



The College Y Coleg
Merthyr Tydfil Merthyr Tudful

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**Your College working with
Local Businesses**

**Celebrating Global Entrepreneurship
Week 2016**

Welcome

The college offers all learners the opportunity to engage in a variety of enterprise initiatives and projects to enhance their skills and employability. From participating in Big Ideas Wales workshops in the college through to local and national enterprise competitions, the college encourages learners to get involved, embrace the activities on offer and develop their entrepreneurial skills.

Throughout the academic year we work hard to provide learners with as many opportunities as possible to gain first-hand experience of business and enterprise scenarios.

This month will be no exception! From the 14-20 November, the college will be celebrating Global Entrepreneurship Week with the aim of inspiring learners across the college to explore their potential as self-starters and innovators. As part of this we will be running a range of activities, from large-scale Enterprise Skills Days and competitions through to Merthyr Tydfil Business Club events, subject based enterprise talks and much more!

Did you know?

Global Entrepreneurship Week (GEW) is the world's biggest celebration of entrepreneurship. This week long festival of live events taking place throughout the country celebrates and cultivates our national entrepreneurship ecosystem and helps people at every stage of their entrepreneurial journey get the help they need.



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What's on during Global Entrepreneurship Week

Date	Event
Tuesday 15th November	Business Club Event and Charity Auction organised by our Business Studies students
Friday 18th November	Enterprise Skills Day at Cardiff City Stadium



Enterprise Skills Day – 18th November 2016

If you dream it, you can achieve it! Fancy yourself as an entrepreneur? Why not apply to come along to our Enterprise Skills Day on Friday 18th November at Cardiff City Stadium. The event will provide an excellent opportunity for you to take part in a variety of activities that will enable you to develop your teamwork, presentation and communication skills, improve your CV and gain first hand experience of taking part in enterprise challenges.

To apply, or gain further information on the day, please pop along to speak to Chris Bissex at the Learner Support Services counter on our ground floor or email Chris on c.bissex@merthyr.ac.uk

Excitement ahead as students get ready for annual Trading Places initiative

For the fifth year running, students from The College Merthyr Tydfil will have the opportunity to participate in the Trading Places 'apprentice-style' enterprise challenge.

Co-ordinated through the South-East Wales Regional Enterprise Hub, the competition will see the students compete in a series of business and enterprise activities and tasks, prior to running their own pop-up shops in the Morgan Arcade, Cardiff.

Supported by NatWest and EE, Trading Places, which launched in 2013, aims to help youngsters understand how they can become entrepreneurs by developing their "big ideas". The challenge involves six teams of students from colleges across South-East Wales, including Bridgend College, Coleg Gwent, Coleg Y Cymoedd, The College Merthyr Tydfil, St David's Catholic College and Cardiff and Vale College, who come together and participate in a series of workshop activities in a bid to demonstrate their business and enterprise skills, prior to launching a pop-up shop for trading. The winning team is the one that displays the most effective business management skills and demonstrates the best teamwork throughout the course of the project.

The initiative has been so successful that it received the National Enterprise Educators Awards



What do our students say?



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Liam, an A2 level student at The College Merthyr Tydfil, also participated in the 2014 challenge where he successfully gained awards for developing the best business plan and making the most profit. He believes his experience provided him with extra skills and experience to add on to his UCAS application. Liam commented "I really enjoyed taking part in last year's Trading Places competition. I particularly valued the opportunity to work with students from other colleges to solve key business issues."

Liam, an A2 Level student



Lloyd Morgan who was studying a level 2 Motor Vehicle qualification at the college, commented "I was really excited about taking part in the Trading Places Challenge. It was a very new experience for me and it will give me the added confidence and skills to help me gain a job at the end of my studies."

**Lloyd Morgan,
Level 2 Motor Vehicle student**





Trading Places 2016 Project timeline



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Friday 18th November 2016

Enterprise Skills Day at Cardiff City Stadium

Tuesday 13th & Wednesday 14th December 2016

2 day training in Customer Services with
EE and Business Planning with NatWest at the
University of South Wales

Thursday 15th December 2016

Launch of a pop up shop in the Morgan Arcade

Celebrating our Enterprise Stars!

