

HITZARGIAK – Languages illuminating each other

Theatr Ieuenctid Môn

GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE: 2016-03-21

1	Name	Menter Môn
2	Language	Welsh
3	Working area (education, communication, teaching, leisure, administration...)	Teaching, leisure
4	Email and phone number for contact	Helen Thomas – Lead Language Officer helen@mentermon.com // 01248 725700
5	Social networks (Webpage, Facebook, Twitter...)	Website: http://www.mentermon.com/index.php Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/mentermon/ Twitter: https://twitter.com/mentermon

DESCRIPTION OF GOOD PRACTICE

1	Description of the practices	Theatr Ieuenctid Môn
2	Brief description of the practices	<p>The structure of the Theatre enables beneficiaries to develop through weekly lessons, enjoy specialist classes and holiday sessions, and it can also signpost towards casting opportunities for television, theatre, film and radio work.</p> <p>TIM workshops are held in 4 permanent centers on the island of Ynys Môn to ensure accessibility as Ynys Môn is considered a rural area with transportation difficulties. As well as influencing the children and young people who take part, we indirectly influence the parents, encouraging language transmission within the family. It's great for them to see the children enjoying themselves, and it gives adults the confidence to learn or speak Welsh for the benefits of the children.</p> <p>The influence of Social Media to advertise and promote our services is important. Most of our activities are advertised on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, and by seeing photos of their children and following or liking our page, parents are instantly directed to other opportunities and projects that might be of interest to them.</p> <p>We work closely with the local schools, and we have found that offering taster classes during school time helps promote our activities and improves understanding about our provision. These workshops are held by the tutors so beneficiaries know their tutors beforehand. We also work closely with youth organizations, as they may have connections that could be beneficial and specialist sessions can be tailored or commissioned.</p>



	<p>We keep the cost of the project as low as we can to ensure accessibility. It is a Welsh language provision, but Welsh learners are also welcome as they improve their Welsh speaking skills and their confidence as they are immersed in a naturally Welsh provision.</p>
<p>3 Precedents (reasons, needs...)</p>	<p>The youth theatre was established to create social opportunities in Welsh for children and young people where they could develop new skills in a fun and friendly environment. The theatre can take us anywhere, bringing characters and new places alive with words and imagination.</p> <p>The Theatr Ieuencid (Youth Theatre) uses the theatre and drama to develop skills in performing and creativity, and over time, these skills can be applied to many other situations. Emphasis is placed on children and young people's personal and social development, which in turn can help to encourage increased self-confidence, self-image and self-respect.</p>
<p>4 Objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For this particular project our varied workshops offer musical and theatrical opportunities to develop new skills through the medium of Welsh • Our aim is to provide activity based workshops that happen to be through the medium of Welsh, therefore the use of the language becomes a natural experience
<p>5 Main and close working areas</p>	<p>Language is our working area, and we have developed many projects which enable every member of our community to enjoy opportunities in Welsh.</p> <p>We work within the 4 main strategic priorities as identified in the Welsh Government's Language Strategy – The Family; Young People; The Community; The Workplace.</p> <p>We help encourage language transition within the family through various structured projects and workshops; provide social opportunities for children and young people to socialize naturally through the medium of Welsh; hold events and activities in our local communities to enable everyone to enjoy and embrace the Welsh language and help support workplaces and businesses to increase their use of Welsh as an USP and for the benefit of the local economy.</p>
<p>6 Collaborating entities and their working areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urdd – Welsh Language Youth Organization • TWF – Introducing Welsh to babies from day 1 • Cymraeg i Oedolion – Welsh for Adults lessons • Ffermwyr Ifanc – Young Farmers Society
<p>7 Implementation period</p>	<p>The Theatre was established in 2000 with weekly workshops held for 7-11 year old children in Amlwch, Llanfairpwll and Llangefni. By today we have a further workshop in Caergybi / Holyhead and hoping to establish another by the new academic school year. We also have workshops for older members aged between 11 – 18 years old held weekly in the Town Hall in Llangefni</p>

