

CYPE SP 35

Ymateb gan: Dr Glenn Strachan

Response from: Dr Glenn Strachan

Beth yn eich barn chi yw'r prif flaenoriaethau neu'r materion y dylai'r Pwyllgor eu hystyried yn ystod y Chweched Senedd? Os oes modd, nodwch eich barn o ran sut y gallai'r Pwyllgor fynd i'r afael â hyn.

What do you consider to be the main priorities or issues that the Committee should consider during the Sixth Senedd? Where possible, please set out your view about how the Committee could address them.

Thema 1: Addysg oedran ysgol | Theme 1: School-age education

The world in which the current school population are going to spend the majority of their adult lives is going to be very different from that of their parents and grandparents generations. Helping school-aged young people manage this change by supporting positive future expectations is important to counter disillusion, as many old career structures and lifestyle patterns disappear.

Issues relating to climate change and the ecological emergency are going to be prominent in the lives of school-aged young people in the next five years and beyond. The mental and physical well-being of many young people is likely to be adversely affected by the implications of these issues for their futures. First and foremost young people need a sound scientific understanding of these issues to avoid additional stress caused by false theories and rumours, which is primarily a role for schools. But beyond this they need opportunities inside and outside schools to share their concerns, to feel part of a supportive community and to be empowered to influence their own future.

Initiatives that build on the Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC) document for schools and incorporate mental well-being strategies could be introduced in schools and in points in the community such as sports clubs, performing arts groups, outward bound activities and cultural activities



Thema 2: Addysg bellach ac addysg uwch | Theme 2: Further and higher education

Similar concerns raised in Theme 1 will carry through to FE and HE. Here the more immediate futures of young people will be brought into sharper focus in relation to vocational choices and career opportunities. Climate change and the ecological emergency will have a negative impact on many traditional employment routes, but the transition to a greener economy should provide new opportunities. Young people are increasingly having to consider alternative options to traditional employment such as self-employment and entrepreneurship. A better understanding of these options and the associated skills required need to be given a higher profile in FE and HE.

The concept of preparing young people for a fast changing world has been around in FE and HE for many years, but the changes that are likely to occur in future will be even faster and more dramatic. These sectors of education need initiatives that will provide young people with the mental resilience to deal with significant shifts in the career paths and personal livelihoods of young people

Thema 3: Iechyd a lles, gan gynnwys gofal cymdeithasol (i'r graddau y maent yn ymwneud â phlant a phobl ifanc) | Theme 3: Health and well-being, including social care (as they relate to children and young people)

My particular area of interest and expertise is education in its broadest sense and the concerns I have raised in Themes 1 and 2 link the impact of the climate and ecological crises to the health and well-being of young people.

Thema 4: Plant a phobl Ifanc | Theme 4: Children and young people

This may or may not be within the scope of the Committee, but the largest support of, and influence on, young people are their parents and thought should be given to initiatives to help parents in supporting young people with anxiety over their futures as a result of the climate and ecological crises. This could take the form of information resources.