Working in partnership to help homelessness



Our very own Enterprise star and former Motor Vehicle student Mark O'Neil had the opportunity to give a speech on homelessness at a Llamau Impact Event, held at Hensol castle on 19th October 2016. Budding entrepreneur, Mark has been working with Hollywood actor Micheal Sheen and he presented Michael with an award for supporting homeless people.



Big Ideas Wales Success!

Our A level student Dafydd Jones has been successful in getting through to the 2016 Big Ideas Wales boot camp. Also our ESOL student Esra Cakmak has gained a place at Bootcamp.



Enterprise placement for past college student

Giorgio Baglioni, a past student at the college, had the opportunity to spend several days shadowing and learning from one of the best sales person at Kingcraft. Through Christine Bissex, our Head of Enterprise and Employability, he was able to shadow the regional sales manager, Alex Edwards, on a three day trip to London.

Giorgio comments, "Alex taught me a great deal about working in sales, tips and tricks and also showed me a lot about his industry. The trip took us to several different sites across London to meet clients and present the products. I managed to work alongside Alex and speak with the clients as well as demonstrating certain products. It was a completely different environment than I'm used to. I found the entire experience very useful, especially as a Computer Science student, because it gave me real first-hand experience dealing with clients. I really enjoyed my time with Kingcraft and really appreciate all that they and the college has done for me to help improve my enterprise skills."



Tafflab business start-up award

Daniel Delahay, a former sports student from The College Merthyr Tydfil has successfully been awarded a Taff Lab Business start-up grant of £1,000 to run holiday sports camps in Merthyr Tydfil.

Dan, who competed against five other students from Merthyr, Gwent and Coleg Y Cymoedd, plans to offer a range of sporting camps across Merthyr Tydfil utilising student coaching volunteers from The College Merthyr Tydfil.

Presenting to the panel of judges, Dan commented “Since enrolling at The College Merthyr I’ve developed a passion for coaching. This passion had grown and developed and I have committed lots of hours of coaching to school and community projects, including coaching for Merthyr Town FC and Swansea City Pre-Academy. I was also fortunate to spend 13 weeks working as a coach in America with Challenger Sports. Working on so many projects has allowed me to coach on a variety of programmes and I’m keen to develop my own range of activities in Merthyr Tydfil.”

Dan, who is now studying a Football Coaching and Performance Degree at the University of South Wales, plans to set up a leadership strategy with The College Merthyr Tydfil, to fund NGB awards or provide in house training for students. In exchange for the training and mentorship, students will be allocated a coaching placement on the sports camps.

Delme Jenkins, Sports tutor at The College Merthyr Tydfil, commented “As a college, we’ve developed a culture of creating coaching opportunities and exit routes. Daniel has embraced this and has created a wonderful reputation in the borough. As testimony to this he was awarded Millennium Volunteers 200 hours, Inspirational Student of the Year and Merthyr College Sports Leadership Academy Coach of the Year last year in our prize giving. This opportunity is well deserved. I’m sure his venture will be a great success and he will be a wonderful ambassador and role model to our students.”



Dan pictured (middle) with Sports tutor Delme Jenkins and Challenger Sports representative, Mel Davies

for former sports student

Mel Davies from Challenger Sports commented "This is wonderful news for Daniel, and we are extremely pleased for him. Daniel conducted himself superbly during his summer with the company and his contribution to our programme was invaluable. We are pleased that the Challenger Sports experience has helped Daniel's development as a coach, and we wish him the best of luck with his future business endeavours."

Utilising part of the RSA's Regions and Nations funding, The Taff Lab project aims to support individuals to realise an idea. Using Fellowship support and connections, participants have the opportunity to take part in a mentoring relationship and gain support and advice to help them turn their idea into reality. By acting as a critical friend RSA Fellows will question the participant and offer tools and tips to help them explore the idea and succeed.

The College Merthyr Tydfil student team in Berlin prior to taking part in the Global competition in Mainz.



Award winning success at the Global Enterprise Challenge

The College Merthyr Tydfil Students winning the GEC in 2014 and they went on to win GEC Europe Middle East and Africa.



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Contact us

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