh Government's workforce who use Welsh to do their work, by frequency of use



- (a) The survey was not held in 2015, and in 2016 the “More English than Welsh” category was divided into three further categories which are “more English than Welsh” but speaking Welsh daily, weekly, or less often than weekly.
- (b) The results shown for 2016 and 2019/20 have been taken from the People Survey undertaken by the Welsh Government in January 2016 and March 2020 (taking into account the year April 2019 to March 2020). The other results have been taken from the Civil Service People Surveys (usually carried out by the UK Cabinet Office in October). To a large extent, the same questionnaire was used for both surveys and they were conducted in the same way. However, as the People Survey 2020 was carried out in March 2020, the response rate was slightly lower than previous years. This is likely due to COVID-19.

The chart shows that the percentage of staff who “always speak Welsh” or speak more Welsh than English has remained fairly stable since 2013. In 2016, 22% said they used some Welsh in their work but more English, and 23% were saying this by 2020. The possible answers were amended slightly in 2016 to give the option to say “More English than Welsh” – but using the potential answers “using Welsh daily / weekly / less often than weekly”. It is likely that presenting these three sub-options has changed how people answer the question. Despite this, it appears that one in three of the Government's staff (30%) used some Welsh in their work in 2020 and 14% used it at least daily.

7. Services

Work Welsh (Cymraeg Gwaith)

For the Welsh language to flourish across all sectors, there is a need to ensure training and support for learners in the workplace, therefore key steps are being taken. As mentioned previously, the opportunities for adults to learn Welsh via the Work Welsh programme were expanded during 2019-20, with the programme providing training for over 1,600 employers from a wide range of sectors. The programme met the targets that were set: due to the training, the aim is for language use to increase and that in turn will lead to more Welsh language services provided in many sectors and workplaces.

Welsh Language Standards Regulations

We have been considering the programme to include more bodies under the Standards, following the decision not to proceed with the introduction of the Welsh Language Bill in February 2019.

In March 2020, we published a consultation on draft regulations to make standards applicable to health professional regulators.

Following a recommendation by the Senedd's Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee, we undertook a review of the drafting of the standards regulations to improve and refine the standards within the current legislative framework.

Work to prepare regulations for water companies continues. We have also committed to prepare regulations for companies who provide rail services to passengers in Wales during the next Senedd.

Helo Blod

Another priority is to encourage businesses and third sector organisations to use the Welsh language.

Welsh in Business (Cymraeg Byd Busnes) and the Helpline now operate under the single 'Helo Blod' brand. The service was launched 'softly' (no formal launch was held due to COVID-19) to help businesses, charities and third sector organisations use more Welsh.

The service offers free translations of up to 500 words a month, as well as a Welsh text checking service. It also answers queries of all kinds from businesses about the Welsh language and directs people to useful sources of help in relevant organisations. Helo Blod can be contacted by phone, e-mail, text and, in due course, by other means.

This is a major project managed by two Government departments: the Welsh Language Division, supported by the Business Wales Department. Considerable preparatory work took place during the year to establish the Welsh language 'point of contact' to help the private and voluntary sectors increase their use of Welsh.

During 2019-20, work focused on the food and drink sector, and held a pilot with the primary care sector to increase their visual and audio use of the Welsh language when dealing with the public.

ARFer

Improving the language's position in the workplace will also help us to provide more and better services through the medium of Welsh.

We reported last year that a pilot research project had been initiated through the *Cymraeg 2050* Grant. This project experimented with language 'promises' to change Welsh language use habits in an organisation and to better deliver services. During

2019-20, the project ('ARFer') was expanded into a three-year project that will create a resource chest for other organisations to address changing interpersonal linguistic behaviour in the workplace. The grant was awarded to Bangor University. Due to COVID-19, we have extended the length of this contract so it can look at how people's language habits at work have changed with so many people working from home.

The focus for 2019-20, the second year of the project, was to build on the learning during the pilot phase, observing the language habits of workplaces and collecting material for a package to change Welsh language use habits in an organisation. We will design and prepare the package and pilot it during 2020-21. We will also issue guidance to assist organisations to provide technological services through the medium of Welsh on the basis of relevant behavioural sciences research. This will be done in conjunction with the Government's Digital Service.

Leading in a Bilingual Country

During the reporting year, the critical language awareness provision *Leading in a Bilingual Country* was developed jointly by Academi Wales and the Welsh Language Division. Pilot sessions were held with a range of public sector leaders. This leadership provision continues during 2020-21 with a view to developing a long-term programme of work for it. Due to COVID-19, the course is now available online.

Evaluation of *More than just words*

We commissioned an independent company to undertake an evaluation of *More than just words*¹⁴ (Mwy na geiriau) in health and social services in August 2018. An initial report was presented in 2019. So far, the work has included desktop research and interviews with a number of stakeholders, including some members of the Health and Social Care Welsh Language Partnership Board.

These interviews focused on the opportunities and challenges with respect to achieving the main objectives of *More than just words* and which key points should be addressed as part of the evaluation. A theory of change report was published in April 2020 and the final report on the evaluation will be published in early 2021.

The findings and results of the first phase of the evaluation and the work undertaken during April 2019 – March 2020 are supported in the *Theory of Change Report*¹⁵ published in April 2020. This informed the development of the evaluation framework for the next phase, which includes fieldwork to gather the voices and experiences of people, including the patient, particularly the most vulnerable, and their families and carers.

The framework will be used to assess progress and to examine the extent to which the activities and outputs and outcomes identified in the *Theory of Change Report* have been achieved.

¹⁴ <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-07/more-than-just-words-action-plan-2019-2020.pdf>

¹⁵ <https://gov.wales/evaluation-more-just-words-theory-change>

It was decided to temporarily postpone the next phase of the evaluation, due to the situation with COVID-19 and the pressures on health and social care services. This decision has been reviewed recently and officials will work with the evaluators to explore options for proceeding safely with the fieldwork during 2020-21, ensuring that we adhere to any restrictions that may be in place.

8. Social use of Welsh

Our aim is to establish positive language use habits, supported by formal and informal opportunities to use Welsh socially.

