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Dadlau
Dewis**

—
**Discover
Debate
Decide**

Children and Young People Committee

Inquiry into how the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009 is working

Young people's version



What is the National Assembly for Wales?
The National Assembly for Wales is made up of 60 Assembly Members from across Wales. They are elected by the people of Wales to represent them and their communities, make laws for Wales and to ensure the Welsh Government is doing its job properly.

Inquiry into how the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009 is working

In 2009 the Welsh Government made a new law called the Learning and Skills (Wales) Measure 2009. Part of what the Children and Young People Committee do is to check whether the Welsh Government is doing its job properly. The Committee wanted to know if this new law is working in the way it should be.

The main thing the new law tried to do was to give rights to pupils in Wales (aged 14–19 years old) to have more choices of the courses they could do – both academic and practical courses. The new law also said that pupils should have help, support and careers advice from a person like a teacher, careers advisor or a Learning coach support to help decide which courses to do ages 14–19.

We asked young people in Wales what they thought about the new law.

Young people aged 14–19 took part in this inquiry and filled out 790 questionnaires. Four young people came to speak directly to Assembly Members in the Senedd.



A written plan

The new law said young people have the right to have written or online plan which was designed to meet the needs of each pupil and listed the courses they would be doing. The plan would be called a 'Learning Pathway Plan'.

We asked young people whether they had a written or online plan for the courses they were going to do.

Only half the young people we spoke to had a plan.

The Committee says that the Welsh Government should make sure that the written or online plans should be used in the same way in all schools. If they need to, the Welsh Government should speed up how these plans are being used.



Travelling

The new law meant that some young people travelled to a different school or college for some of their lessons.

We asked young people whether they travelled to another school or college. If they did travel, we asked them how this had affected them.

More than one in four young people travelled to another school or college for some of their lessons. Lots of people told us that they did not like having to travel.

The Committee says that the Welsh Government should look again at how much pupils have to travel because of the new law. They should look at things like the time it takes to travel; whether pupils who don't want to travel have less choices of courses and what effect travel is having on younger pupils.



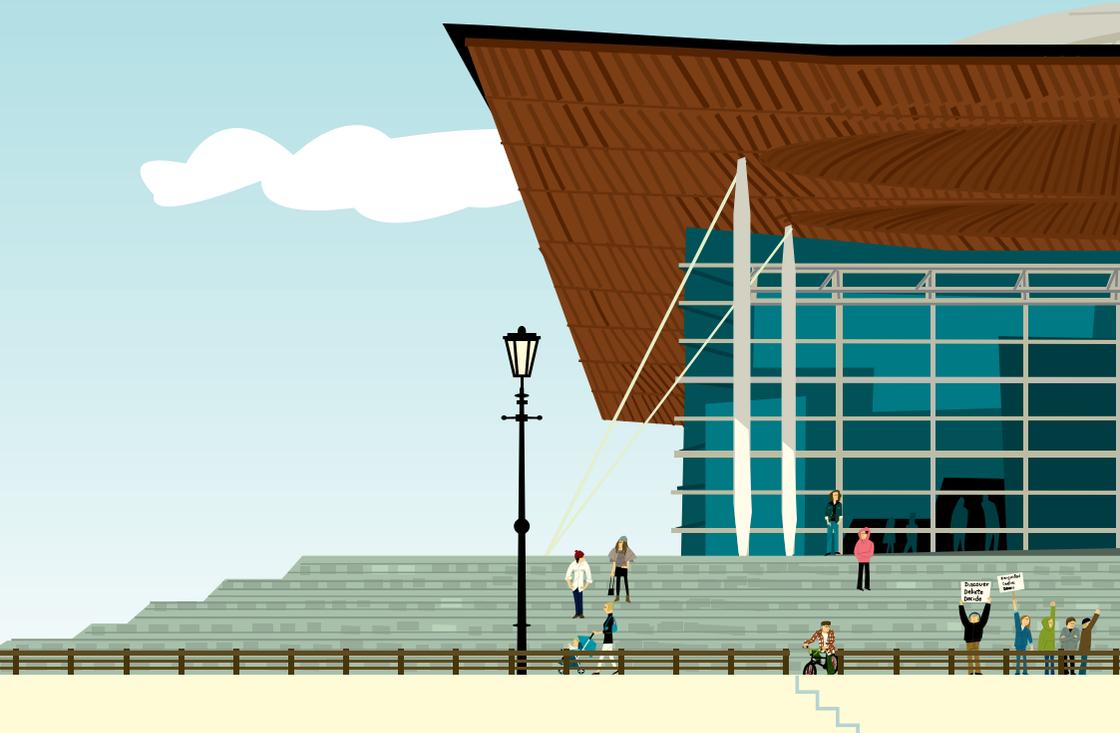
Help and support in making choices

The new law said that pupils aged 14–19 should have help, support and careers advice from a person like a teacher, careers advisor or 'learning coach' to help them decide which courses to do.

We asked young people whether they got help and support from someone in their school when choosing which courses to do.

Nearly one in five young people said that they did not get this help and support.

The Committee says that the Welsh Government should urgently look at what support pupils are being offered and whether all young people are getting the same support.

