

Inspiring Skills Excellence

Benchmarking through Competition Activity



Ariennir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Funded by
Welsh Government



What is Inspiring Skills Excellence in Wales?

- Encourage engagement in Skills Competitions to raise standards
- Support national and international competitors to develop their skills to a world class standard
- Provide sector specific professional development for practitioners in Wales
- Promote vocational education through the use of “Have a Go” equipment



Ysbrydoli Sgiliau
Inspiring Skills

Skills Competitions

Opportunity to develop higher technical and employability skills



Game On

“Competition is always a good thing. It forces us to do our best”

Nancy Pearcey

Menti.com

Code: 7963 0131



What are Skills Competitions?

Skills Olympics

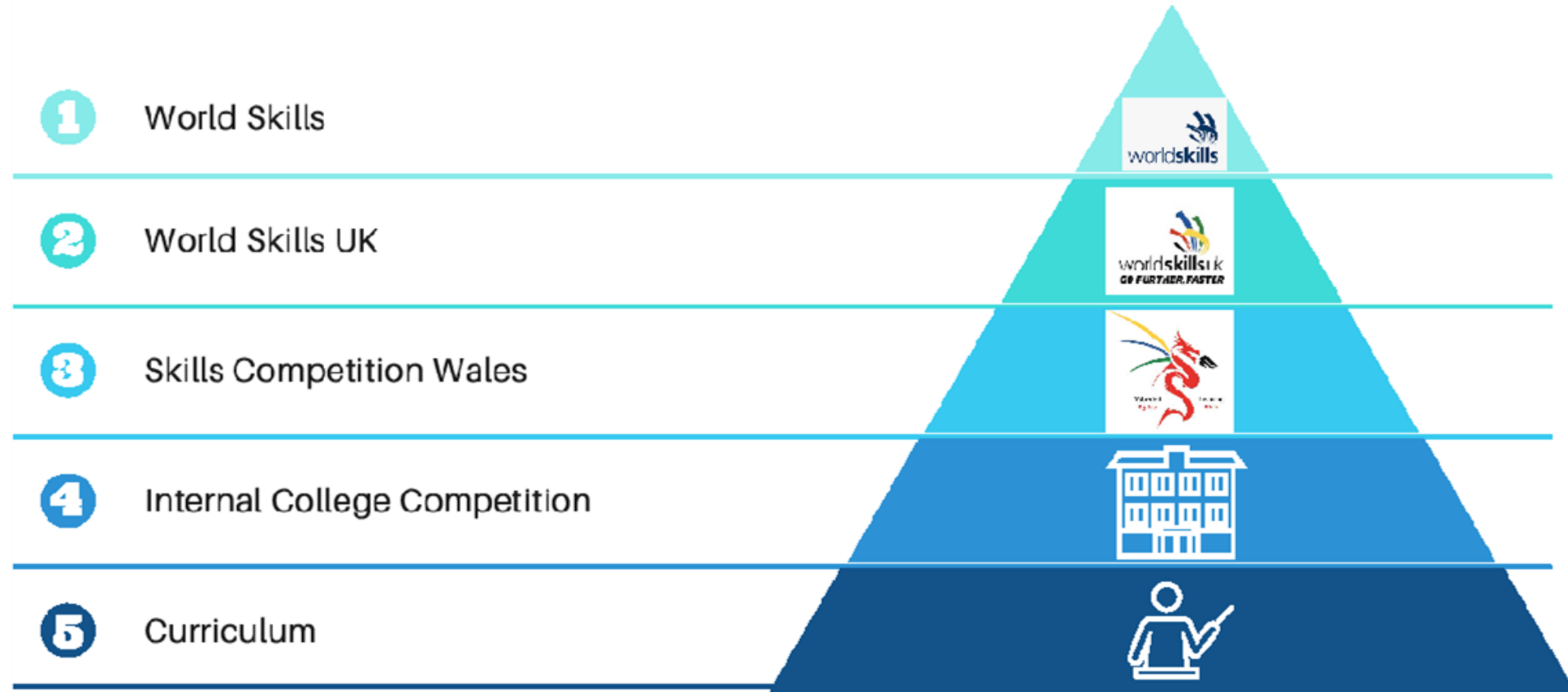
Competitions in a selection of vocational areas

Delivered regionally, nationally and internationally

Opportunity for students, trainees and apprentices to benchmark and raise their skills