A Promotion Programme was set up during the year, including establishing a group of external stakeholders as a Planning Board to steer the work. The work of the Planning Board included experts who helped us prepare to produce a programme of activities to increase the use of Welsh (e.g. projects mentioned elsewhere in this report, such as Understanding Bilingualism, the Welsh in Business Network, the Welsh Language Transmission Policy and Helo Blod). Now that these projects are underway, the Board's work has ceased and implementation is subject to our own corporate monitoring processes.

Encouraging positive language habits

27 partners received grants in 2019 to promote the language at a community and national level. This funding allows our partners to develop and sustain a wide range of activities, including events for children and young people, creating a bridge between formal education and the natural use of Welsh in a social context.

The work of the Urdd, the Young Farmers Clubs, the mentrau iaith and the National Eisteddfod all provide opportunities for young people aged 11-25 to use Welsh outside school. We want to give young people a chance to set up social networks and encourage positive language habits by getting involved in culture and arts as well as sport.

Welsh-medium youth provision is also one of the priorities of our youth strategy Task and Finish Group which meets quarterly.

We commissioned an evaluation¹⁶ of the Language Charter (Siarter Iaith) and associated programmes (Cymraeg Campus, secondary schools Language Charter and Everyday Welsh) to look at what works well and what needs to be developed in terms of developing language habits at school. The final report was published in July 2020.

Drawing up a policy which works in secondary schools is a challenge, so 14 language use training sessions were held with individual schools and secondary school catchment areas. Not all sessions were held due to the temporary closure of schools due to COVID-19.

¹⁶ https://gov.wales/evaluation-welsh-language-charter?_ga=2.25874879.34510236.1604386056-214969641.1570023225

Grants

On 6 March 2020, we released an invitation to tender to undertake a review of the grant scheme to Promote and Facilitate the Use of the Welsh Language. However, due to COVID-19, the review had to be postponed, and the work will resume during 2020-21.

The Wales Federation of Young Farmers Clubs, Cymdeithas Eisteddfodau Cymru, the National Eisteddfod, Merched y Wawr, Mentrau Iaith Cymru, the mentrau iaith, the Urdd and the papurau bro (community newspapers) received a grant of over £4m. With this financial support, 21,000 activities were organised, with more than one million people taking part:

- 11,618 activities were held for children and young people to inspire them to use Welsh: a variety of competitions, sports, gigs, clubs and activities.
- 1,655 activities were held specifically for families.
- The mentrau iaith organised 9,229 activities in our communities, with 231,366 attending.
- Through Mentrau Iaith Cymru, a small festivals fund was established to support organisations and small groups to create and hold new community festivals with the emphasis on Welsh-language popular music. 11 new festivals, including Gŵyl y Ferch on Anglesey have received financial support through this fund.
- In addition, 9,338 children and young people attended the Young Farmers' Clubs' community events.
- It has been estimated that around 180,000 people attended the 2019 National Eisteddfod, including the successful affordable access scheme for local people.
- 37,000 people came to celebrate Tafwyl.
- In May 2019, everyone was given free entry to the Urdd Eisteddfod in Cardiff Bay, for the first time ever. 100,000 came to the Festival, with 70,530 competing.

The third sector

We have been working with the Welsh Language Commissioner's Office, Mentrau Iaith Cymru and the Wales Council for Voluntary Action to improve, plan and support the third sector's capacity to provide services in Welsh and to attract Welsh-speaking volunteers. The Minister launched the Mentrau Iaith Cymru campaign in an attempt to attract more people to volunteer through the medium of Welsh at the Conwy County National Eisteddfod.

New Welsh speakers

We have been developing a national programme to support new Welsh speakers, in partnership with the National Centre for Learning Welsh and community partners. Building on the progress made during 2018-19, the 'Siarad' scheme continues to offer support to learners in all parts of Wales to use their Welsh with more confident speakers in an informal context. The pairs are expected to spend at least 10 hours

together using Welsh. In the wake of COVID-19, the Centre will actively relaunch 'Siarad' so that it is an online scheme.

One element of *Cymraeg 2050* is to increase the use of Welsh in people's everyday lives. The aim of Dydd Miwsig Cymru (the Welsh Language Music Day) campaign is to introduce Welsh language music to a new audience and encourage people to support the Welsh language music scene.

Dydd Miwsig Cymru 2020 was held on 7 February. This was the fifth year we ran the campaign. Below are some of the main outcomes of the campaign:

Events: 85,000 people attended events across Wales. In addition, almost 100,000 additional people heard Welsh language music when visiting shops and businesses taking part in the campaign.

Press coverage: 125 items about Dydd Miwsig Cymru appeared in the print media, online and broadcast media, with a reach of 87 million people, thanks to items or articles from BBC 5Live, BBC World Service, ITV Wales, BBC Radio 4 and more.

Campaign reach: Over 699,600 watched our bilingual video content across Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, and there were over 50,000 interactions with our content across social media.

The hashtags were used by businesses across the UK, government bodies, community groups, large businesses, Welsh communities abroad, music and cultural organisations, including Dazed (over 1.2 million followers), Carol Vorderman, EE, Iwan Rheon, FAW, Classic FM, Tim Burgess, Super Furry Animals, Huw Stephens, Cerys Matthews, Elis James and Green Man.

Dydd Miwsig Cymru 2020 events and activities were an opportunity to create and strengthen social networks and to ensure social capital in Welsh.

Theme 3: Creating favourable conditions – infrastructure and context

The aims under this theme support our efforts to increase the number of Welsh speakers and the use of Welsh. We are working to create suitable conditions and an environment where the Welsh language and its speakers can thrive.

Although we have targets for increasing the number of Welsh speakers and those using the language, neither can be achieved without a suitable infrastructure.

Prosiect 2050

In August 2019, the Minister announced the creation of Prosiect 2050, a new multi-disciplinary unit working with partners across Wales and beyond to achieve our objectives together. Funding will be allocated to employ experts to lead and advise Prosiect 2050.

