



Jayne Bryant MS
Chair,
Senedd Children, Young People and Education Committee
Cardiff Bay
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26 October 2021

Dear Jayne,

Audit Wales report - A Picture of Higher and Further Education

You may have seen the recent Audit Wales report - A Picture of Higher and Further Education – published on 21 October 2021 (<https://www.audit.wales/publication/picture-higher-and-further-education>).

ColegauCymru is concerned at some of the findings, including that the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic seems to have been most negative for those in the vocational sector, especially at lower qualification levels, and for learners who are already vulnerable due to deprivation, circumstances at home or learning disabilities.

We also note the points raised in the Audit Wales report in relation to the Welsh Government proposed Commission for Tertiary Education and Research (CTER) Bill. ColegauCymru agrees that the need for the CTER leadership to inspire trust among all relevant partners is vital. The comments from the report are timely and highly relevant as we continue to feel the impact of lockdown and disrupted learning.



For this reason, we suggest that the Children, Young People and Education Committee consider the Audit Wales report as a matter of urgency, prior to scrutiny of the proposed CTER Bill.

ColegauCymru is happy to support any work that the Committee may wish to undertake on this issue.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Rachel Bowen
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