



Ein cyf/Our ref: WQ88778

Paul Davies
MS for Preseli Pembrokeshire

Paul.davies@senedd.wales

August 2023

Dear Paul

I am writing in response to your written question, regarding the discussions has the Welsh Government had with Welsh universities about developing student enterprise in Wales? (WQ88778)

The Welsh Government has regular discussions with Welsh universities about developing student enterprise in Wales.

We provide grant funding to support Entrepreneurship Champions in all universities across Wales to raise awareness of entrepreneurship, provide practical experience for businesses, and nurture and support young entrepreneurs to start a business. Entrepreneurship Champions raise awareness with over 50,000 students, provide practical experience for 5,000 students to help build confidence in their ideas and business, and nurture and support 500 potential young entrepreneurs to start a business.

Grant funding is also provided to higher education to develop an entrepreneurial culture and support university leavers starting a business and includes:

- Enabling the sector by strengthening their capacity for entrepreneurship, building on the work of the Entrepreneurship Champions' network, internally and externally with stakeholders.
- Accelerating student entrepreneurship and support for students and graduates.
- Supporting the institutions' commitment and outline their ambition to encourage entrepreneurship, aligned to the Be The Spark principles.

In addition, Big Ideas Wales, part of the wider Business Wales service, supports the next generation of young entrepreneurs in Wales and encourages young people to be entrepreneurial and help those interested in starting a business take their idea forward.

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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.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Vaughan Gething". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a small dot above the 'i' in Gething.

Vaughan Gething AS/MS

Gweinidog yr Economi

Minister for Economy