Prosiect 2050 was given the following tasks:

- To co-ordinate the planning of our route towards a million speakers, from the early years, through Welsh-medium statutory education provision, to post-compulsory education to Welsh for adults.
- To double the use of Welsh by creating new initiatives, and evaluate current initiatives.
- To assist policy areas across Welsh Government to contribute to the work of supporting our Welsh-speaking communities and to increase the use of Welsh.

Following a delay due to COVID-19, the Head of Prosiect 2050 has been appointed and is now in post.

9. The community and economy

Our aim is to develop a new regional focus in economic development to help all parts of Wales thrive and to support each area to develop its own characteristic identity.

The Chief Regional Officers and their teams work with partners within Government and beyond to develop a stronger regional dimension to economic development. Regional Economic Frameworks are being developed, and these will be important in providing a context for the work alongside the needs of communities, local authorities, colleges, businesses and others to improve outcomes.

Officially established in April 2019, the Arfor programme provides the basis for a range of innovative projects in the counties of Ceredigion, Gwynedd, Carmarthenshire and Anglesey. It places emphasis on developing the economic infrastructure with the aim also of benefiting the Welsh language. During the year, various programmes were developed in line with the priorities of the four counties. The Minister for the Economy, Transport and North Wales announced £2m of

funding to support businesses and stimulate individuals to venture for the first time. We also commissioned an independent company to develop an evaluation framework and to create a strategic plan for Arfor as part of the programme.

The Arfor programme has also developed projects supporting youth entrepreneurship. The aim of the Llwyddo'n Lleol project is to provide opportunities for young people to develop business ideas and support those individuals along the way. This project works with three communities to provide new opportunities to develop ideas that will circulate money within their communities and create jobs. These schemes will continue in 2020-21 and will form part of the wider evaluation of the Arfor programme to learn lessons and consider ways of expanding these schemes in the future.

Wylfa Newydd

Following Horizon's announcement that the Wylfa Newydd development has been delayed, no progress has been made with the impact assessment framework during 2019-20. Horizon have now stated that they are withdrawing from the project altogether, but we will continue to consider developing an impact assessment framework for wider use in the future. The work done on the Wylfa Newydd project is an example of how the Welsh language can be mainstreamed into major developments locally. This applies to all aspects of *Cymraeg 2050*.

Planning

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 20 was published in October 2017, and we continue to influence, advise and work with local planning authorities as they develop and review their Local Development Plans. These plans and the Strategic Development Plans play a central role in the planning arena and we are keen to continue to support planning authorities to include considerations relating to the language in these plans.

As part of a 14 week public consultation on the National Development Framework, during August 2019, public events and discussions were held with relevant stakeholders, including the Welsh Language Partnership Council¹⁷. The statutory impact assessments considered the Framework's effect on the Welsh language. Work on the Framework continues, with the aim of publishing it in its final form during February 2021 as *Future Wales: the national plan 2040*.

Local development planning is always crucial, particularly in the current context, and we are determined that all Strategic Development Plans should take account of the Welsh language.

Brexit

As the uncertainty surrounding Brexit continues, it's difficult to design new structures, however the considerations and importance of maintaining Welsh-speaking communities are central to any new scheme.

¹⁷ https://gov.wales/welsh-language-partnership-council?_ga=2.104993153.34510236.1604386056-214969641.1570023225

We have continued to support farmers to improve the efficiency of their businesses in response, and to prepare for the impact of Brexit, including providing support through our small grants to farmers, our Glastir scheme and Farming Connect. A consultation, Sustainable Farming and our Land, took place during 2019 seeking views on our proposals for a Sustainable Farming Scheme for Wales. The proposals are intended to help farmers thrive in pursuit of the environmental and social outcomes on which we all depend and which allow farmers to remain on their land and contribute to their communities.

In October 2019, the Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language held an Economy and Language Round-table discussion with local authority leaders, economists and practitioners implementing economic projects in west Wales. Held in the Egin in Carmarthen, the meeting looked at the relationships and challenges facing the area, as well as what opportunities exist to ensure the future prosperity of the Welsh language and the rural economy.

10. Culture and media

We know how important it is that cultural, arts and sports organisations in Wales have access to the support they need to promote the Welsh language. Our officials in these fields support this aim in a number of ways:

- Contributing to the development of a National Broadcasting Archive, led by the National Library of Wales. When this work is complete (2024), digitised copies of the BBC Cymru Wales television and radio archive will be available to the public as a whole – some of it online and some in the Library and in the four digital heritage centres. A large part of the collection is in Welsh and this project will increase the use of Welsh in community settings and in schools.
- Supporting Welsh language music through the Pyst project.

What we expect from our sponsored bodies are captured in remit letters updated in 2019. All our sponsored bodies in the Culture and Sport sectors are committed to supporting our target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050 and are proactive in their response to the policy.

Encouraging and supporting staff members to learn and use the language is embedded in the operational culture of our sponsored bodies and they have established good links with the National Centre for Learning Welsh. Our Policy for Promoting and Facilitating the use of the Welsh Language is published on our website.

The ‘Wales’ Brand

The language is a central part of the Cymru Wales brand. Indeed, it inspires core elements of the brand, for example, the font (which has won gold at the European Design Awards).

We’ll continue to encourage businesses to reflect the brand values in their work. In the tourism sector, this includes encouraging tourism businesses to ensure a strong sense of place in their provision, and using Welsh is central to this.

We've used the language extensively during the year to promote Wales and to attract tourism and investment. We used Welsh in flagship tourism and investment campaigns in London, Japan and Ireland – the campaigns in Japan and Dublin included live events discussing and celebrating Welsh language and culture.

We'll be doing more to showcase the language in our campaigns over the coming years, including on social media.

Sponsorship activity

Through our sponsorship activity, our aim is to increase use of the language, both at cultural events and in the everyday work of our cultural organisations.

Welsh Language and Culture policy officers have continued to work together to ensure a more prominent place for the Welsh language in cultural activities of all kinds. This included exploring the relationship between language and culture in order to develop events, products and activities, which celebrate and raise awareness of our unique Welsh culture.

It also included considering ways of promoting the richness of Welsh-medium culture as part of the culture element of our new International Engagement strategy¹⁸.