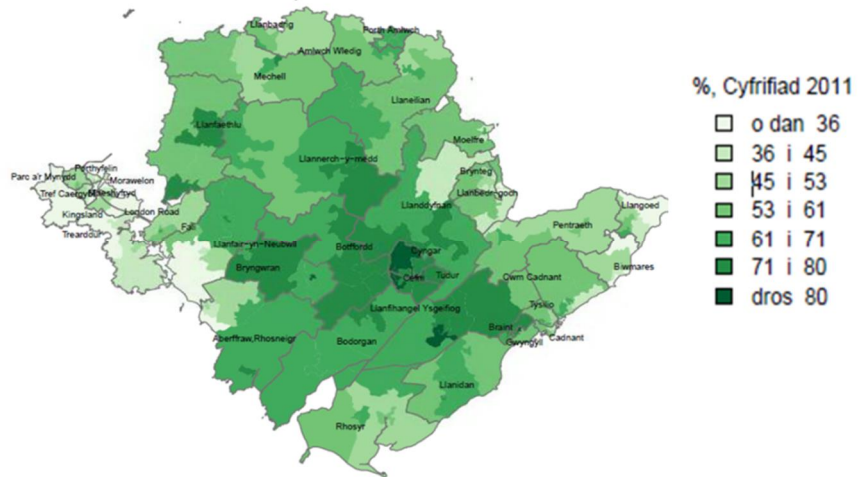
FILE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BEST PRACTICES

8	Expansion (number of influenced people, internal and external expansion...)	We have over 100 children and young people attending our workshops on a weekly basis. As every academic year comes to an end we naturally lose a few members but through consistent and constant promotion those numbers are made up again. Currently, we have a waiting list for the next term. In the coming months we aim to increase the number of children and young people we work with and reach out further afield by establishing another theatre group in a more rural location
9	Investment (economic, time, people...)	One full time member of staff (38 hours a week) co-coordinating the project. An additional 5 freelance tutors, our main resources. We work closely with the tutors to provide the best possible experience for our beneficiaries. Many of our tutors work towards staging a simple staged production at the end of the term. We provide support in costumes to make up, to stage and lighting. We also encourage our older beneficiaries to support the staging of such productions, giving them opportunities to learn new skills and develop their knowledge of the theatre
10	Results	<p>We monitor and evaluate our provisions constantly – through tutors’ observations, beneficiaries’ feedback either verbally or through a more standardized method at the end of a particular session or any term.</p> <p>We currently have over 100 children and young people attending our weekly workshops. Over 80% of these beneficiaries agree that they gained more confidence in speaking Welsh after attending our workshops. Having fun is key to learning any new skill, and this is what we do so brilliantly here.</p> <p>90% have increased confidence skills and 80% noted that they had more self-belief after taking part in our workshops.</p>
11	Documentation, reference material	<p>http://www.mentermon.com/theatr-ieuenctid-mon.htm</p> <p>http://www.ieuenctidmon.co.uk/index.php/en/</p>
12	Other relevant information	<p>Menter Môn was established in 1995 with the main objective of maximizing the various resources we have here on Anglesey. Menter Iaith Môn was established two years later as part of Menter Môn following a successful application to the then Welsh Language Board. 18 years later Menter Môn provides a cross section of activities that supports efforts to maintain the Welsh language locally.</p> <p>The work of Menter Iaith Môn is realised by 8 members of staff and 4 regular freelancers. Our work is also supported by 18 volunteers. We are also a member of a national network, Mentrau Iaith Cymru where there is constant support and opportunities to develop professional skills as well as great support for all our national efforts across Wales to give status to the Welsh language.</p> <p>Our mission is to offer varied and exciting opportunities for everyone in Welsh. We want Anglesey to remain a stronghold of the Welsh Language and encourage all residents to embrace their Welsh confidently and proudly within their</p>

communities, thereby enabling them to develop their personal and social skills.

Short description of the sociolinguistic situation: Ynys Môn, Cymru (Anglesey)

According to the 2011 census 38,568 or 57% of the people of Anglesey speak Welsh. This makes Ynys Môn one of the strongholds of the Welsh language.



Between 2001 and 2011 there was a decrease in the number of Welsh speakers (38,893 to 38,568) with percentages falling from 60.1% to 57.2%. In 2011, 45.6% were able to speak, read and write Welsh. 10.7% could understand Welsh. 30.4% had no Welsh skills.

The general population increased from 67,800 in 2001 to 69,700 in 2011 (an increase of 2.8%). This has not been a natural growth (more deaths than births over the decade), so the increase in population is due to migration. On average, 2350 people moved from the rest of the UK to Anglesey every year in the decade from 2001 to 2011. Around 2200 people move out of Wales to other areas in the UK (including students), thereby resulting in a positive net migration of about 150 people each year.

The highest negative net migration was among the 15-19 age-group with approximately 210 on average moving out of Wales rather than coming in. For all other age groups except for 70+ years, there has been a positive net migration.

There are 27 wards where over half the population can speak Welsh, and three wards in Llangefni where over 80% of the population speaks Welsh. The numbers decrease as we look at the coastal and seaside areas towns - Trearddur (38%), Beaumaris (39%) Benllech (48%), Rhosneigr (36%).

The positive net migration naturally impacts the language use as more non Welsh speakers move into the area.