

Your Senedd

Activity Book



The Welsh Parliament is the democratically elected body that represents the interests of Wales and its people.

Commonly known as the Senedd, it makes laws for Wales, agrees Welsh taxes and holds the Welsh Government to account.

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Your visit to the Senedd

Welcome to the Senedd.

During your visit, we're going to talk about some of the people who work here and some of the things they do.

We're also going to show you some of the things in the building that makes this a special place for everyone in Wales.

Listen carefully, and see if you can answer the questions in this book.

If you need help, just ask.



Representing you

The people who represent you at the Senedd come from all parts of Wales.

Wherever you live in Wales, you live in a Senedd Constituency, which is in a Senedd Region.

Your Senedd Constituency could cover a large part of the country, or it could cover part of a town or city – but each constituency has roughly the same number of people living there. A constituency sends one person to the Senedd using a ‘First past the post’ system – the person with the most votes wins.

Your Senedd Region is a bigger part of Wales, made up of many Senedd constituencies. Each region sends four people to the Senedd using a ‘Proportional Representation’ system – people elected for the region reflect the support for each party across the country.



What do we call the elected representatives who work on behalf of the people of Wales?

- ☐ Members of the Senedd
- ☐ Members of Parliament
- ☐ Assembly Members
- ☐ Welsh Ministers

How many of these people are there at the Senedd?

- ☐ 40
- ☐ 60
- ☐ 80
- ☐ 100

► **Did you know?**

The Senedd changed its name in 2020 from the National Assembly for Wales/Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru to the Welsh Parliament/Senedd Cymru.

Senedd is the Welsh word for **Parliament**.

► **Did you know?**

16 and 17 year olds were allowed to vote for the first time in the Senedd elections in May 2021.