There is a continuing emphasis on using the language in our sponsorship activity. The use of Welsh by our cultural organisations led to the desire among many of the staff of our sponsored bodies to learn or improve their Welsh.

Heritage

National Museum Wales and the National Library of Wales have worked with the National Centre for Learning Welsh on developing their sites as bases for language learning, collaborating with the Centre as part of the 'Ar Lafar' festival for Welsh learners. The aim of this free festival was to give learners, their families and friends an opportunity to practise their Welsh in informal, relaxed settings.

National Museum Wales is proactive about promoting Welsh language skills in the workplace. It is a member of the Centre's workplace scheme, providing a range of Welsh language learning classes and resources for staff. As a result, it has increased the number of staff who have Welsh language skills, with 53% of the workforce now reporting they have skills between Entry and Higher levels.

National Museum Wales is using technology to support the Welsh language. It is trialling brand new trilingual augmented reality tours at National Museum Cardiff, and is the first museum in the UK to use this combination of technology. It is also developing Google Expeditions at Big Pit – these will be amongst the first expeditions developed through the medium of Welsh. New Welsh and English language virtual reality (VR) experiences are also under development at National Museum Cardiff.

¹⁸ <https://gov.wales/international-strategy-for-wales>

The Museum also supports other local groups and activities that are involved in promoting the Welsh language: Cymraeg i Blant 'Ti a Fi' has met weekly at St Fagans, Paned a Phapur was held twice a month at the National Wool Museum, and at National Museum Cardiff, Taith Iaith was held monthly.

In July 2019, St Fagans won the prestigious Art Fund UK Museum of the Year Award as the judges were impressed by how it lives, breathes and embodies the culture and identity of Wales.

At the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, 38% of the staff embraced the opportunity to attend Welsh classes during 2019-20. The usage levels of the Welsh-language enquiries service at the Commission has shown a significant increase, rising from 11% in 2018/19 to 20% in 2019/20. The number of users accessing the Royal Commission's Welsh web pages also supports this. There was a 56% increase in browsers accessing Coflein in Welsh during the first six months of 2019 compared to 2018.

The National Library of Wales has continued to support the Welsh version of Wikipedia, and has been employing a Wikipedian in Residence since 2015. The Library is also leading on a new educational pilot project, aimed at improving school pupils' access to information on Wikipedia about the history of Wales in Welsh.

In 2019, the Library won an award for Learn Welsh – Welsh in the Workplace (Employer), presented to the employer that has done the most to encourage and support its workforce to learn and use Welsh in the workplace.

The National Broadcast Archive project, led by the National Library of Wales, is now under development and will continue to have a focus on delivering a large element of the project in Welsh.

Urdd Sports

The Urdd receives funding from Sport Wales annually. It engages with children, young people and families and gets them actively involved in sport week in, week out and for life through the medium of Welsh. The Urdd 'Chwaraeon Bach' programmes actively encourage families to take part in a fun and creative environment, introducing the fundamental motor development skills of children through play. Across South and West Wales 'Chwaraeon Bach' now includes vast opportunities for the foundation phase across varied sports to include football, rugby, netball, gymnastics and multi-skills, contributing towards the children's holistic wellbeing through physical literacy development.

Arts Council of Wales

The Arts Council of Wales has a responsibility to develop and support the arts in both languages. As a bilingual organisation, the Arts Council is fully committed to the language and is an integral core to all of its work. Through its work with Arts Portfolio Wales, artists, organisations and projects funded through the Lottery funded programmes in Wales, the Arts Council has the ability to influence and champion the

everyday use of the language, increase its visibility, create opportunities for work and develop advocacy for Welsh language culture through a network of partners. The Arts Council has established a group to monitor and challenge progress as it looks to embed the language throughout its investments, processes and work.

The Arts Council recently commissioned a Welsh Mapping Project to work with stakeholders to identify current levels of arts activity in Welsh, specifically focusing on those that are not funded by the Arts Council, with a view to developing a sustainable vision for the future. The project recommends a series of actions that will inform the Arts Council's delivery plans over the coming years. The Welsh Government will continue to work with Arts Council to ensure it is actively championing the language.

The media

At the time of awarding or reviewing radio station licences in Wales, we remind Ofcom and the UK Government that consideration should be given to the bilingual nature of Wales and the importance of the Welsh language. We remind them that the agreements should specify that a certain number of hours will be broadcast in Welsh along with a statement about web content in Welsh, such as text, streams and video clips. This means that language diversity, especially with regard to the Welsh language in services in Wales, should be set as a target when awarding and regulating services for Wales.

We have continued to stress the importance of S4C and Radio Cymru's provision of Welsh language services to the UK Government and Ofcom, as well as to the BBC. They continue to play an important role in achieving our aim of reaching one million speakers by 2050. We will continue to work with S4C and BBC Cymru Wales to fulfil our aspirations for the language.

We support the publishing industry to ensure that a wide range of publications are available in Welsh in different formats, in order to meet the demand from different audiences.

The Welsh Government's financial support via the Welsh Books Council ensured that it was possible to continue to assist publishers to produce books and magazines for adults and children.

Over 200 Welsh books and e-books and 15 print and digital magazines for adults and children were published during 2019-20, with the Books Council continuing to pay particular attention to children and young people's books to realise some of the recommendations of the Siwan Rosser Report.

We continue to fund Golwg 360 through the Books Council. The average figure for individual daily visits was 16,185; page visits stood at 147,758; Twitter followers increased from 13,248 to 14,203; and on Facebook from 3,596 to 3,783.

The Council worked in several directions to realise Siwan Rosser's recommendations. A second course was held at Tŷ Newydd for authors and illustrators of books for young adults, in collaboration with Literature Wales. Some of the products of the first course for storybooks and picture books reached the market

during 2019-20. We worked with a PhD student from Bangor University who is looking at models for introducing books to KS2, and he established a website, www.en.sonamlyfra.cymru, which highlights and reviews Welsh books for children in both Welsh and English.

