So why is this important?

- Maximising the number of EET young people reduces the effects of poverty and the wider cost to society of support services, reliance on benefits and offending.
- It is essential to maximise the life opportunities of young people, ensuring that as many as possible are able to progress to 6th forms, Further Education Colleges, apprenticeships, training provision or work.
- It enables young people to contribute positively to their local communities.

Why this should concern us?

- In a globalising world, the perpetual march of technology and automation requires that young people are fully equipped for the challenges and opportunities of 21st Century working life. We aspire for our learners and young people to be work-ready - for entering a high wage, high-skill economy and be able to successfully compete in, and actively contribute to, regional regeneration if they chose to live and work in south west Wales.
- The % of Carmarthenshire Year 11 pupils who became NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) in 2017 was 1.4% (27 pupils) a reduction on 2016 of 2.1% (40 pupils), the % of Carmarthenshire Year 13 pupils who became NEET was 3% (20 pupils) in 2017 up from 2.0% (14 pupils) in 2016.
- Carmarthenshire ranks 13th (of 22) Local Authorities in Wales for Year 11 pupils becoming NEET and above the All-Wales average of 1.6%. *(2018 data available in April 2019)*

What do we need to do?

- We need to ensure that all children and young people in Carmarthenshire have the best possible opportunities to study, train and gain worthwhile employment locally, regionally or nationally.
- We will ensure that all vulnerable learners including those with a disability or additional learning needs are not excluded from programmes.
- We need to continue to deliver the six elements of the Welsh Government’s Youth Engagement and Progression Framework (YEPF) which comprises of:
  - Identifying young people at risk of becoming NEET; Providing brokerage and co-ordinated support for young people; Improve tracking and transition support; Ensuring provision meets the needs of young people; Strengthening employability skills and entrepreneurship; Ensuring we are accountable for our actions.

How will we do this?

A. We will build on existing partnership relationships with local businesses and the public sector through the **Carmarthenshire Curriculum Review** to focus skills demands and employability of new and existing labour market entrants within Carmarthenshire to ensure that local and regional demands are met. Also see **Well-being Objectives 5+6 Action Plans re Hub and Regional Learning Partnership**. We will ensure that opportunities afforded by the new curriculum for Wales are dovetailed in Carmarthenshire’s local curriculum with 21st century skills needs and gaps fully considered.

B. We will implement the six **Youth Engagement and Progression Framework** Actions above.

C. We will deliver the local elements of the **Cynnydd** and **Cam Nesa European Social Fund projects** (guaranteed funding till 2018-2020) which assists young people in progressing to further education, training and employment during the Post 16 education phase, while also working together with alternative curriculum provision to replace the services offered through the Cynnydd and Cam Nesa Projects, post Brexit by 2020 onwards.
Key Measure of Success

Number of leavers Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) Year 11 (PAM/009) & Year 13 (5.1.0.2)

Destination data for Carmarthenshire Y11 pupils (Academic Year 2016-17)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuing in full-time education - School</td>
<td>42.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing in full-time education - College</td>
<td>46.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing in Part time Education</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work based training - non employed status</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work based training - employment status</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed - other</td>
<td>2.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Known not to be in Education, Training or Employment</td>
<td>1.4% (27 of 1,830 pupils)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No response to survey</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Left the area</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An example of what we are doing

How does the Vulnerability Assessment Profile (VAP) help support those at risk of becoming NEET?
The VAP is an initiative within the Welsh Government’s Youth Engagement and Progression Framework. It plays an integral part in the early identification of those at great risk of becoming NEET and involves the School and a range of agencies.

- Vulnerable pupils are identified through a scoring system based on pupil data; behaviour, attendance, attainment, etc.
- Pupils scoring a Red or Amber score are discussed in the VAP meeting at the respective school.
- At School VAP meetings, staff use their knowledge of the young person and family context to describe their current issues and highlight concerns which add to a higher holistic VAP score.
- VAP meetings focus on the nature of the vulnerability of each young person, what interventions have been offered, what has worked, what else could be offered and which agencies are involved.
- Careers Wales update on the next step for year 11 pupils such as which college course or which training provider they have applied for or been accepted on.
- Coleg Sir Gar representatives promote the February taster week offering a variety of different curriculum areas and offer college transition support during the Summer holidays.
- Cynnydd offers engagement activities such as positive mentoring and a critical friend, hands-on activities such as multi-media, STEM, outdoor, sport and fitness, and a focus on a positive next step for year 11 pupils, which can include transition support and access to additional qualifications. Other strands of Cynnydd support includes emotional wellbeing and work placements which prepare young people to be work-place ready.
- If a young person has no plans at the end of year 11 and is likely to become NEET, a referral will be made to the post 16 youth work team and to Cam Nesa.

Lead Executive Board Member Cllr Glynog Davies

View our detailed delivery plan against this objective