

St David's
Coleg Catholig Dewi Sant
Catholic Sixth Form College

Prif Adeilad
Main Building

Dechrau
Section 2.5

YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMPACT REPORT

2023-24



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



St David's
Coleg Catholig Dewi Sant
Catholic Sixth Form College



Launchpad
Safle Lansio

OUR VISION

We believe in providing all learners equal opportunities to pursue their career goals, by fostering an entrepreneurial mindset and encouraging determination, persistence, and innovation, to overcome challenges and grow from them. At St David's, we champion the belief that failure is seen as a stepping stone toward success; thus, we offer a safe and supportive space to build skills, test ideas, and creatively problem-solve.

Our vision is to integrate entrepreneurial education across all subjects and encourage real-world applications of enterprise thinking, enabling students to develop skills to start a small business. A dedicated team of staff from various departments actively promote enterprise, encouraging active learner engagement in entrepreneurial activities and opportunities offered by the College.

OUR PROVISION

The **Launchpad** offers a comprehensive range of opportunities to 'Enable, Engage, Empower and Equip' learners. This includes developing business ideas, testing them through practical experiences, and considering self-employment or freelance work as viable career pathways after Further Education. Learners develop the skills required to become adaptable, forward-thinking individuals in the workforce.



OUR PROVISION SUPPORTS LEARNERS THROUGH A **BLEND OF CURRICULAR AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:**

1-2-1 support: personalised support from our dedicated Enterprise Champion to help learners develop their skills and refine their ideas;

Big Ideas Wales Business Advisor: regular monthly surgeries provide expert advice, enabling learners to explore and progress their entrepreneurial ambitions;

Role Models: successful entrepreneurs deliver inspirational talks, sharing real-life experiences and advice to motivate learners;

Fairs & Markets: practical opportunities for learners to test-trade their ideas, build confidence, and learn key business principles, such as budgeting, marketing, and customer engagement;

Competitions: encouragement for learners to participate in competitions, fostering creativity, problem-solving, and entrepreneurial thinking, and

Enterprise Club: a space where learners collaborate, share ideas, and develop innovative solutions together, supported by staff and peers.

With Welsh Government funding, we have expanded and refined our enterprise provision. A key driver of this success is our dedicated Enterprise Officer, Sandra Brewster. Sandra works closely with learners and staff to facilitate engaging enterprise activities and support entrepreneurial learning. Notably, her recent completion of a Level 4 Advice and Guidance qualification has further enhanced the quality of support and mentorship available.

Email: sbrewster@stdavidscollege.ac.uk

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

32

ENABLE:

members of staff promoted entrepreneurial learning within their departments. We have booked a total of **20** Role model sessions promoting Entrepreneurship.

1500

ENGAGE:

learners took part in **'Engage'** activities which promoted entrepreneurship.

360

EMPOWER:

learners took part in **'Empower'** activities which gave them opportunities to improve their entrepreneurial skills including Insight Days, workshops and test trade events.

15

EQUIP:

learners took positive steps towards self-employment by receiving business mentoring.

1

learner has started their own business while a further **2** learners have gone on to Higher Education to gain further skills to start their own business after university.

Many more learners have begun 'side hustle' style businesses, seeing this as a creative hobby alongside their studies. We continue to strive to encourage learners to recognise themselves as entrepreneurs!

OUR HIGHLIGHTS

Key Enterprise Events this Year

Global Entrepreneurship Week

Over **600** students engaged in activities for Global Entrepreneurship Week, and a further **18** students attended workshops to develop their entrepreneurial skills in areas such as branding, marketing, finance, budgeting, and developing a start-up idea. Learners were encouraged to come up with a problem within the college and provide a solution which could be developed into a business idea.



Inspiring Skills Competition

Learners **Anna, Brooke, Maddalena, Kenneth and Rishi** took part in the Skills Competition Wales Enterprise Competition in UWTSO, Swansea. They had to produce an idea for a sustainable business and present it to a team of judges and the other participants. When asked what they gained from the experience Kenneth said "it was an excellent opportunity to develop my team working skills with people who I didn't really know! The fast-paced environment coupled with the 'venture capital' styled competition made it both challenging and enjoyable. Overall, this experience solidified our confidence in our abilities and built on our enterprise minds." Anna agreed by adding that "in addition to being able to improve my creativity, it gave me the opportunity to develop and expand my understanding of business and apply it practically."



Christmas Market

The highlight of our enterprise programme this year was our first Christmas Market. **38** students took part with over 20 stalls, including crochet, paintings, crafts and baked goods. Learners also had social enterprises, raising money for Noah's Ark Appeal and Crisis at Christmas. Learners explored marketing and pricing strategies, as well as logistical challenges, such as Food Hygiene and payment methods. Overall, the stall holders made a profit of over **£2000**. We had positive outcomes for learners whose comments included "communicating with customers really improved my confidence," and "this is the first time getting real-life sales experience - I enjoyed making custom orders, working as a team, and decorating our stall." We hope to run a bigger event next year to increase the number of stalls on offer.



Culture Day

One of the most popular dates on the St David's Catholic College calendar is our Culture Day. 30 students were given a small budget to provide food and entertainment to innovatively represent their culture, highlighting how entrepreneurship is embedded across College life. They were encouraged to develop their events management, budgeting and marketing skills to advertise the activities on offer.



LOOKING FORWARD

We are committed to building on the success of our enterprise provision and expanding opportunities for all learners to develop entrepreneurial skills and mindsets. We strive to ensure that every learner has access to meaningful, future-focused support and experiences that prepare them for success in an evolving world of work and enterprise.

- Expand opportunities for enterprise education to break down barriers, including workshops on entrepreneurial skills and concepts, e.g. networking and marketing;
- Continue to embed entrepreneurship in Insight Days aligned with emerging sectors, including the Green Economy;
- Strengthen partnerships with local entrepreneurs to provide real-world experiences;
- Provide targeted, tailored support to learners from underrepresented backgrounds to ensure equity in accessing enterprise opportunities;
- Continue to promote Social Enterprise in line with the College's Catholic ethos;
- Continue to encourage learners to test-trade ideas in a low-risk environment;
- Showcase learner success stories and enterprise-related opportunities through increased presence of the Launchpad on the College's website to inspire, and
- Continue to empower staff to embed entrepreneurial education across the curriculum and College life, ensuring its relevance to all subject areas is promoted.



St David's
Coleg Catholig Dewi Sant
Catholic Sixth Form College



Launchpad
Safle Lansio



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



St David's
Coleg Catholig Dewi Sant
Catholic Sixth Form College



@stdavidscollege



@stdavidscoll