



Ein cyf/Our ref WQ88239

Sam Rowlands MS (North Wales)
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7 June 2023

Dear Sam,

Thank you for your Written Question in relation to what the Welsh Government is doing to help universities in North Wales attract international students.

The Welsh Government values the ways that international students enrich our campuses and our society. The UK Government's recent decision to introduce a new package of restrictions on international student migration will undoubtedly have a detrimental effect on our reputation as an open and welcoming study destination. Nevertheless, we are committed to doing all we can to ensure that Wales delivers on its global ambitions.

We continue to fund the Global Wales project, which has been allocated £10.28m to deliver its third phase from 2022 until 2026. One of the key aims of the Global Wales 3 project is to increase international student recruitment. This is achieved through the Study in Wales website, where each university has a dedicated information page, as well as through social media channels, marketing campaigns and attendance at international recruitment fairs. In addition, the Global Wales 3 project funds a variety of scholarship opportunities for international students.

Global Wales also runs an annual Advisor Tour, where study advisors from the U.S, Europe and India are invited to Wales for a tour of our universities. The 2023 tour took place in April, and all eight universities, including those in North Wales, were visited for a tour of facilities and an opportunity to meet with staff.

The first year of Taith saw over £5.5m allocated to universities in Wales, with over £640,000 going to Wrexham and Bangor Universities. Through facilitation of international mobility opportunities for learners and staff at Welsh institutions, Taith-funded projects can be used to promote the opportunities available for those who choose to study in Wales. The reciprocal funding element also allows universities to support students from their international partner organisations to spend time in Wales and promote themselves as outward-looking, global institutions.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremy Miles AS/MS
Gweinidog y Gymraeg ac Addysg
Minister for Education and Welsh Language

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.