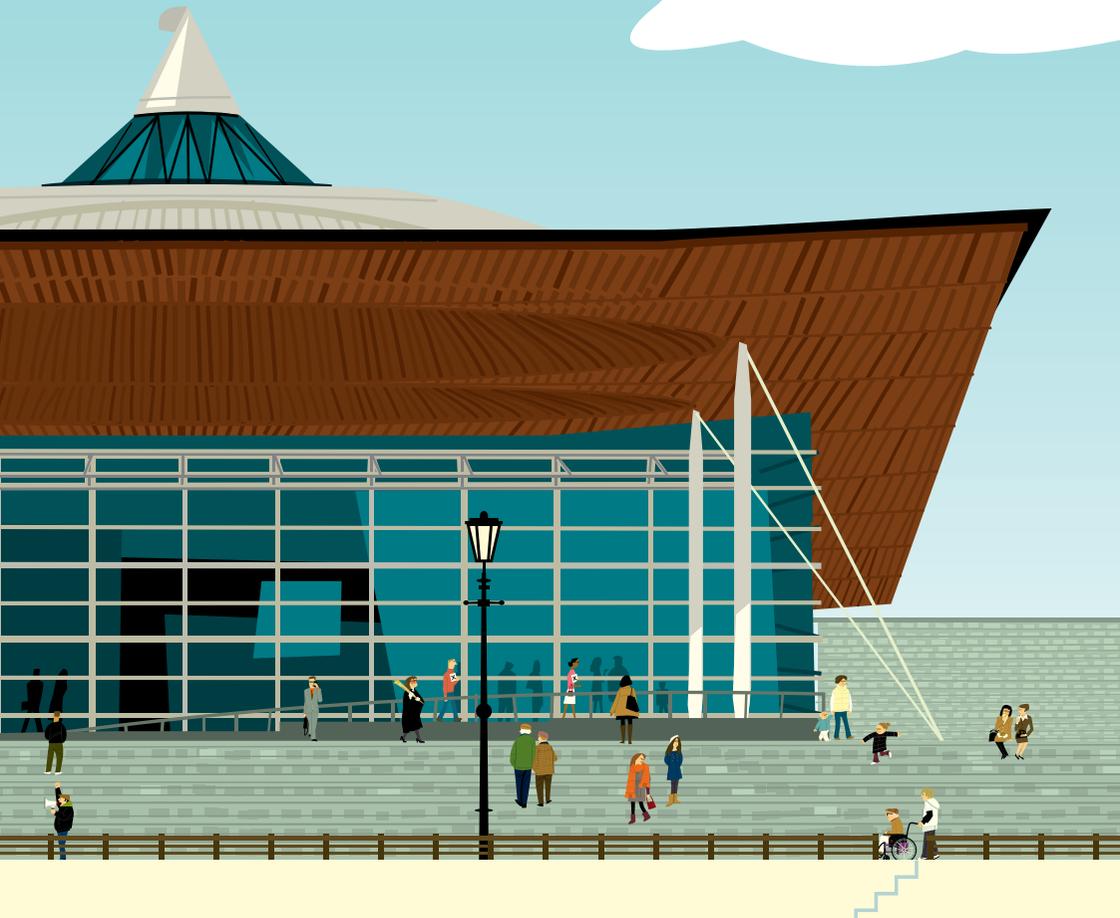


Courses in Welsh

We asked young people who wanted to do their courses in Welsh whether they had been able to.

More than one in five young people said that they had not been able to do all the courses they wanted to in Welsh.

The Committee says that the Welsh Government should look at how the new law is affecting Welsh schools or schools where some of the lessons are taught in Welsh.



Getting a job

We asked young people if they thought the courses they did in school would help them get a job.

More than one in ten said no or they were not sure.

The Committee says that the Welsh Government should look at what it can do quickly to get employers more involved in deciding what courses are on offer to young people. People who decide what courses are offered to young people should also know more about what types of skills employers want from young people.





**Aberaeron School
Aelwyd yr Ynys – Anglesey
Bridgend College
Cardiff and Vale College
Coleg Llandrillo
Coleg Menai
Coleg Powys, Newtown
Coleg Sir Gâr
Deeside College
Flint High School
Gowerton Comprehensive School
John Beddoes School
KPC Youth Club – Bridgend
Llamau
Llandrindod High School
Merthyr Tydfil College
Milford Haven School
Neath Port Talbot College
Rhyl High School
Rhyl Youth Action Group
Sandfields Youth Club – Port Talbot
St Cenydd School – Caerphilly
St Cyres School, Penarth
The College, Rhymney
Tregaron Communities First –Pontrhydygroes
The Urdd
Yale College
Ysgol Brynrefail
Ysgol Dyffryn Ogwen
Ysgol Glan Clwyd
Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg
Ysgol Gyfun Dyffryn Teifi
Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni
Ysgol Syr Hugh Owen
Ysgol Tryfan
Ystrad Mynach College
Ysgol y Creuddyn**

The Assembly Members on the Committee asked lots of other people like councils and teachers what they think of the new law. Based on this the Committee have written a list of other things which they say the Welsh Government should do. This list is in the full report your school or youth group has been sent.

Contact us

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