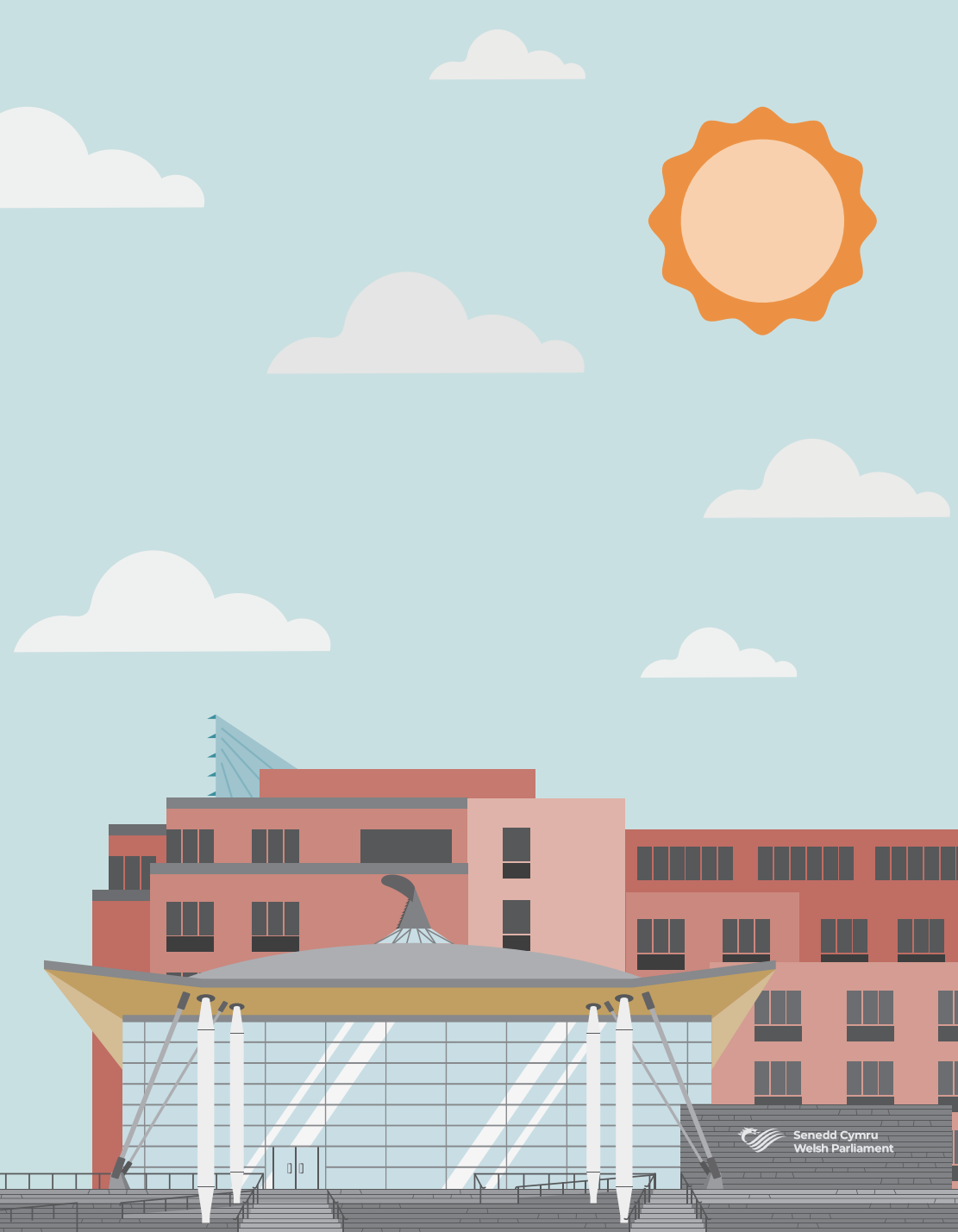


Can you name one of the Members
who represent you?

What's the name of the First
Minister?



What's the name of the
Llywydd?



The Senedd building

Since its opening in 2006, the Senedd has become one of Wales's most iconic buildings. It represents a significant stage in the story of devolution in Wales – a story that goes back many centuries.

It's in this building where Members of the Senedd represent your interests, make new Welsh laws, agree new Welsh taxes, and hold the Welsh Government to account.

You currently stand in a building where we make history, and continue the story of modern Wales. In 2008, we passed a Welsh law for the first time since the 10th century. In 2016, we agreed the first Welsh tax in over 900 years.



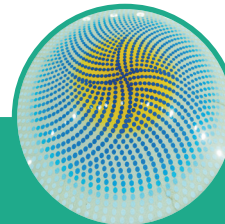
In the Siambr

The Siambr is our debating chamber.

It's where Members of the Senedd meet to ask questions, debate issues and represent you in the Senedd.



What's the name of the gold ornament in front of the Llywydd's chair?



What's the name of the glass mosaic on the floor of the Siambr?

► Did you know?

The Senedd first opened on St David's Day 2006.

► Did you know?

Geothermal energy is used to heat the Siambr.



Senedd Business

Members of the Senedd consider, debate, and vote on laws proposed, and money spent by Welsh Government.

They also make suggestions on steps that could be taken to make Wales a better place to live and work.

You can contact your Member of the Senedd about issues that you care about.

These could be things that affect the whole of the country, or things in your local area, whether it is about a skate park closing or too many houses being built on green spaces which is effecting your local environment and wildlife.

► Did you know?

Devolution means the transfer of power. Wales can make its own decisions as a country apart from those subjects that the UK Parliament have powers over.

Devolution

Since 1999, devolution has transferred powers from Westminster to the Senedd and Welsh Government.

Can you match the topic with the subject that the Senedd can make decisions about?

- Marine Conservation
- Flooding
- Internet safety
- Additional learning needs
- Mental health support
- Fostering
- Active travel
- Fast broadband

Environment



Health



Schools



Economy and transport



▶ **Did you know?**

All Petitions with more than 250 signatures are discussed by the Petitions Committee. Petitions with more than 10,000 signatures will be considered for a debate in the Senedd.

Petitions

As a constituent of an area in Wales, you can write to the Senedd and start a petition on issues which the Senedd can pass laws for Wales. There is a committee called the 'Petitions Committee' which is made up of four Members of the Senedd who consider petitions submitted.

How do I write a petition?

Good petitions say clearly what they want the Senedd or Welsh Government to do.

Good examples:

- Ban the use of wild animals in circuses
- Lower the voting age to 16 for Senedd elections in Wales

These examples tell us what you want us to do.

Bad examples:

- Help young people
- Trains

These examples do not tell us what you want us to do.

Write your own petition

You can find out more about petitions in Wales on our website:
petitions.senedd.wales

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Senedd Cymru
Welsh Parliament

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