The magazines *Cara* and *Lysh* established themselves quickly and successfully, developing keen followers and buyers. Unfortunately, towards the end of the financial year the news came that the comic *Mellten* (y Lolfa / Huw Aaron) would not continue. But successful meetings were arranged between *Cip* (the Urdd) and Huw Aaron, and a model of co-operation was agreed between the two publications. COVID-19 disrupted the work but 50 of Huw Aaron's #CiwCelf videos on YouTube were derived directly from this partnership through Books Council funding.

There has been an increase in the number of leisure reading books for learners in the *Amdani* series, and the collaboration with the National Centre for Learning Welsh is continuing, with textbooks reaching booksellers through the Council's Distribution Centre.

The Council worked to deliver the second phase of the Reading Well scheme: Books on Prescription so that there is widespread provision in Welsh in the areas of dementia and mental health. 40 books were published in 2019-20 and work has commenced on the next phase of the scheme which is to publish 22 books relating to health and well-being for children and young people.

Information on Welsh books published during the year was provided in the form of a Yearbook and specific lists (including a health and well-being list) for all schools, libraries and booksellers in Wales.

Bilingual material for the Summer Reading Challenge campaigns was made available to libraries and schools for World Book Day when two new £1 Welsh books (including in Braille format) were published.

Two Welsh titles were commissioned and published as part of the *Stori Sydyn / Quick Reads* scheme, which aims to attract reluctant readers.

We organised a successful tender for editorial posts in the presses and, due to the changes at *Gwasg Gomer* (and no applications coming from that press), two new posts were supported – one with *Rily* and the other with *Gwasg y Bwthyn* – which will enable them to further develop their provision.

As a result of the changes at *Gomer*, in 2019-20 work began to try to attract new publishers to the field to ensure the breadth of the range, as well as its depth. Work has already begun jointly with the new company *Broga*.

PYST

PYST was launched in October 2018 as a not for profit company that would capitalise on a renewed confidence in Welsh music with a particular focus on Welsh language music. Since then, PYST have achieved 25m streams of Welsh language music. Further funding of £203,843 was awarded to PYST in January 2020 towards the development and creation of the AM platform.

AM is a digital platform used across the creative industries with channels ranging from organisations like Welsh Books Council and the Eisteddfod to individual record labels and television production companies. It is an open platform for all creative content and covers both English and Welsh language content. It has also been used to live stream events such as Tafwyl and the National Eisteddfod.

In the first 6 months, AM has achieved 200 channels, 60k users, 11k regular monthly users, 9.5k app downloads, 330k views.

11. Wales and the wider world

We want to show the world that we are a multilingual country priding ourselves on promoting and expanding the use of the Welsh language by people from across Wales and beyond. We celebrate the fact that the language is spoken by people from all backgrounds, whilst recognising that more needs to be done to ensure that members of the BAME community have a better opportunity of acquiring and using the language. We will continue with this work during 2020-21, and it will form an important part of our next Work Programme.

London Welsh School

We award an annual grant of £90,000 to the London Welsh School. The school promotes the Welsh language in London and provides Welsh-medium primary education for children, a number of whom return in due course to the Welsh-medium education system in Wales.

Refugees and asylum seekers

The National Centre for Learning Welsh developed a 'Welcome to all' taster course, providing opportunities for refugees and asylum seekers to learn Welsh on courses tailored specifically to them.

As well as running free courses for specific target audiences, the Centre has worked in collaboration with a number of partners, including the Welsh Refugee Council, on a 'Welsh for All' programme aimed at ensuring that individuals of all backgrounds are able to learn Welsh and develop their confidence to use the language.

Patagonia

The Welsh Language Project continues to promote and develop the Welsh language in Patagonia. Three development officers spent periods in Patagonia teaching the language to children and adults and supporting activities to use the language, as a result of the work of the British Council, in conjunction with the National Centre for Learning Welsh, the Urdd, the Wales-Argentina Society and other partners. Over 1,200 individuals were given the opportunity to attend Welsh language courses in Patagonia during 2019.

UNESCO

2019 was UNESCO's *International Year of Indigenous Languages*. Our aim, in taking part, was to raise Wales' profile internationally as a bilingual country and to strengthen Wales as one of the leading countries in terms of linguistic regeneration. The Minister visited UNESCO's headquarters in Paris to discuss our work in relation to the Welsh language. Based on the success of the year, in which Wales played a leading role, UNESCO has decided to establish a *Decade of Indigenous Languages*, which will begin in 2022. We look forward to continuing to raise the profile of the Welsh language and share good practice with others around the world.

Wales Arts International has been a partner for us during this year and held a programme of activities and events to raise awareness of the Welsh language in the context of the arts. For example:

- A Symposium in Bethesda in April 2019 which discussed opportunities for our artists to perform in Welsh across the world.
- Leading an international delegation to the National Eisteddfod.
- Facilitating the National Eisteddfod's first international partnership with Ireland and the Fidget Feet company.
- The MAMIAITH project, which is joint work between artists singing in Welsh and artists who sing in indigenous languages from other countries.

As a culmination of the UNESCO year in November, the Our Voice in the World Festival was held in Aberystwyth in partnership with Aberystwyth University – with a series of talks, discussion panels and performances to celebrate Welsh as a vibrant and living language. Discussion themes included the following, highlighting the experience of Wales and other countries:

- Language learning and use
- Language, literature, the arts and media
- Language policy and planning.

In 2020, we published our International Strategy, which addresses the Welsh language and bilingualism in a number of places, including a commitment as part of establishing Wales as a globally responsible nation for "*offering support to countries that can learn from our experience of increasing the number of speakers of an indigenous language which was previously under threat*".

The International Strategy explains that we believe that our experience of developing and promoting the language can be used to help other countries in three main ways:

- Developing language technologies, such as machine translation, speech recognition and artificial intelligence for minority languages.
- Our method of late language immersion – creating centres, which allow learners educated through the medium of English to transfer to Welsh-medium education part way through their school career.
- Promoting the use of minority languages by artists when performing on the international stage.

