

Funding Proposal: Clwb Ieuenctid Cymraeg Gilfach -Welsh Speaking Youth Club at Gilfach YMCA

Submitted by: Caerphilly Youth Service

Project Lead: Ceri Samuel, Senior Cluster Youth Worker

Venue: Gilfach YMCA, Gilfach Goch Road, Gilfach

Project: Clwb Ieuenctid Cymraeg - Welsh Speaking Youth Club

Introduction

Caerphilly Youth Service is seeking financial support from Bargoed Town Council to establish and sustain a Welsh Speaking Youth Club based at Gilfach YMCA. The project aims to provide a safe, inclusive, and engaging environment where young people can socialise, develop new skills, and increase their confidence in using the Welsh language through informal education and youth work activities.

The club will offer a valuable opportunity for Welsh-speaking young people and learners to use the Welsh language in a relaxed informal setting outside of school, helping to strengthen the language within the local community and support the Welsh Government's ambition of reaching one million Welsh speakers.

Identified Need

Many young people within the Bargoed and Gilfach communities access Welsh-medium education but have limited opportunities to use Welsh socially outside the classroom and creating a dedicated Welsh-speaking youth provision would:

- Encourage young people to use Welsh naturally in everyday situations.
- Improve confidence and fluency in the language.
- Promote Welsh culture, heritage, and identity.
- Reduce social isolation and improve emotional wellbeing.
- Provide positive activities that support personal and social development.

Project Aims

The Welsh Speaking Youth Club will:

- Provide weekly youth work sessions delivered through the medium of Welsh.
- Promote Welsh language use within the local community.
- Support young people's wellbeing, confidence, and resilience.
- Increase opportunities for social interaction and friendship building.
- Deliver cultural, recreational, and educational activities linked to Welsh heritage.
- Encourage young people to become active citizens and contribute to their community.

Proposed Activities

Sessions will enable young people to participate and engage in activities that are fun, creative and educative to support wellbeing and development whilst offering young people opportunities to express themselves, improve confidence and support wellbeing. In addition, sessions will offer a safe space for young people to develop friendships and build trusting relationships with the youth workers and the wider community. Such sessions will consist of

- Cooking.
- Arts and Crafts.
- Informal educative workshops .
- Games and quizzes.
- Community projects and volunteering opportunities.
- Celebrations linked to Welsh cultural events such as Dydd Gŵyl Dewi and the Eisteddfod.

Expected Outcomes

During the first year we anticipate:

- Increased participation in positive community-based activities – Young person Survey
- Improved confidence among young people when speaking Welsh – Monitored by our young person self-assessments (My Journey)
- Greater awareness and appreciation of Welsh culture and heritage. – Evaluations
- Development of social, emotional, and communication skills – My Journey
- Stronger connections between young people and their local community -young person Survey's

Funding Request

We respectfully request financial support from Bargoed Town Council to assist with the costs of establishing and delivering the Welsh Speaking Youth Club at Gilfach YMCA. We are seeking funding of £2,400 from Bargoed Town Council to support the cost of the hire of the building at 2:30hrs a week and the resources needed to deliver high-quality youth work and provide engaging activities throughout the 30 weeks.

Funding would contribute towards:

- Session resources and equipment.
- Activity materials.
- Guest workshop providers.
- Venue-related costs.
- Promotion and engagement materials.
- Community and cultural events.

By investing in this project, Bargoed Town Council will help create a sustainable Welsh-speaking youth provision that promotes the Welsh language, strengthens community connections, improves young people's wellbeing, and provides positive opportunities for personal and social development.

Cost Breakdown

Total funding requested: £2,400.

Item	Cost per Session	Number of Sessions	Total Cost
Session Delivery	£40	30	£1,200
Resources and Activity Materials	£40	30	£1,200
Total Funding Requested			£2,400

Any support received would have a direct impact on creating a sustainable Welsh-medium youth provision for young people within the Bargoed and Gilfach area.

Community Benefit

The project aligns with local and national priorities around youth engagement, wellbeing, community cohesion, and the promotion of the Welsh language. By investing in this initiative, Bargoed Town Council will be helping to create a positive and lasting opportunity for local young people while strengthening the presence of Welsh language and culture within the community.

Conclusion

Caerphilly Youth Service would welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with Bargoed Town Council to develop this exciting new provision. The Welsh Speaking Youth Club at Gilfach YMCA will provide a safe, welcoming, and inspiring space where young people can develop confidence, build friendships, and actively use Welsh beyond the classroom.

We thank the Council for considering this application and look forward to discussing the proposal further.

Diolch

Contact:

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Caerphilly Youth Service -