

Slide 1



Gweithgareddau
Activities

2002-2005



The slide features a large green graphic on the left side, resembling a stylized letter 'C' or a bracket. The text and logo are positioned to the right of this graphic. A dark blue horizontal bar is located below the date range.

Slide 2

Blaenoriaethau - Priorities

- Prosiect Peilot CA2 – KS2 Pilot Project
- Cynyddu'r nifer sy'n astudio ITM hyd at TGAU – Increasing KS4 take-up
- Ac ar ôl 16 – And post-16...
- Datblygu adnoddau - Developing resources
- Darparu HMS o safon uchel – Providing high quality CPD
- Cynhaliaeth a chyngor - Advice & support

Slide 3

Blaenoriaethau - Priorities

- Cynyddu'r nifer o Gynorthwywyr IT– Increasing number of FLAs
- Cydweithio gydag ESTYN, ACCAC , Consejería ayb – Collaboration with key partners
- Hybu dysgu IMT yn AU – Promoting language learning at HE level
- Ieithoedd yn y gweithle – Languages at work – LN Cymru
- Hybu cysylltiadau rhyngwladol – Encouraging international links



Director's Quarterly Report
to Welsh Assembly Government

June 2005

i. Languages and careers

CILT Cymru staff delivered 75 careers talks at 72 schools during the financial year 2004/05, addressing 10,500 school pupils to highlight the relevance of MFL skills to their future careers. Tailored talks have spanned years 9, 11 as well as induction evenings for 6th form. 5 careers conventions were also attended in the *Careers Wales West* area. Although short of our ambitious target of 100 schools, this nevertheless represents a visit to over a third of Welsh secondary schools – quite an achievement. CILT Cymru staff are to be commended for their readiness to travel considerable distances in order to deliver these talks.

As well as helping to raise the profile of MFL in schools and hopefully boosting numbers taking the subject to GCSE these visits also serve to build relationships with MFL teachers and Head Teachers and talk about Compact and KS2.

Return data has been received from 14 schools so far, of which 8 have shown an improvement, 4 are in decline, and 2 have maintained their position. On balance therefore the results so far are very positive, with the increases in take-up being recorded ranging from 10% to 26%.

The '**Languages mean Business**' DVD was successfully completed and launched at the Cardiff Hilton Hotel on April 13th, with keynote speaker BP Vice-President Simon Bowen proving to be a very powerful advocate for languages in the world of work. The launch event was well attended and received, with all the business partners from the DVD attending. The final product was featured at the 'Languages Wales' conference and has already received a favourable reaction from those who have seen it. There has been some interest from the BBC, with items appearing on the BBC website and on Y Post Cyntaf (Radio Cymru). There was also a short item in TES Cymru.

The DVD has been distributed free of charge to all schools, colleges and Careers Wales offices in Wales, together with a short feedback form. The product is also being made available to the rest of the UK via CILT Books.

The DfES-funded 'Languages Work' pack of materials in England has been adapted for use in Wales, and a bilingual version has now been completed. The materials complement those featured on the DVD, and could be used during the next round of careers talks. A free copy of the Languages Work pack will be distributed to all secondary schools, FE colleges, universities and Careers Wales offices.

Meetings have been held with the Careers Wales Association to ensure that there is a consistency of message regarding the relevance of FL skills in the modern world. We are collaborating on case studies to be featured on the Careers Wales website, and will also be drawing attention to the availability and uses of all our resources, most of which can be used by Careers Wales advisers. One such briefing session took place in Carmarthen in May.

ii. Welsh Assembly Government KS2 Project

Spring Term INSET days were delivered in North and South Wales. These were attended by a total of 75 people, and received glowing evaluations from delegates. A pleasing feature of these events was that some of the speakers came from within the project schools, showing that we are developing our own expertise here in Wales. We also received valuable support from colleagues at CILT to deliver these events.

CILT Cymru staff have made regular visits to clusters of schools, and continue to receive much positive feedback on the impact of the KS2 initiative not only at primary but also at secondary level. The KS2 team attended the excellent Primary Languages Show at Manchester to keep abreast of developments in England, where the primary initiative has benefited from major investment from DfES.

The intensive 5-day French course for primary teachers that was held in Lannion, Brittany during the Easter holidays was a pioneering event for CILT Cymru. The varied programme of activities, allied to the fact that delegates were hosted by Breton families, meant that the course received superb evaluations. We shall now consider whether the course should be held on an annual or biannual basis in future. The course attracted considerable attention from the press, both locally in Brittany and in Wales via TES Cymru.

As a result of this intensive language experience, KS2 teachers have expressed a desire to attend regular language improvement sessions in future.

CILT Cymru has continued to work closely with ACCAC on Non-Statutory Guidance to ease KS2>3 MFL transition, plus further guidance on teaching languages at KS2. Discussions are continuing as to whether dissemination

material on good practice in Early Language Learning might benefit from joint funding and badging.

CILT Cymru has assisted the People and Work Unit in its external evaluation work wherever possible, and has welcomed the presence of People & Work Unit staff at our CPD events. We are very pleased with the Interim Report on the pilot project, which contains many positive messages about the effectiveness of the pilot project in introducing PMFL, and also highlights its by-products in terms of benefits to the wider curriculum, including:

- Transition
- Citizenship
- The European and Global dimension
- Tolerance and cultural awareness

CILT Cymru will be participating in further discussions with the WAG KS2 Steering Group to determine how we should proceed with the initiative post 2006, and CJ has written to the Minister to express CILT Cymru's concerns regarding the future of primary MFL in Wales.

iii. On-line services, information and publications

The Primary section of the website has expanded considerably, and now features examples of good practice as well as a range of useful links to other key websites. A further section is being developed focusing on working abroad or spending a year abroad.