International links

Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity

The Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD) is a Europe-wide network working in the field of language policy and planning on behalf of Constitutional, Regional and Small State Languages (CRSS) throughout Europe. The members of the NPLD include national and regional governments, as well as universities and associations. Wales is currently the Vice Chair of the Network.

The main aim of the NPLD is to raise awareness at European level of the importance of linguistic diversity. Another aim is to facilitate the exchange of best practice amongst governments, policy makers, practitioners, researchers and experts from across Europe.

During the reporting period, we had the opportunity to contribute to the NPLD 'Campus' organised in conjunction with the Coppetiers Foundation. The theme of the event was *The Implementation of the Social Use of Minority Languages*. Wales' contribution related to ensuring that parents who have Welsh language skills, but who may be lacking in confidence, speak Welsh with their children. This led to an invitation to all session participants and the NPLD to work with us as we developed our *national Policy on Welsh language transmission and use in families*.

The Minister signed a statement of intent with the Government of Quebec in February 2020, which stated that they would continue with the intention of cooperating on language policies. During the same visit, the Minister met with Rene Arseneault MP, the Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development and Official Languages of Canada to discuss Wales and Canada's experiences in promoting bilingualism / multilingualism. As part of our activity in Japan over the period of the Rugby World Cup in autumn 2019, Welsh culture and language were promoted through performances by Gruff Rhys and HMS Morris. A Welsh Language Learning session was also held at Tŷ Cymru in central Tokyo.

British-Irish Council

We chair the British-Irish Council's Indigenous, Minority and Lesser-Used Languages working group. The situation of all the languages represented by the British-Irish Council varies greatly (Welsh, Cornish, Scottish Gaelic, Scots, Manx, Ulster Scots, Irish, Guernésiais and Jèrriais) but they also have a great deal in common. We have continued to take advantage of this forum to discuss, share good practice and expertise with people from different backgrounds.

This year, officials have been on research visits to Cornwall and the Isle of Man. Officials were also welcomed to Cardiff to observe a language immersion centre, to visit one of the Urdd's centres, to learn about corpus work, marketing and technology and to learn more about the Urdd's work. The ministerial meeting (held every two years) was held on the Isle of Man in November. There, ministers of all member states evaluated the work programme of the previous three years and looked forward to the future work programme. The next work programme will focus on early years, language use and infrastructure / technology.

During the reporting year also, on the European Day of Languages (26 September), for the first time ever the Group released a list of songs in the languages represented on Spotify. The aim was to celebrate the linguistic diversity of the islands and to give people the opportunity to listen to contemporary music in these languages, whether they can speak the language or not.

International events

A number of events were held throughout the year to contribute to the aim of ensuring that the Welsh language is a central part of our efforts to create bridges between Wales and the world and to promote Wales' soft power:

- Support for the "Mamiaith / Muttersprache" event in Berlin organised by Literature Wales in conjunction with the Wales Berlin Office, the British Council and Humboldt University as part of *UNESCO's International Year of Indigenous Languages 2019* celebration. Representing Wales were Mererid Hopwood, Kizzy Crawford and the national poet Ifor ap Glyn.
- The Wales office in Brussels organised an event to promote multilingualism and minority languages in October 2019. The event was organised in conjunction with the offices of Scotland and Northern Ireland with the national poet performing.
- Celebrating the language was an integral part of Wales Week Dublin 2020 – an evening of multilingual poetry was held and the launch of a new partnership between the Irish youth movement TG Lurgan and the Urdd.
- The Other Voices Festival in Cardigan provided a special platform for creativity and culture in the Welsh language and created a bridge between Wales and our Irish partners.
- In the wake of COVID-19, the UNESCO year project "Mamiaith" went online in April as part of the Cúirt Literature Festival.

The Urdd's Message of Peace and Goodwill

On 17 May, the Urdd collaborated with Eastside Young Leaders Academy (EYLA) in East London to launch its annual Message of Peace and Goodwill. The message was an opportunity for young Welsh people to speak up and stand with children and young people in Wales and across the world who suffer from different forms of violence.

A special film was created to spread the message to new audiences across the world. Each year, this message raises the Urdd's profile internationally and builds bridges. The message reached 5.2 million people, in 35 countries and through 44 languages. As part of the project, the Urdd welcomed the young people of the EYLA to the Urdd Eisteddfod in Cardiff Bay. The message goes from strength to strength every year.

Major events

We supported 28 events during 2019-20 and these included Tafwyl and the National Eisteddfod, both celebrating the language and our culture. Cricket coaching was available every day at the Urdd Eisteddfod in Welsh, and we also organised a

Trophy Tour, which visited a number of Welsh-medium schools. Other activities included the Aberystwyth Comedy Festival, which provided a stage for a number of Welsh-speaking acts. We continue to work with the Hybu team in the Welsh Language Commissioner's office, and are currently discussing how to improve how we monitor events, which will see us working closer than ever together.

Tourism and marketing

In this area, we're expected to lead by example, promoting the language on a worldwide stage and welcoming the benefits of being a bilingual country. We do this by influencing all our marketing and communications campaigns so that our status as a bilingual country is seen as a unique selling point in the wider world.

The Welsh language is an integral and visible part of our campaigns to promote Wales on a worldwide stage, and the message about bilingualism in Wales is also shared on relevant platforms. This is clear on the Wales.com website – Wales's main digital portal – which contains specific articles on the Welsh language and a bilingual Wales and this message is also found in much of the content that we use across our various websites.

Other national projects such as The Wales Way and the thematic tourism years also provide a platform for the language and our industry guidance emphasises the importance of the Welsh language as part of the unique experience of Wales. For example, a campaign from October to January 2019-2020 promoted less prominent locations to audiences within Wales. Well-known personalities such as Lisa Jên, Eyllt Sears and Huw Brassington were involved in creating unique content for people in Wales about different areas all over the country, shared on our website and social channels. The campaign was very successful, receiving positive feedback on social media.

Also on 29 February 2020, to celebrate the leap year / St David's Day, we held a gig at Bounce Below, Llechwedd, with various Welsh bands singing in both Welsh and English to celebrate and promote Welsh music. Kizzy Crawford and local band, Alfa performed to a small audience who were watching and jumping on the nets.