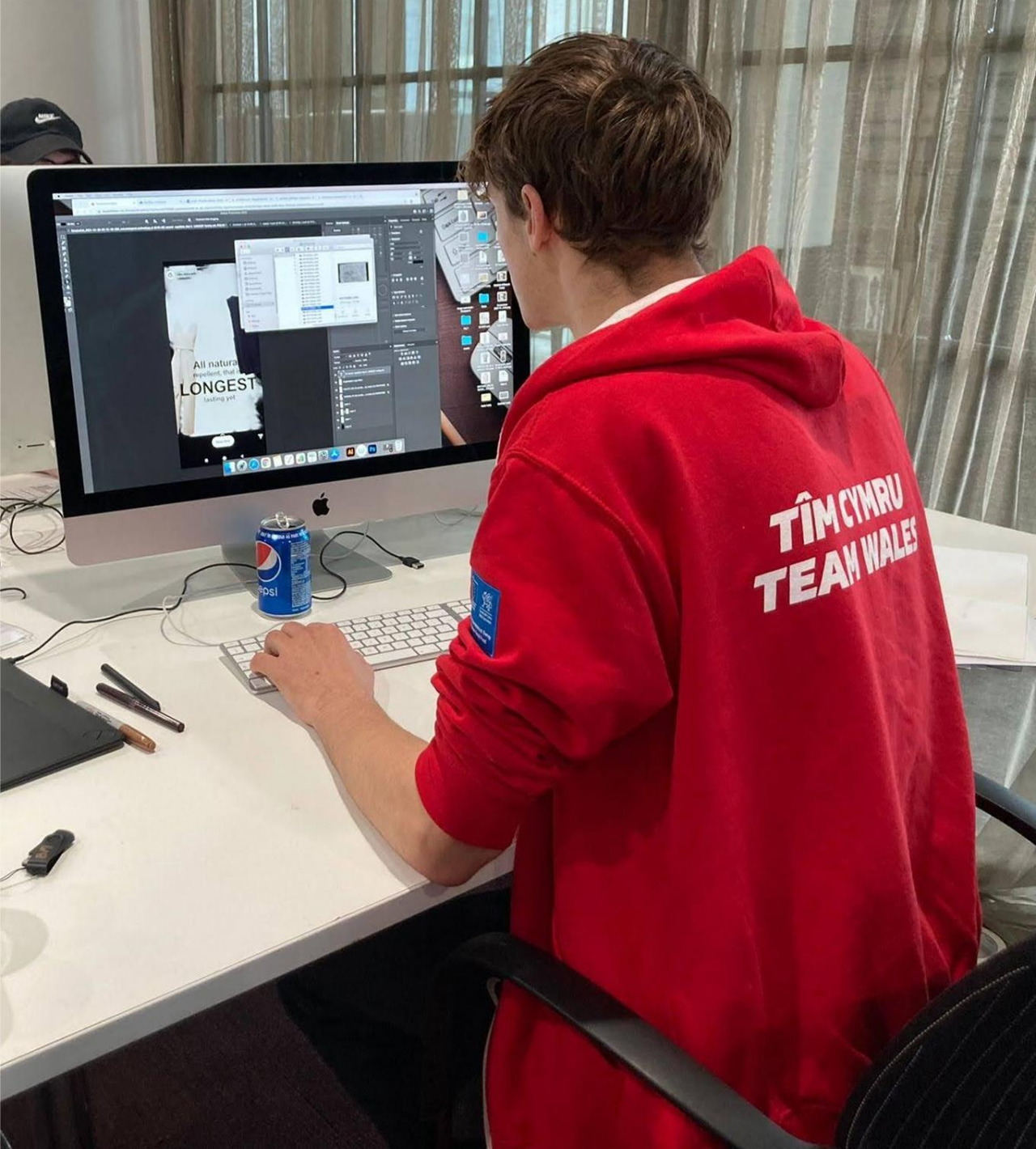
Want to stand out from your peers and accelerate into the world of work?

Skills Competitions Pathway



What is Skills Competition Wales?

- Competitions local to Wales funded by Welsh Government
- Competition are run by a dedicated network of colleges, work-based learning providers and employer-led organisations.
- 50+ competitions delivered across 4 Sectors
- Successful winners from the competition can progress to WorldSkills UK competitions and can go on to become part of the UK squad for WorldSkills International competitions.



What is WorldSkills UK?

- WorldSkills UK is an independent charity and a partnership between employers, education and governments.
- 50+ competitions delivered across 4 Sectors
- A member of WorldSkills, a global movement of over 80 countries

www.worldskillsuk.org



worldskillsuk
excellence at work

**WorldSkills UK: excellence
at work**

What is Skill Build?



- The largest construction competition for apprentices and full-time learners in the UK is back and this year, following on from an incredible National Finals, it's even bigger and better!
- 10 competitions delivered

www.goconstruct.org/skillbuild/

What is WorldSkills?

WorldSkills supports young people across the world via competitions-based training, assessment and benchmarking, with members' national teams ultimately testing their ability to achieve world-class standards in the biennial 'skills olympics'



Our Building Blocks

WorldSkills builds confidence, empowers communities, and helps to fuel economies



Inspire

We inspire young people to develop a passion for skills and pursuing excellence, through competitions and promotions.