The latest edition of CILT Cymru News (Issue 9) was distributed free to all schools and colleges in Wales during May 2005, together with a free copy of the Languages mean Business DVD.

iv. CILT Cymru Compact and Roadshows

The fourth series of Roadshows has been planned and advertised, using improved flyers. The roadshows have been 'rebranded' in an attempt to draw further attention to these key free events, and it is hoped that we will be able to run 6 well-attended events over the next year.

The Compact model is working well in most cases, though it has been decided to cease funding some schools that have not successfully embraced the concept of partnership. This will, however, allow other, more committed schools to take their place, and for KH to devote more time to the schools and LEA involved.

Co-operation with Denbighshire continues to be fruitful, and a CPD 'county closure day' delivered in February proved to be an excellent means of meeting teachers throughout the LEA. Two similar sessions have been delivered in Gwynedd and this is a model which we will look to develop in

future. It is felt that we must take a decision soon as regards the future direction of the LEA Compact. Given existing staff levels the most likely option would appear to be a reduction in the level of support for Denbighshire, with a new LEA being approached for collaboration purposes. The strongest contenders would be LEAs without specialist MFL support.

v. MFL and Literacy – Making the Link

We received a total of 17 bids for a grant of £1,000 to fund action-research work in schools in the field of literacy. The quality of the bids was high, with several proposals encompassing clusters of schools and including cross-phase work. 16 bids were duly selected, and these have received notification by phone and by letter of their success.

The aim is to bring all three languages departments together (MFL/Community Languages, Welsh and English) so that pupils can develop their language-learning skills in a more planned and co-ordinated way.

Developing 'Triple Literacy' has been included as a Better Schools Fund priority area for 2006/07.

vi. FLA issues

CILT Cymru staff continue to support the 9 ERASMUS students from the University of Wales Bangor who have been placed in North Wales schools as part-time FLAs.

This year's 'Getting to know your FLA' competition was again successful, although we and our partners and co-funders at British Council were concerned that the number of entries was lower than in 2003/04. The concept has been adopted enthusiastically by British Council, which is now running the competition on a UK-wide basis.

Jane Davidson, the Assembly Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning, presented prizes to successful schools and individual entrants at the Reardon Smith lecture theatre on March 3rd, 2005. The main prize was sponsored by Coomber. The competition was featured extensively in the latest edition of CILT Cymru News.

In a recent meeting with British Council Cymru it was decided that a full-colour leaflet should be produced in order to raise the profile of the competition for 2006.

vii. LLAS & HE matters

The launch of the Partnership between LLAS (the Southampton-based Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies) and CILT Cymru took place on March 3rd, along with the presentation by HEFCW of the provisional conclusions and recommendations of the HEFCW Strategic

Review of HE MFL in Wales.

The third meeting of an advisory group overseeing this partnership took place by video-conference, linking Southampton, Cardiff, Glamorgan, Swansea and Bangor universities on April 14th.

A further event entitled 'Partnerships across Borders', featuring an opening address by the Deputy Minister for Education and lifelong Learning, took place at Coleg Llandrillo on June 27th.

On Saturday April 30th CILT Cymru ran its first event specifically aimed at tutors of MFL for adults. Including speakers from CILT and Deeside College, the day (attended by 25 tutors) was deemed a great success and the very positive evaluations included requests for further, similar events in future.

viii. Continuing Professional Development

A final, costed version of the CILT Cymru programme for 2005/06 has received Ministerial approval and a total grant of £645,000 agreed, not including the WAG contribution to CILT UK. A CPD programme for 2005/06 has been distributed to all schools and colleges in Wales.

Our first all-Wales conference '**Languages Wales**' was held in Swansea on April 16th, 2005 (attendance 44, not including CILT Cymru, CILT & WAG staff, guest speakers and exhibitors). Evaluations were largely very good, and there was a broad welcome for the concept of an annual conference. We must now decide whether to repeat the exercise in 2006, and if so, whether

- Swansea is the most suitable venue
- The conference should be held on a Saturday or a weekday
- The pricing structure was appropriate
- The marketing strategy was effective
- The structure of the day needs to be changed
- The publishers' exhibition requires a dedicated slot

The Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning's presence and support was much appreciated by all present, as was her readiness to field questions from the audience.

ix. Research into provision for Community Languages

Work continues on this research project, which is being coordinated by Scottish CILT at the University of Stirling. Further details can be found on the CILT Cymru website under 'Projects and Initiatives'.

The launch of the research results is being planned for September 26, the European Day of Languages. We will be featuring community languages at our 'Opening Doors' conference to be held on this day at the Temple of Peace

in Cardiff. It is hoped that a celebrity will accept an invitation to open the event.

x. Education Strategic Plans

Merthyr and Denbighshire LEAs have now added sections on KS4 take-up to their ESPs, and Caerphilly is considering the issue. We shall endeavour to keep lines of communication open with ADEW in an attempt to persuade other LEAs to adopt this practice.

A meeting was held recently with the MFL Adviser from ESIS to discuss possible joint activity and future collaboration.

Ceri James

CILT Cymru
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