Doing more of this is a major part of our Priorities for the Visitor Economy 2020-2025 – with the emphasis on striking a balance between Wales (the local, and the Welsh) and the world.

Although the work of marketing Wales has been limited by COVID-19, any campaigns during the recovery period will promote and celebrate the language, and community tourism with a cultural emphasis where appropriate.

Welcome pack

We want to make the Welsh language more visible to visitors and make it easier for them to encounter and learn the Welsh language by piloting interventions.

Following the launch of the 'Welcome to Wales, Welcome to the Welsh Language Pack' in conjunction with Anglesey County Council, the pack was introduced in

Carmarthenshire. This highlighted difficulties in reaching the target group and, as a result, discussions have taken place with GP practices and local authority council tax departments to consider ways of introducing the pack when registering with a local GP or arranging a council tax payment. Work has been done with GP surgeries and Carmarthenshire County Council's council tax departments. The packs have also evolved to show the importance of considering the Welsh language to owners who buy businesses.

We're also developing better support to improve the integration of newcomers with Welsh-speaking communities, similar to the *Voluntariat per la Llengua* programme in Catalonia.

The National Centre for Learning Welsh has ensured that the 'Siarad' programme is operational in all parts of Wales to give learners the opportunity to use their Welsh in an informal context. The pairs are expected to spend at least 10 hours together using Welsh. Following COVID-19, the Centre will actively relaunch 'Siarad' so that it is an online scheme.

12. Digital technology

Work is continuing to implement the work packages of the *Welsh Language Technology Action Plan*. Cardiff University has done some innovative work on Welsh word insertions, and Welsh speech transcription is available in the form of new apps from Bangor University.

Bangor University continues to enhance its skilled personal assistant Macsen, who 'hears' spoken questions on specific topics in Welsh and provides useful answers. It will soon be possible to identify and transcribe the 2,500 most commonly spoken and written Welsh words.

Developing and investing in IT

Our aim is to explore opportunities to invest, collaborate and share resources and techniques to support our technological infrastructure (computer-aided translation, artificial intelligence (AI) technology, voice recognition, etc.) so that Welsh can be used on electronic devices.

During the year, work continued on the task of assessing how best to develop Welsh linguistic and technological infrastructure, including dictionaries, terminology, corpus resources and the translation profession. In the context of Bangor University's skilled personal assistant Macsen and the work of our Translation Service, there's been further development in computer-assisted translation, artificial intelligence and Welsh speech recognition.

Technology developments for social use

Work on the Code Club in Welsh-medium and bilingual schools continues this year with the support of our Cracking the Code scheme.

In terms of obvious geographical features, Welsh names can be key as we market Wales to tourists from around the world. In that context, we have been promoting the role of the Welsh language in technological developments such as online maps, funding work on developing the openstreetmap.cymru resource. At present, the map contains Welsh names for towns, villages and cities, and we are considering adding further features such as rivers, lakes, mountains etc. It is hoped that it will be possible to hold more virtual mapping parties in the near future, in order to label these features through mass activity.

Leading technology companies

We're in the process of implementing our *Welsh Language Technology Action Plan*, published in October 2018. As well as discussions with several technology companies, the focus of our work has been on developing the technological infrastructure of the Welsh language. Companies of all kinds can use the components created in order to provide software offering a service to Welsh speakers.

We look forward to providing detailed information to the Senedd's Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee during the next year on the implementation of the action plan as part of its inquiry into technology and the Welsh language.

Organisations in receipt of grants

We believe that it's vital that those who receive grants from us, and organisations promoting the Welsh language, make good use of technology, including data systems, internal communications, social media and marketing resources. To that end, technology and marketing targets were included in the grant scheme to Promote and Facilitate the Use of the Welsh language to encourage and promote the use of Welsh. All of our grant partners use electronic methods to market their work.

The mentrau iaith, the Urdd, the National Eisteddfod, Young Farmers Clubs, Merched y Wawr, Cymdeithas Eisteddfodau Cymru and the papurau bro (community newspapers) all use technology in conducting their day-to-day work, in holding meetings, reporting and in engaging with their target audiences. Due to COVID-19, technology was used in a variety of creative ways by our partners to carry out activities and to appeal to new audiences. YouTube video creation sessions for children were held by a number of mentrau iaith, and various social media channels, apps and websites are used by every grant body to promote activities. These activities support positive language use in line with the objectives of *Cymraeg 2050*, and are a fundamental target of the conditions of the grant to promote the use of the Welsh language.

Wikipedia

The National Library of Wales received a grant for a project called #WiciLlên, which has seen 50,000 new multilingual Wikidata items about books, authors and

publishers from Wales. 506 new Welsh Wikipedia articles have been created about Welsh writers and books as a result of the campaign and workshops with citizens.

13. Linguistic infrastructure

During the year, we continued to work on the task of assessing how best to develop Welsh language infrastructure, including dictionaries, terminology, corpus resources and the translation profession. Over the next period, we will bring forward policy proposals for more effective co-ordination of the different elements and the provision of a better service to users.

We want to make it easier for people from all backgrounds to use Welsh – workplaces, schoolchildren, teachers, new speakers or regular speakers – by making sure they know where to turn for linguistic resources or sources.

Ultimately, the intention is for this to lead to a more detailed policy over the next period.

Linguistic infrastructure resources

Over the next period, we'll be bringing forward policy proposals for more effective co-ordination of the different elements and the provision of a better service to users.

We provide grant funding for the Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru (GPC) project, which contributes to a number of the steps noted in the *Cymraeg 2050* strategy, including creating conditions which are favourable to the language, digital technology and promoting the use of Welsh. This funding also acknowledges the importance of GPC as a linguistic cornerstone of the Welsh language.

The Termiadur Addysg continues to develop, with the recent emphasis being on supporting the reform of the revised Health and Care and Childcare qualifications first taught in September 2019.

Our Translation Service shared 73 translation memories on the Byd Term Cymru¹⁹ website, bringing the total number of open-licensed memories to 98 by the end of March 2020.