Develop

We develop skills through global training standards, benchmarking systems, and enhancing industry engagement.



Influence

We influence industry, government, and educators through cooperation and research – building a global platform of skills for all.



Ensuring Inclusion



Portfolio of skills designed for young people with disabilities and learning difficulties to challenge, benchmark and raise their skills by taking part in competitions across a range of sectors.

Where do I fit in?



WorldSkills



World Skills UK



Skills Competition Wales



Competitive activity in the workplace

When to get involved?



September -
SCW Briefs
Released



November
World Skills
UK Finals

**November -
December**
SCW
Registration



**January –
February**
Skills
Competition
Wales

March
SCW Awards



**February -
March**
World Skills
UK
Registration



June
SCW
Steering
Group



June – July
World Skills
UK
Regional
Heats



World Skills/
Euro Skills
(Every 2
years)

Skills Competitions opening doors to employment

What the learner have to say?

92% of learners said that taking part in Skills Competition Wales 2019 improved their **practical skills**

91% of learners said that taking part in Skills Competition Wales 2019 improved their **motivation**

87% of learners said that taking part in Skills Competition Wales 2019 improved their **confidence and self esteem**

“It was a great event and gave me knowledge and insights to the industry I’m trying to get into”

“I feel as if the competition has motivated me to carry on what I’m doing even more, it’s opened my eyes on how to work in the gym industry “

Tom Williamson's success beyond Shanghai disappointment



While Tom Williamson may have missed out on a spot in the UK Team for WorldSkills Shanghai 2022, his skills competition journey and perseverance through the Covid-19 pandemic is inspiring.

Upon returning to work post-pandemic and having completed a number of major projects successfully for the company, Tom was promoted to team leader.

Tom explains: "My employer recognised that I was on a significant journey and discussed how he could support me through this training period. Whenever my sector Champion spoke about my next phase of training my employer was always happy to release me for that period of time. Training and support from ISEIW was great and made a significant difference to my development as a competitor."

Tom also attended some of the events organised by ISEIW for all the Welsh competitors. They would attend a boot camp and learn new strategies in dealing with the challenges they would face on their journey which was beneficial for all of the competitors.

Unfortunately, Tom was not selected for the final WSUK Team, however, his journey will now continue in a different direction – as his career has been further fast tracked and Tom is now responsible for helping manage all the training for apprentices. Moving forward Tom is working with ISEIW by delivering as part of the Construction & Engineering workshops with electrical themed workshop, to help inspire the next generation of learners within the Have a Go programme.

Tom explains: "From my experience I don't think I would be this far advanced in my career and held in such high esteem by my employer, I am grateful for this tremendous experience.

"I would like to extend my thanks to the ISEIW team for the support they have given over the years and now look forward to the next phase of potentially working with the team to perhaps offer CPD as well as preparing apprentices for competitions."

Skills competitions open doors for people with additional learning needs



Skills competitions are kickstarting careers for young people with additional learning needs

Bluestone is just one business in Wales giving competitors paid job placements

Young people with additional learning needs are being given a platform to showcase their skills in a competitive environment to help secure placements in the working world.

King, Morgan and Cecily, from Pembrokeshire, are just one group of learners whose performance at [Skills Competition Wales](#) and [WorldSkills UK](#) has helped them land paid work experience.

They are currently on a supported Internship programme with major Welsh employer, [Bluestone National Park Resort](#), having impressed the award-winning resort destination after their triumph in skills competitions.

Job success following Gold medal at Skills Competition Wales



Following winning gold at Skills Competition Wales this March, and a successful interview, Katie Pearce from Pontprennau has been offered a full time position as a Customer Service Advisor at Itec Skills.

The teenager, who left school with no GCSEs, won the gold medal in the Inclusive Skills: Customer Service competition, which involved demonstrating key skills and attributes required in customer service, and how to provide customers with a good experience.

The competition included three tasks: producing a written email response to questions raised by customers, producing a written response to two questions relating to the fundamentals of customer service, and dealing with two different role play situations.

Developing Excellence

- CPD opportunity for staff in education or training to broaden their knowledge and to update their skills.
- We offer professionals the opportunity to collaborate and network with experts in the field and participate in technical training sessions.



What is the purpose of using competitive activity in the workplace?

Can be used as part of assessment (summative assessment)

Identifies areas for development (formative assessment)

Allows practical application of skills (in real world scenarios)

Opportunity to stretch and challenge skills

Prepares employees for national / international competition

Opportunities to engage stakeholders – raise profile of the course

Getting Involved

- **Showcase Skills Competitions as an opportunity to develop skills excellence and the employability skills required by industry**
- **Promote key timelines to actively encourage participation in competitions**
- **Recognise and celebrate the success of competitors who have engaged in competition activity**



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