

Emma Verrier

Chief Executive Officer

Welsh Independent Schools Council

25 February 2025

Dear Emma,

Apprenticeship pathways – work experience

The Senedd's Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee is currently holding an inquiry into apprenticeship pathways. Amongst other issues, the Committee is looking at the information about apprenticeships provided to learners. This includes good practice between careers services, schools, colleges and employers in terms of promoting apprenticeships and the provision of meaningful work experience.

I am aware of research that indicates pupils at independent schools benefit from better careers advice and are much more likely to secure work experience placements than their peers in state schools. We are keen to hear the Independent Schools Council's views on careers advice and work experience so we can take it into account as part of our inquiry.

In particular, we would like to hear your views and experience on the following:

- How is careers advice and guidance provided in independent schools?
- How are learners informed about all of the choices available to them upon leaving school?
- What other factors influence the choices learners make?
- Is there standard practice in providing meaningful work experience for learners?



Thank you for your time considering this request. I would be grateful if you could reply by Friday 14 March.

Yours sincerely,

Andrew RT Davies

Andrew RT Davies MS

Chair: Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English