Bangor University shared the Food, Diet and Catering Glossary and the Psychology Terms as an open licence download as part of their work on the Termiadur Addysg.

Translation

To help translators and simultaneous translators meet the demand for their services, we continue to support the Association of Welsh Translators. This is the body that maintains, quality assures and promotes professional standards in translation by improving, increasing and developing translators' skills and knowledge.

¹⁹ <https://gov.wales/bydtermcymru>

In a previous section of this report, we refer to developments in the field of computer-assisted translation as part of our work on technology and linguistic infrastructure.

14. Language planning

Our aim is to establish language planning and promotion as essential features on a national, regional and local level, as well as better understanding and supporting bilingualism and the needs of Welsh speakers.

In addition to the announcement of Prosiect 2050, and the initial work establishing that project, set out at the beginning of this section, our work in this area has also included the following.

Cymraeg 2050 Programme Board

Senior officials from across Government are members of the *Cymraeg 2050* Programme Board. The purpose of the Board is to scrutinise progress and offer advice, guidance and assurance in the implementation of *Cymraeg 2050*. During the year, the Board met each term to discuss issues such as mainstreaming the strategy across the Government's work, considering risks, good practice and issues arising that could affect *Cymraeg 2050*.

Welsh Language Partnership Council

The Welsh Language Partnership Council was established under section 149 of the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. During the reporting year, the Council has continued to meet at least once a term to provide advice to Welsh Ministers in relation to *Cymraeg 2050*. The Council advised the Minister on various matters that effect Welsh language policy for example Brexit and the economy, second homes, the education workforce and the policy on Welsh language transmission and use in families.

Work with local authorities

We work with local authorities to support their efforts to build capacity to plan for the Welsh language, supporting them in the implementation and harmonisation of strategies for promoting the Welsh language, Welsh in Education Strategic Plans, and their duties under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

There are County Forums in almost every county in Wales coordinated by the mentrau iaith. The aim of these forums is to share information amongst partners working on Welsh language use across the county, and to jointly plan events and work together strategically where possible. In December 2019, Mentrau Iaith Cymru conducted a survey to summarise the current position of the County Forums across the country, to identify good practice to share with other areas and to provide guidance to those counties that do not currently have an effective forum.

Planning Welsh-medium education and promoting the use of the language go hand in hand. We are seeing increasing examples of local authorities taking advantage of the expertise of our local partners to support them with aspects of their Welsh-

medium education planning. A number of further education forums have established promotional sub-groups, which are working together on methods to strengthen the information on Welsh-medium education available to parents and prospective parents – across the county and locally.

15. Evaluation and research

We continued to develop our evidence base, and identified opportunities to collaborate with research partners in Wales and beyond, where possible. This included the publication of a research study on the Welsh Language and the Economy²⁰ in February 2020. This report offers a review of the evidence and also of the methods that have been used to explore the relationship between Welsh and other relevant languages, and the economy. Fieldwork was also conducted for evaluations of the Language Charter and the Sabbatical Scheme for education practitioners.

The Welsh Government's Knowledge and Analytical Services contributed to the evidence base for reviewing school definitions and categories according to their language provision. A specification for a review of the grant scheme to Promote and Facilitate the Use of the Welsh Language was completed, but the tendering process was cancelled at the end of March 2020 due to COVID-19.

Some progress has been made in developing an Evaluation Framework for *Cymraeg 2050*, and this work will continue during 2020-21.

As part of the Welsh language mainstreaming programme across our research activities, we've given particular attention to the lessons learned over recent years, providing a basis for further development.

During the year, Knowledge and Analytical Services took advantage of opportunities to develop links through research networks and disseminate the findings of their work. This included a presentation on mainstreaming the Welsh language into research at the Institute of Social and Economic Research Conference, Data and Methods Wales in July 2019.

Work is continuing to build research capacity for the future through a doctoral scholarship programme jointly funded by the Welsh Government and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Three of these scholarships explore aspects of Welsh and languages in education.

Exploring ways of adding to our understanding of speakers' linguistic experiences over their lifetime

The new Language Use Survey began in July 2019, and the intention was for it to continue until the end of March 2021. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, the survey had to be suspended in mid-March 2020. The intention is to develop our evidence base on how people use Welsh.

²⁰ https://gov.wales/welsh-language-and-economy?_ga=2.85186203.34510236.1604386056-214969641.1570023225

We used the same methodology as previous language use surveys in 2004-06 and 2013-15 in this survey so we could compare the results. The self-completion questionnaires were given to those who said they could speak Welsh in the National Survey for Wales. Separate questionnaires have been developed for adults and children, which include questions about how often, where and when they use the Welsh language.

As the survey was halted after eight and a half months, we will not be able to analyse the data at a local authority level as intended, but we'll publish the results collated so far by the end of 2020-21.

The Knowledge and Analytical Services Department worked with the Centre for Longitudinal Studies to analyse the ONS Longitudinal Study. Population and Housing Census data from 1971 until 2011 was analysed to see how individuals' ability in Welsh changes over time. The purpose of the work was to discover the characteristics of those people who change their linguistic ability (i.e. learn it or lose it) between the censuses in order to better understand at what points in their lives this is most likely to happen. The initial results were presented in a poster at the British Association for Population Studies conference. We will be further analysing this data next year.

A masters dissertation project was completed by a student at Cardiff University in 2018/19, analysing the progression of learners in Welsh-medium education after they were assessed in Welsh (first language) at the age of seven, looking at the characteristics of those learners.

Conclusion

This report is an opportunity to summarise the work that we and our partners have done to deliver *Cymraeg 2050* during the 2019-20 financial year. Our next annual report is likely to look quite different considering how much the world around us has changed this year. That report will look at our work responding to COVID-19: supporting our partners, continuing to look for opportunities to innovate and responding to all eventualities that may affect the language. The new Prosiect 2050 unit will certainly be at the heart of this work as we become used to delivering our strategy in the new world.

Our aim remains to increase the number of speakers, increase language use and improve the infrastructure that underpins our work. And our next Work Programme will take a fresh and new look at how we can continue to work together on our vision, in order to reach a million Welsh speakers.